(No Model.)

J. B. TIMBERLAKE.

HANDLE FOR PLATES AND DISHES.

No. 264,795. Patented Sept. 19, 1882.

Fig. 1.

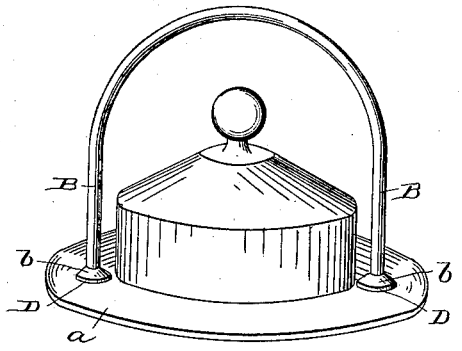


Fig. 6

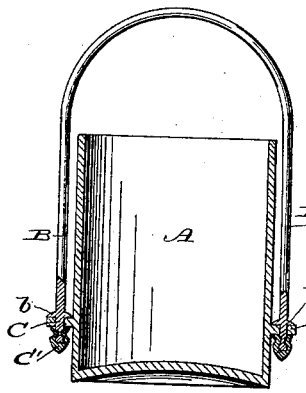


Fig. 2.

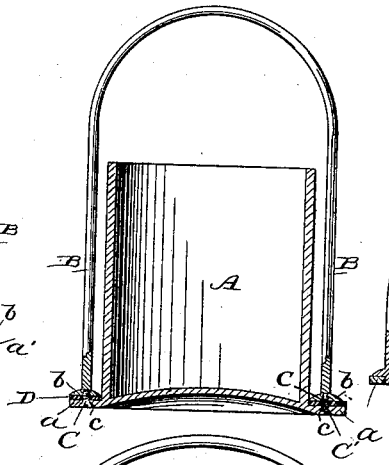


Fig. 4.

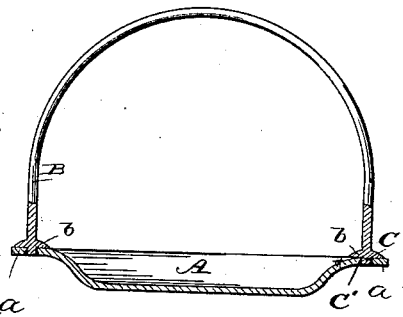


Fig. 3.

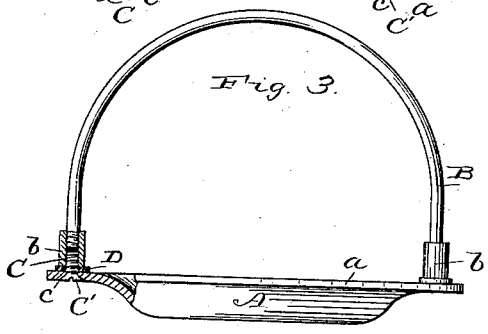
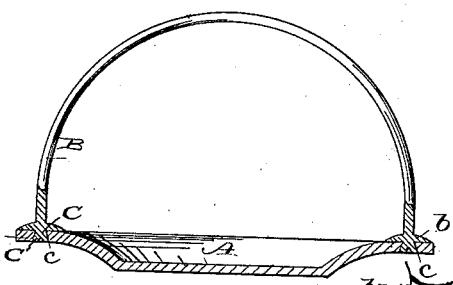


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:
N. T. Lowe
J. S. Barker.

Inventor:
John B. Timberlake
by Doubleday & Bliss
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. TIMBERLAKE, OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN.

HANDLE FOR PLATES AND DISHES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,795, dated September 19, 1882.

Application filed August 10, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. TIMBERLAKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jackson, in the county of Jackson and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Handles for Plates or Dishes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in the construction of handles for dishes of glass or earthenware, and in the method of attaching the same to dishes and vessels, it pertaining more especially to improvements upon devices shown in my previous patents, No. 233,362, dated July 20, 1880, and No. 249,807, dated November 22, 1881. The last of said patents, No. 249,807, shows a handle extending rigidly from side to side of a vessel, and having a downwardly-projecting screw-threaded rod or arm on each side, with which a nut engages for clamping the handle in place. Some inconvenience is experienced in employing a handle of this character, arising from the fact that the downwardly-projecting threaded rods or arms not only prevent the application of the handle to such dishes as have the supporting flanges or beads at the very bottom, but also from the fact that they (said threaded rods) prevent, under some circumstances, the ornamentation which it is desirable to have at the point where they project.

The present invention relates to a rigidly-attached handle extending across the top of the dish and provided with fastening devices of such nature as to permit it to be applied not only at the top or points above the bottom, but also allow the attachment of the handle directly to the base or bottom part of the article.

It relates, further, to so applying the fastening devices to the handle that the latter shall be held rigidly in an upright position, while at the same time the means of fastening shall be entirely concealed, either by being made flush with the bottom of the supporting flange or bead or by means of ornamental coverings.

The invention relates to other matters of detail, which will more fully hereinafter appear.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a comparatively flat plate or dish of the character used for holding cheese and similar articles. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of a vessel having my improved handle applied thereto directly at the bottom. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are views of modified forms of devices for fastening the handle. Fig. 6 shows a method of clamping the handle and at the same time concealing the fastening devices by ornamental coverings.

