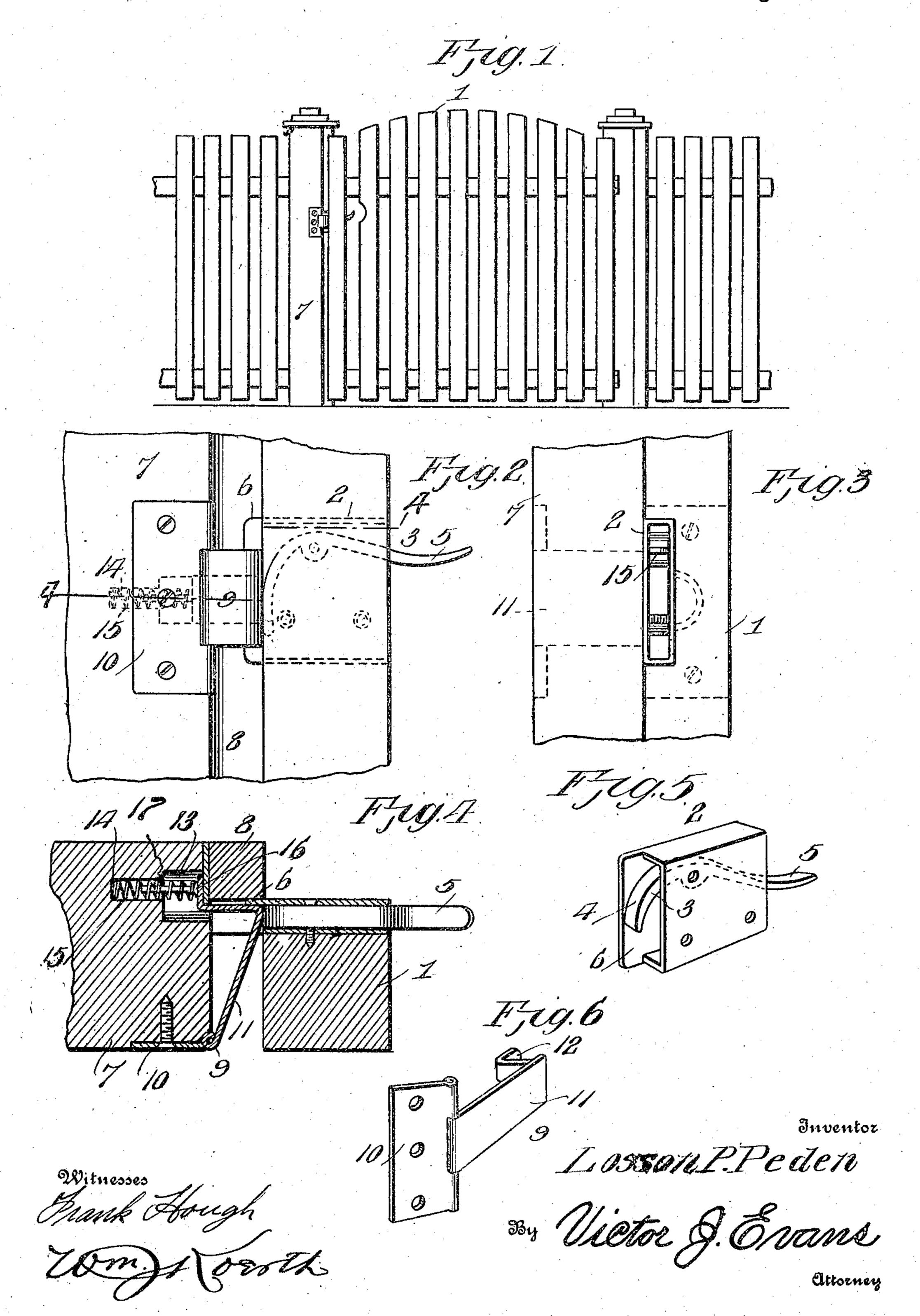
L. P. PEDEN.

GATE LATCH.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 22, 1908.

930,985.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOSSON P. PEDEN, OF BELEN, MISSISSIPPI.

