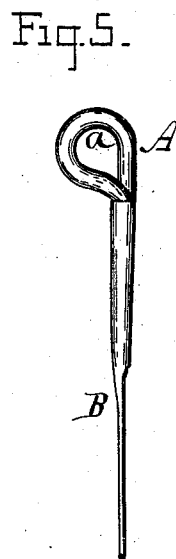
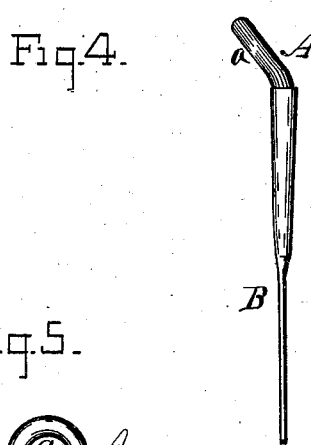
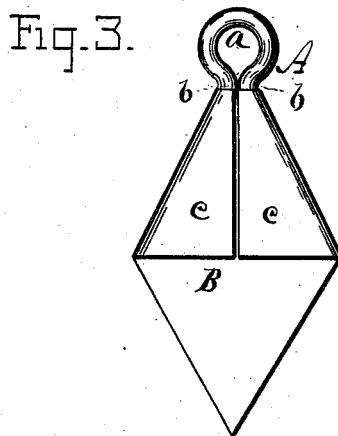
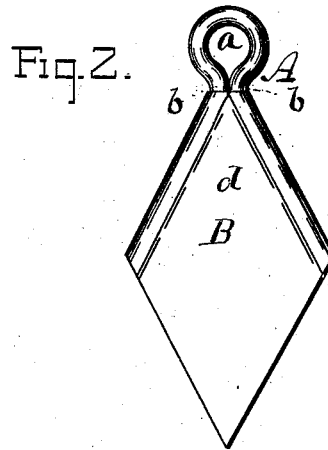
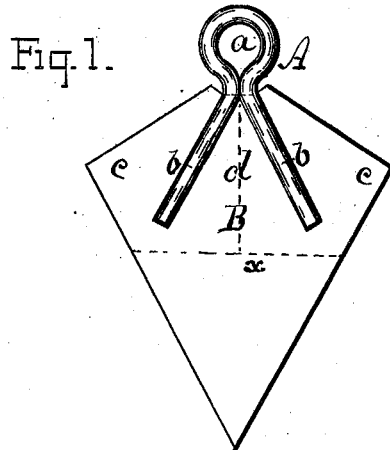


(No Model.)

W. H. RODDEN.  
EARS FOR TIN CANS.

No. 260,420.

Patented July 4, 1882.



WITNESSES.

W. A. Jones  
J. C. Day.

INVENTOR.

William Henry Rodden,  
By his attorney,  
J. S. Brown.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. RODDEN, OF TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA.

## EAR FOR TIN CANS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 260,420, dated July 4, 1882.

Application filed January 26, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY RODDEN, of Toronto, in the county of York and Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented an improved ear for tin cans, pails, and other vessels of sheet metal requiring bail and handle attachments; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification—

Figure 1 being a view of the blank piece of sheet metal from which the web or flange of the ear is formed, showing also in place the wireloop which it is to be folded around to hold the same; Fig. 2, a front or outer view of the finished ear; Fig. 3, a back or inner view of the same; Fig. 4, an edge view thereof; Fig. 5, a view like Fig. 4, but showing a modification of the form of the ear-loop.

The purpose of my invention is to produce as an article of manufacture and trade a bail and handle ear for general use among tanners and sheet-metal workers, such as shall be applicable generally to "tin" cans, pails, and other sheet-metal vessels cheaply made, capable of fitting vessels of various forms, of being securely soldered thereto, and be strong, firm, and durable.

My invention consists of a wire loop of peculiar form folded in a piece of sheet metal in a peculiar manner, and the whole ear peculiarly shaped to adapt it to the purpose to which it is to be applied, substantially as hereinafter set forth.

The wire loop A is formed of an eye or loop part, *a*, and two prongs or shanks, *b b*, extending from the loop part at a diverging angle, substantially as indicated in Fig. 1. The loop part *a* may stand out at an angle from the plane of the prongs *b b*, (which are to be in a plane parallel with or lie flat upon the surface of the vessel when the ear is applied thereto,) as shown in Fig. 4; or it may be twisted around into a position substantially at right angles to the surface of the vessel, as shown in Fig. 5. While the former shape is quite generally applicable either to a vertical or an inclined surface, yet the latter shape is of almost universal application. It may have a bent neck to fit under the wire edge of a vessel. However, the position of the loop is not an essential part of my invention. For the loop of the shape represented a blank piece of sheet metal of the form shown in Fig.

1 is suitable to form the flange part B. It has two lateral corners or wings, *c c*, which are to be folded inward over the prongs *b b* of the loop A, their outer upper edges then meeting, or nearly so, as shown by the dotted lines at *x* in the same figure.

A special feature of improvement in this invention consists in turning the corners *c c* over backward around the prongs of the loop, and having them lie against the back of the ear, and consequently part of both sides of the flange will be soldered to the vessel. Then, when the ear shall have been soldered to the vessel, there will therefore be all the less liability of their ever straightening out and allowing the loop to be pulled away from the flange and, in consequence of this, bending backward of the flange-folds *c c*. Another point of improvement is the striking up and raising of these folds around the loop-prongs, so that they lie above the web *d* of the flange, and the back side of the whole flange is nearly a plane surface, or very slightly concave, to fit a cylindrical or conical vessel, thereby insuring a sufficient surface in fitting the vessel and soldering thereto.

This ear, being made as a separate article of manufacture and kept for sale and use in quantities, is always ready to be applied, and is applicable to all the general uses intended for sheet-tin and sheet-metal workers. Because of its well fitting and large joining surface it is capable of being soldered very strongly and securely to the vessel. The divergent position of the prongs *b b* not only holds the loop inseparably from flange, but prevents turning or working loose therein.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An ear for sheet-metal cans and other vessels, composed of a wire loop, A, having obliquely-divergent prongs *b b*, and a sheet-metal flange, B, having lateral corners *c c*, folded around the prongs of the loop, the upper part of the flange being overlapped by the said folded corners, and depressed between the prongs to fit, with the rest of the flange, the surface of the vessel to which it is to be applied, substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

WILLIAM HENRY RODDEN.

Witnesses:

ROB. WARDROF,  
ALEX. CHRISTIE.