(No Model.)

H. F. GRISWOLD.

SHEET METAL COFFEE OR SPICE CAN.

No. 345,780. Patented July 20, 1886.

Fig. 1.

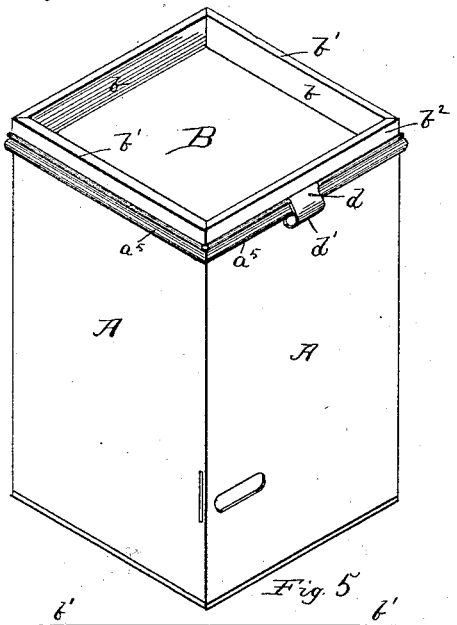


Fig. 2.

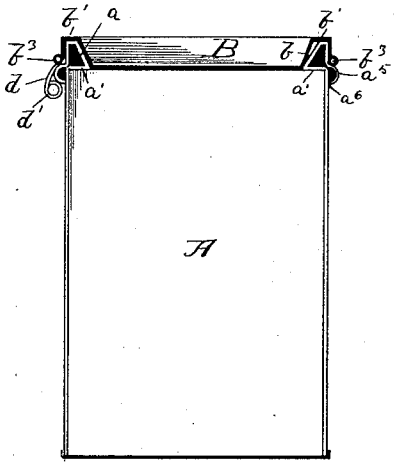


Fig. 5.

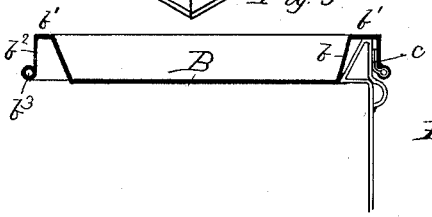


Fig. 3.

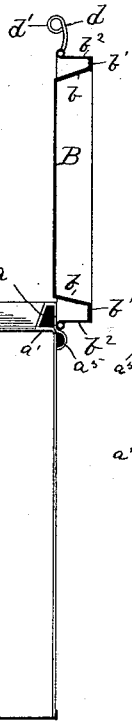


Fig. 6.

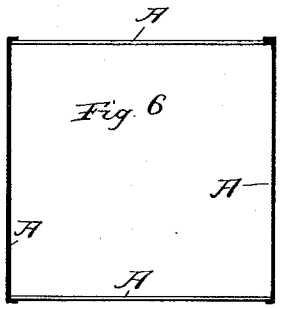


Fig. 4.

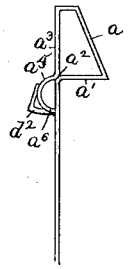
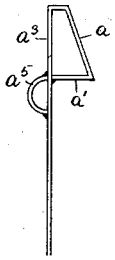
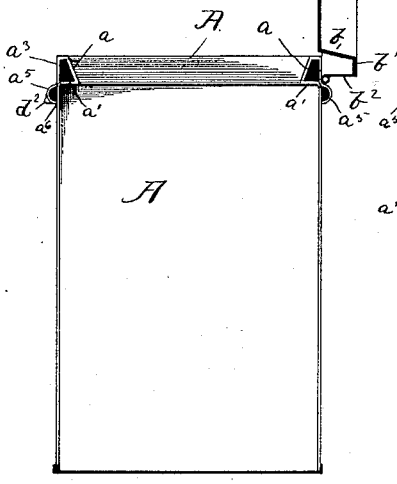


Fig. 6.





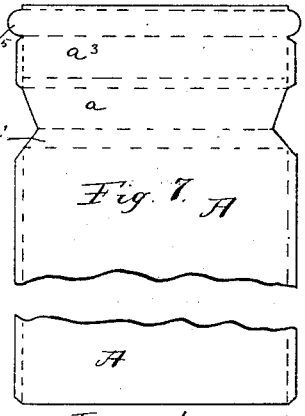


Fig. 7.

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY F. GRISWOLD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SHEET-METAL COFFEE OR SPICE CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 345,780, dated July 20, 1886.

Application filed April 29, 1886. Serial No. 200,538. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY F. GRISWOLD, a citizen of the United States, residing in Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sheet-Metal Coffee or Spice Cans or Safes, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a sheet-metal spice can or safe for grocers' use of a simple and cheap construction, which may be conveniently opened and closed, and which will at the same time be capable of being closed approximately air-tight, so that the spices or contents of the can will keep any reasonable length of time without deterioration.

My invention consists in the novel devices and novel combinations of devices herein shown and described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a can embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section. Fig. 3 is a similar section showing the hinged cover raised. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view, showing the body or breast of the can. Fig. 5 is a similar view of the cover. Fig. 6 is a horizontal section of the body. Fig. 7 is a detail view of the blank for one of the sides or pieces composing the body of the can before it is stamped or formed up. Fig. 8 shows a slight modification.