In the drawings, the body of the vessel or dish is represented by A, which may be of the character of almost any of the ordinary vessels or dishes, though the present invention is more especially applicable to those in which it is necessary or desirable to secure the handle at a low point in or nearly in the plane of the bottom. These dishes or vessels, for table purposes, are generally formed to have one or more rims or flanges projecting outwardly beyond the space occupied by the article, and many have rims or beads between the upper and lower edges. Thus plates for holding bread, pies, &c., are generally comparatively flat, having wide outwardly-extending flanges or rims *a*, as do also dishes for holding pickles and the like, though the latter sometimes have lugs instead of continuous beads or rims, and sometimes have the lugs or beads at something of a distance above the bottom, as shown at *a'* in Fig. 6.

While the plates or dishes are being made they can be provided with apertures *c* in the flanges, rims, or beads; but this invention is also applicable to vessels which have already been finished without apertures therein, as such apertures can be readily formed by processes and appliances brought into use of late years.

I form the handle preferably of a single piece of thin metal, either round or polygonal in cross-section, bent into U shape, or into an equivalent form. The legs B B of the handle may be provided with expanded parts *b b* at the lower ends, which can extend upward to any suitable point. The handle is provided with apertures passing upward into or through the expanded parts *b b*, which apertures are arranged to correspond with the apertures *c* in the flanges or rims of the plates or dishes.

As shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, the handle is fastened in place by means of the following devices: C C' C C' are screws or threaded rods adapted to pass upward through the apertures *c* in said flanges, rims, or beads, and to engage with the apertures. The head of the rod or screw is preferably of such shape as to be

concealed, and for this purpose the apertures *c* may be countersunk upon the under side of the flange or rim. When thus arranged the handle may be secured to the very base or bottom of the article in such way as to prevent any of the clamping devices from interfering with the proper support of or from marring the appearance of the vessel. In this respect a handle of this character is superior to the one shown in my aforesaid Patent No. 249,807, but it has, in common therewith, the advantage that the screw-threaded fastening devices of one leg of the handle are by the other prevented from being disengaged, as it is impossible to have any axial movement of the handle relative to the dish, or vice versa, when the handle is thus fastened at two diametrically-opposite points.

It will be seen that the clamping of each leg is effected by means of the expanded head C′ engaging with the under side of the lug, bead, or rim. This expanded part C′ of the clamping devices may be varied more or less without departing materially from the essential part of the invention. Thus, as shown in Fig. 4, the expanded part C′ is provided by means of solder so applied as to engage with the short downward extension C from the leg of the handle. The head C′ thus produced, however, acts substantially similarly to that provided by the head of the screw, as shown in Fig. 2. The expanded part C′ may, as shown in Fig. 5, be formed by spreading the downward extension C of the leg of the handle so as to crowd it against the glass or earthenware to provide a clamp in substantially the manner described.

Instead of making the parts *b b* above the rim or bead of the dish integral with the handle, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6, they may be made in the form of sleeves, as shown in Fig. 3, which sleeves may be engaged with the handle by screw-threads, solder, or otherwise, and with which the screws C C′ can be caused to engage in the manner described for the construction shown in Fig. 2.

When the handle is fastened by any of the above-described forms of devices not only can it be applied to the dish at a lower point, but also the fastening can be completely concealed, as there is no downwardly-projecting threaded rod, as has been customary heretofore. This latter end can be attained also by using the means shown in Fig. 6, in which case the downward extensions C of the legs of the handle are provided with grooves or recesses, and into these grooves or recesses can be crowded more or less of the metal of the clamping parts C′ (made in the form of concealing "drops" or ornamentations) by means of pliers or suitable tools. The drop or ornamental piece is thus made to operate both as a clamp and as a cover to conceal the fastening. This last form, though it cannot be applied at as low a point as can the other means shown, yet, in common therewith, has this feature just mentioned—to wit, the concealing of the clamp or fastening.

D represents a cushion or washer, preferably made of rubber or equivalent material, and placed either between the flange or bead *a* and the lower end of the handle, or between said flange or bead and the head of the screw or threaded rod; or, if desired, a cushion or washer of this character may be employed upon each side of the flange or bead, the object being to prevent the material of the dish or vessel from being marred or broken by the strain caused in clamping the handle tightly in place. It also operates to prevent any loosening of the handle that might result from a contraction or expansion of the parts relatively to each other caused by heating or cooling.

It will be seen that the handle extends continuously in one rigid piece from one of the expanded parts *b* over the top of the vessel and down to the other expanded portion *b*.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with the herein-described handle extending rigidly from side to side of the dish or vessel, of the screws C C, which pass upwardly through a portion of the dish to engage with the handle, and which have expanded parts C′ C′, situated lower down than the threaded parts C, and adapted to be made flush with the lower surface of that portion of the dish to which the handle is attached, whereby the handle can be fastened to a low part of a plate, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the handle extending rigidly from one side to the other of the plate or vessel, of the parts C C, adapted to pass through a lug or flange on the plate or dish, and the expanded parts C′ C′, which entirely conceal the parts C C, and which bear against the under side of the flange or lug which holds the handle, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the handle having the expanded parts *b b* at the lower ends of the legs, of the screws or threaded rods C C, adapted to be passed upwardly through a portion of the vessel and engage with said expanded parts *b b*, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with the U-shaped handle having the legs B B, and the screw-threaded clamping devices adapted to secure the handle tightly to a perforated plate or dish, of the rubber or other washers, D, arranged and operated substantially as set forth.

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

JOHN B. TIMBERLAKE.

Witnesses:

H. H. DOUBLEDAY,

W. T. JOHNSON.