(No Model.)

W. R. R. TILLION.

SHIPPING CAN AND TAG THEREFOR.

No. 306,552. Patented Oct. 14, 1884.

Fig. 1.

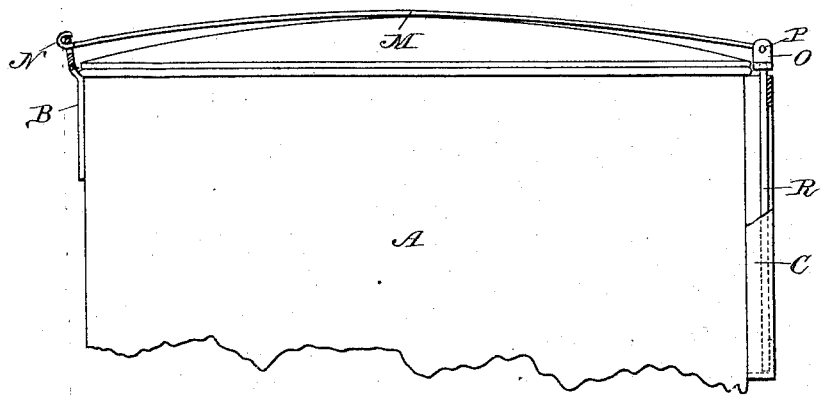


Fig. 2.

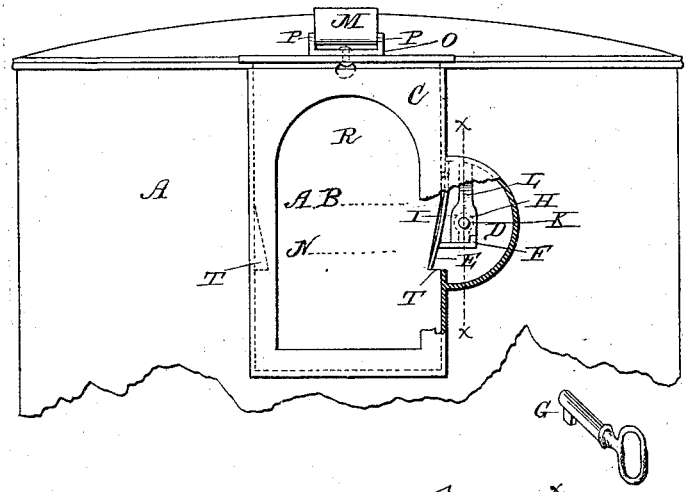


Fig. 3.

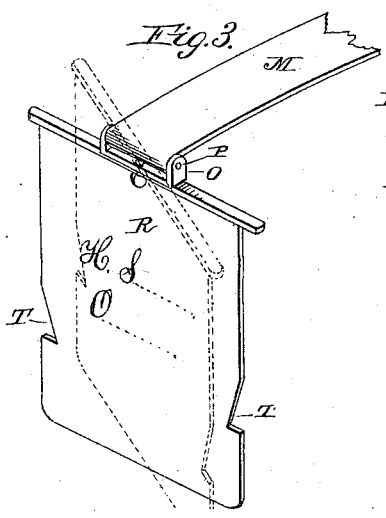
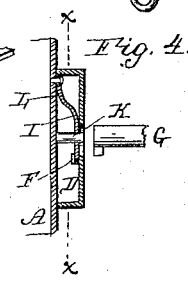


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
J. W. Garner
Robt. Jones.

Inventor:
W. R. R. Tillion.
per
F. A. Lehmann, atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. R. TILLION, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

SHIPPING-CAN AND TAG THEREFOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 306,552, dated October 14, 1884.

Application filed September 2, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WM. R. R. TILLION, of Brooklyn, (Green Point,) in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shipping-Cans and Tags Therefor; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in shipping-cans and tags therefor; and it consists in the combination of a can which is provided with a bail on one side of its upper end; a frame for securing the tag on the opposite side of the can, and having a spring-detent; a metallic strap which is provided at one end with means for attachment to the bail, and with a tag which is swiveled in a frame that is pivoted upon the opposite end of the strap, said tag being adapted to be placed in the frame, and to be secured therein by means of the spring-detent, whereby the strap will bear tightly down upon the upper side of the cover of the can and lock it in place, and be itself, with its tag, locked in place, as will be more fully set forth hereinafter.