## GATE-LATCH.

No. 930,985.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 10, 1909.

Application filed April 22, 1908. Serial No. 428,571.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Losson P. Peden, a citizen of the United States, residing at Belen, in the county of Quitman and State of Mississippi, have invented new and useful Improvements in Gate-Latches, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to latches, and the object of the invention is to provide a latch and keeper of simple and durable construction, the parts of which are so combined as to accomplish its purpose efficiently and with certainty.

With this object in view the invention consists in the construction of parts and their assemblage in operative combination hereinafter fully described and claimed.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the annexed drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation showing my improvement in applied position. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the same. Fig. 3 is an end view. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view taken on the line 4—4, of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the keeper, and Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the latch and casing.

In the drawings 1 designates a gate to which is attached through the medium of screws or other securing devices, a casing 2, within which is pivotally mounted a lever 3, provided with the latch engaging face 4 and a weighted handle portion 5. The casing is preferably rectangular in form and is provided with a projecting side, forming a lip or keeper 6.

7 designates the gate post, and 8 the abutment strip attached thereto. The numeral 9 designates the latch number, which is secured to the gate post 7, in a line with the path of travel of the lip 6 of the casing 2 and the face 4 of the lever 3. The latch 9 is of peculiar formation, and consists of the securing plate 10, to which is pivotally mounted the substantially L-shaped member 11, which is provided at its free extremity with the bearing face 12. The post 7 is recessed as at 13 to provide a travel way for the bearing face 12 of the latch 9.

A smaller cylindrical bore is provided within the inner wall of the recess 13, which is adapted for the reception of a spring 15 which engages with the bearing face 12 of the latch 9 and normally forces this member outward, until the bearing 12 contacts with

the retaining plate 16. A guide bolt 17 loosely secured to the bearing 12 is interposed within the spring 15, whereby the same is retained in engaging position against 60 the bearing 12 of the latch and within the

bore 14 of the post 7.

The spring pressed latch 9 is in a direct line with the path of travel of the keeper and as the gate is swung closed the lip 6 of the cas-65 ing 2 will contact with the L-shaped portion 11 of the latch forcing it inward against the pressure of the spring 15. When the lip 6 passes beyond the latch the latch under the influence of the spring 15 is forced for-70 ward directly in front of the lip 6, thus securely fastening the gate in closed position.

The lever 3 mounted within the casing 2 has its latch engaging face 4 swung normally upward under the influence of the weighted 75 handle portion 5. When the gate is closed the face 4 of the lever is contacted by the spring pressed latch and caused to swing downwardly upon its pivot, thus forcing the handle 5 upwardly bringing the latch in a 80 position, whereby a downward pressure upon the handle 5 will cause the face 4 of the lever 3 to contact with the latch and force it backwardly against the pressure of the spring 15 and out of contact with the lip 6 85 when the gate may be readily swung open.

Changes in the precise embodiment of the invention illustrated and described may be made within the scope of the following claims without departing from the spirit of 90 the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

1. The combination with a pair of gate 95 posts and a gate hingedly connected with one of the posts, an abutment strip upon the opposite post, said post being provided with an aperture adjacent the abutment strip, an L-shaped latch member having an offset po- 100 sitioned within the aperture, a spring within the aperture normally forcing the offset portion of the pivoted latch member against the abutment strip, a keeper member provided with a projecting lip secured to the 105 gate, said member having a pivoted lever provided with a weighted end, and the projecting lip of the keeper being adapted to contact the L-shaped latch member and to position itself between the said latch member 110 and the abutment strip of the post when the gate is swung closed.

2. The combination with a gate and a post therefor, an L-shaped latch member pivotally connected with the post, said latch member being provided with an offset, a spring mounted in the post contacting said offset, a keeper member for the gate, said keeper comprising a casing provided with a projecting portion adapted to engage the latch, and a pivoted lever having a weighted end con-

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tacting the L-shaped latch when the gate is 10 closed upon the post.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LOSSON P. PEDEN.

Witnesses:

W. T. COVINGTON, N. A. SMITH.