In said drawings the square or rectangular body of the can is composed of four sides or pieces, A, seamed together at the corners of the can. The body or breast of the can is provided with an upwardly and outwardly inclined seat or face, *a*, for the corresponding inclined seat or face, *b*, of the hinged cover B to fit against. The inclined seat *a* on the body of the can is formed by giving the sides A an inward bend or offset, *a'*, near the top of the can, and then bending the same at an angle to form the inclined seat *a*, and then bending or folding the same back to meet the side of the can at a^2, the point of said offset *a'* thus forming a triangular or truncated triangular hollow breast for the can. The outer wall, a^3, of this hollow breast should be formed just on a line or flush with the body of the can, and a half-round bead, a^5, should be provided at the lower edge of the wall a^3 and overlap the body A below the shoulder *a'*. The lower edge, a^6, of this bead is soldered to the body of the can, and solder should also be applied at the point a^2. An equivalent method of forming this triangular hollow breast with its inclined inner face or wall, *a*, is indicated in Fig. 8, where the sides A are folded in the reverse direction, and the lower edge soldered on the inside instead of on the outside. In this case the bead a^5 is formed of a separate strip of metal soldered to the side A. It may, however, be formed in the side A.

The cover B, in addition to the upwardly and outwardly inclined flange or seat *b*, is furnished with a horizontal flange, *b'*, and a depending flange or wall, b^2, the lower edge of which wall is provided with a wire, b^3, around which it is folded. The inclined seat *b* and flanges *b'* and b^2 constitute a truncated triangular recess or channel corresponding in form to the truncated triangular hollow breast on the body of the can, and when the cover is closed this channel fits said breast snugly on all sides, both at the inclined seats *a* and *b*, where the cover has a wedging action, and thus forms a very tight joint, and also at the top and outer wall or side of said truncated hollow breast. The cover B is hinged to the can-body A just above the bead a^5, the wire b^3 on the cover serving as the hinge-rod. The hinge-strip *c*, securely soldered to the body of the can, unites the cover thereto. The hinged cover B is provided at its front edge with a hinged catch, *d*, consisting of a strip of sheet metal folded at one edge around the wire b^3, and furnished at its free end with a circular coil or roll, *d'*. The bead a^5 is furnished with an angular or wedging lip, d^2, so that when the hinged catch *d* is pressed over said lip it will operate to draw the wedging cover down tight upon the inclined or wedging breast of the can-body, and thus close the can approximately air-tight.

The hollow triangular breast of the can-body, in connection with the interlocking channel-cover which fits over said breast, not only furnishes a means of closing the can tight, but greatly strengthens the can and cover, and renders both stiff and rigid, so that they will always accurately fit each other.

The cover B is or should be formed of one

piece of sheet metal, the same being preferably cut out or notched at the corners to give the required shape to the cover when it is stamped up.

The front face of the can is furnished with the customary pocket for an indicating or a label card. This pocket is formed by soldering a piece of tin on the inside of the front face or side of the can at the corner thereof, and then cutting an opening or window through the front face of the can, so that the label may be read. The card is inserted in or removed from the pocket through a slot cut in the adjacent side of the can at the corner thereof.

In Fig. 1 the vertical slot for inserting the label-card in the pocket, as well as the larger horizontal slot or window through which the label is read, is shown; but I have not shown the detail construction of the pocket, as it forms no part of my invention.

The label-cards are ordinarily made of tin, and are printed with the words "Tea," "Coffee," &c. By providing the cans with these label-card pockets the same can may be used for different articles, and it becomes unnecessary to stamp and enamel each can with a particular name.

I claim—

1. The combination, with square or rectangular can-body A, provided with a triangular hollow breast having inclined inner wall or face, *a*, of a hinged cover, B, provided with a channel fitting said hollow breast on the can-body, and having an inclined inner wall or face, *b*, fitting said inclined inner wall or face *a*, each of the four sides of said can-body and the corresponding part of the triangular hollow breast being formed from one and the same blank by folds of the same, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with square or rectangular can-body A, provided with a triangular hollow breast having inclined inner wall or face, *a*, of a hinged cover, B, provided with a channel fitting said hollow breast on the can-body, and having an inclined inner wall or face, *b*, fitting said inclined inner wall or face *a*, clasp *d*, and lip d^2, adapted to force or draw said wedging cover snugly against its wedging seat on the can-body, each of the four sides of said can-body and the corresponding part of the triangular hollow breast being formed from one and the same blank by folds of the same, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with square or rectangular can-body A, provided with a triangular hollow breast having inclined inner wall or face, *a*, of a hinged cover, B, provided with a channel fitting said hollow breast on the can-body, and having an inclined inner wall or face, *b*, fitting said inclined inner wall or face *a*, said can-body being provided with outer bead, a^5, each of the four sides of said can-body and the corresponding part of the triangular hollow breast being formed from one and the same blank by folds of the same, substantially as specified.

4. The square or rectangular can-body consisting of sides A, provided with internal offset or bend, *a'*, upwardly and outwardly inclined seat or flange *a*, and outer vertical wall, a^3, soldered to said side A, in combination with a hinged cover, B, having inclined seat or wall, *b*, horizontal flange *b'*, outer vertical wall or flange, b^2, wire b^3, and hinge-strap *c*, folded over said wire and soldered to the can-body, substantially as specified.

5. The square or rectangular can-body consisting of sides A, provided with internal offset or bend *a'*, upwardly and outwardly inclined seat or flange *a*, outer vertical wall, a^3, and bead a^5, soldered to said side A, in combination with a hinged cover, B, having inclined seat or wall, *b*, horizontal flange *b'*, outer vertical wall or flange, b^2, wire b^3, and hinge-strap *c*, folded over said wire and soldered to the can-body, and clasp *d* and lip d^2, substantially as specified.

HENRY F. GRISWOLD.

Witnesses:
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H. M. MUNDAY.