The object of my invention is to provide an attachment for shipping-cans—such as are used in conveying milk backward and forward between two given points—with a means for securing the covers of the cans securely in place, and with a tag which has the address of the consignor upon one side and of the consignee upon the other, whereby the tag may be reversed when it reaches one end of its route, so as to direct the can on its return-trip.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention, partly in section. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same, a portion of the face of the locking-frame being broken away so as to disclose the locking mechanism. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective of the locking-strap and tag. Fig. 4 is a detailed cross-section of the lock taken on the line *x x*, Fig. 2.

A represents a can of the ordinary construction, which is provided with a bail, B, upon one side at its upper end, and with a tag-frame, C, at its opposite side. On one side of this tag-frame is formed an extension, D, in which is placed a spring-detent, E, which is secured at its upper end, and which has its lower end projecting slightly into the space in the tag-frame in the path traversed by the tag. This detent is provided with an arm, F, which extends inwardly from its lower side, and this arm has its outer extremity bent at right angles, so as to form a projection against which the key G fits, which is adapted to be inserted in the key-hole H. The plate I has its bearings on the projection K in the center of the key-hole, and the spring L presses said plate normally out against the inner side of the face of the lock for the purpose of excluding dust and dirt from the key-hole while the can is being transported, and thus prevent the lock from becoming clogged.

M represents a metallic strap, which is preferably formed of steel or other elastic metal, and which is provided at one end with a hook, N, for catching in the bail B, and which has a frame, O, pivoted to its opposite end, as at P.

R represents a metallic tag, which corresponds in size and shape to the interior of the tag-frame D, and is adapted to be inserted therein. This tag has the name of the shipper of the milk and his address inscribed upon one of its sides, and upon its opposite side the name and address of the person to whom the milk is consigned. Indents T are made in the sides of this tag, so as to register with the inwardly-projecting detent E when the tag is forced down in position in the frame. This tag is swiveled at its upper end to the frame O.

The operation of my invention is as follows: When the cover has been placed upon the can, the strap is hooked into the bail and the tag forced down into its frame. This causes the strap to bind over the outer side of the cover of the can, and thereby secure said cover in place. When the tag reaches the bottom of the frame, the detent catches into one of the indents formed in its sides, and thereby locks the tag in place. The tag having previously been turned on its swivel so as to present the side outwardly which bears the name and address of the consignee, the can is ready to be shipped. When it arrives at its destination, the consignee inserts the key in the key-hole, presses back the plate I, turns the key and withdraws the detent from the indent in the

tag. The elasticity of the strap causes the tag to spring upward out of the frame, and the cover of the can can then be easily removed.

The advantages gained by a can-fastener thus constructed are very apparent.

When the can is to be returned to the original consignor, the tag is secured in the frame with that side outward which bears his name and address.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination, with a can having a bail upon one side and a securing-frame upon the opposite side, with a strap which is adapted to have one of its ends secured to the bail, and which is provided with a metallic tag at its opposite end, and means for securing said tag in its frame, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a can having a bail upon one side and a frame on its opposite side, with a strap which is provided with means for attaching it to the bail at one of its extremities, and which has a metallic tag swiveled to a frame that is hinged to its opposite end, said tag being adapted to enter the frame, and means for locking said tag in said frame, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a can having a bail upon one side and a frame upon its opposite side, a strap having means for attaching one of its ends to the bail, a metallic tag which is secured to the frame that is hinged to the opposite end of the strap, said tag being provided with indents on its sides, a spring-detent which is located in one side of the tag-frame, and means for withdrawing said detent from the tag for the purpose of releasing the tag, substantially as described.

4. The combination of a can having a bail upon one side and a frame upon its opposite side, with a strap which is provided with means for attaching one of its ends to the bail, and a tag swiveled to a frame that is hinged to the opposite end of the strap, said tag having indents formed in its sides, a spring-detent which is located in the tag-frame for engaging with one of the indents, and which is provided with an extending arm, a key for engaging with said arm and releasing the tag, and a plate provided with a spring for closing the key-hole when the key is removed, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM R. R. TILLION.

Witnesses:

JAMES F. MCCANN,

HY. FRANKLIN.