

D. G. Starkey,

Oil Can.

N^o 7,276.

Patented Apr. 9, 1850.

Fig: 3.

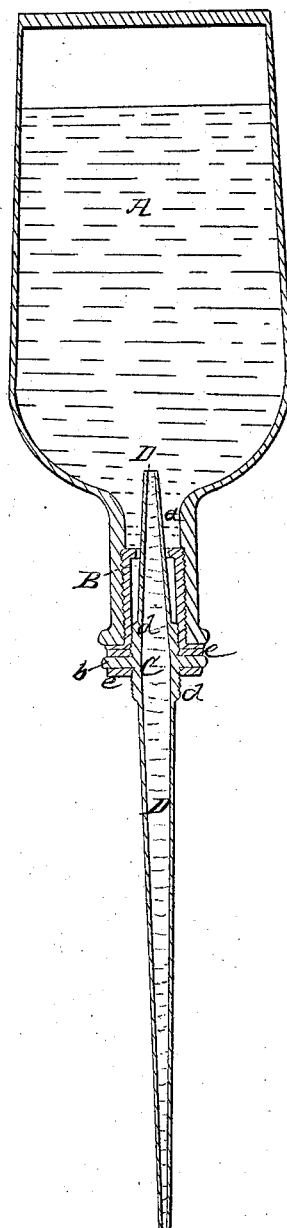


Fig: 1.

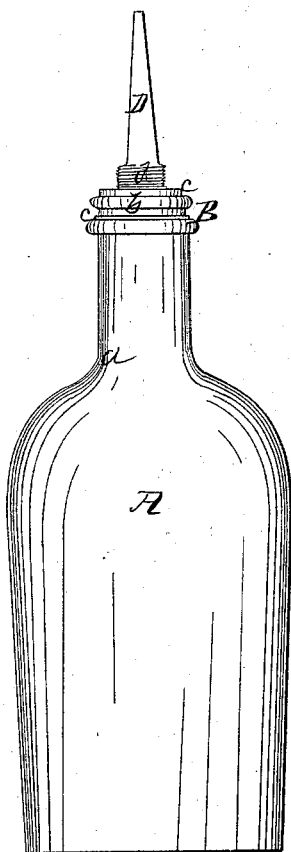
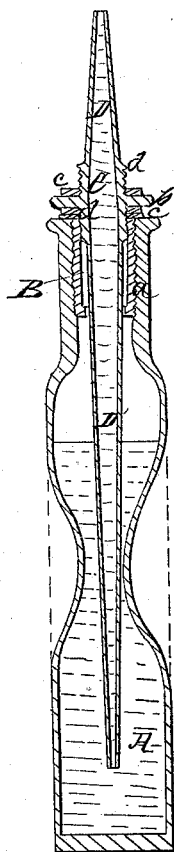


Fig: 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

DAVID G. STARKEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 7,276, dated April 9, 1850.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID G. STARKEY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in an Oil-Can for Lubricating the Bearings, &c., of Machinery, and for other Purposes, which I designate the "Collapsible Oil-Can;" and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an outside view. Fig. 2 is a section transversely through the center of Fig. 1, showing the can as being collapsed. Fig. 3 is an inverted section at right angle to section Fig. 2.

The same letters refer to corresponding parts in the several figures.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a can or reservoir for holding the oil, which is susceptible of being collapsed by the pressure of the hand, and which will on the pressure being removed resume its original shape without the aid of any internal springs or other mechanical contrivance, as is usual in all other cans at present in use which are made to feed by external pressure.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A is the reservoir, (or can,) made of gutta-percha, and may be of the form shown in the drawings, or of a globular or any other convenient form. It is provided with a neck, *a*.

B is a metal socket, screwed or otherwise tightly secured in the neck of the reservoir A, and having inside it a female screw.

C is a socket of brass or other metal provided with a collar, milled on its periphery to allow of its being turned by the fingers, and having on each side a male screw, *d*, fitting into the female screw of the sockets B'.

c c are collars or washers of leather or other suitable material for making the joints between the collar *b* of the socket C and the mouth of the socket B air-tight.

D D' are tapering tubes or spouts composed of tinned iron, brass, or other suitable material, soldered to the ends of the socket C.

The operation is as follows: When it is necessary to throw oil to a bearing or other working part of a machine or engine, supposing

the part to be oiled to be higher than the operator, the socket C is screwed into the socket B, as represented at Figs. 1 and 2, with the long tube or spout D' in the reservoir and the short tube D projecting out. The reservoir being collapsed, as represented in Fig. 2, by being squeezed or compressed by the hand of the operator, the oil may be forced in any direction, either perpendicularly, obliquely, or horizontally, to a very great distance and with great precision. When the pressure of the hand is removed, the reservoir will by its own elasticity resume its proper shape. The air from without rushing into the vacuum made by the expansion of the reservoir the can will be again ready for use and the operation may be removed by again pressing or collapsing the reservoir until the oil has been reduced to a level of the mouth of the tube D'. If it is necessary to lubricate or oil a bearing below the operator, the socket C is inverted, or the shorter tube, D, inserted in the reservoir, the longer one, D', projecting out. The can may then be inverted, and, on being collapsed, the oil may all be thrown out till it reaches the level of the mouth of the tube D.

In all oil-cans at present in use for lubricating machinery, &c., which are constructed to feed or eject the oil by manual pressure applied to the outside, springs or other mechanical contrivances are employed to throw out the reservoir to its original form, and I believe that gutta-percha is the only material which is impervious to the action of the oil, and at the same time sufficiently elastic to spring back to its original shape after having been collapsed. These cans may also be manufactured cheap, and, if broken, easily repaired, and are not liable to break or injure from falling, &c.

Having described the construction, operation, and use of my invention, I will proceed to state what I claim.

The combination of the socket C, carrying the male screw *d d*, and the taper tubes or spouts D E', screwing into the socket B, with the collapsible gutta-percha reservoir A, in the manner and for the purpose described, or in any way substantially the same.

DAVID G. STARKEY.

Witnesses:

S. H. WALES,
ROBT. I. LOMAS.