J. H. BOARDMAN.

Tanks for Retailing Coal-Oil.

No. 163,140. Patented May 11, 1875.

Fig. 1.

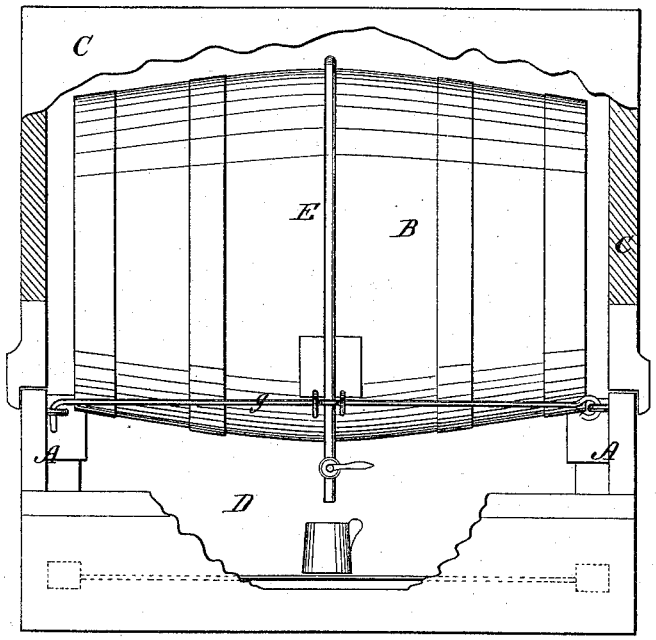
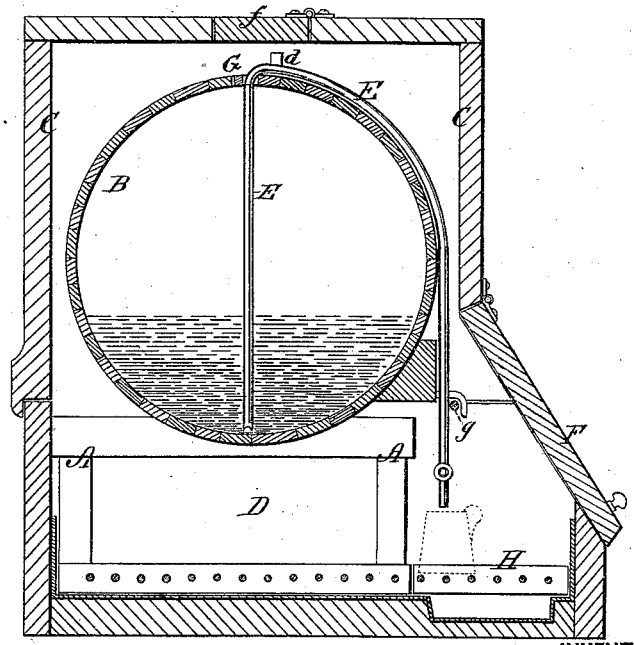


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. BOARDMAN, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN TANKS FOR RETAILING COAL-OIL.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,140**, dated May 11, 1875; application filed March 27, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. BOARDMAN, of Baltimore city, State of Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Tank for Retailing Coal-Oil; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional front elevation; Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section.

The object of this invention is to furnish a cheap and convenient apparatus for retailing coil-oil without the necessity of transferring the contents of the barrel in which the oil is received into another large vessel or tank, and also to prevent loss by leakage and evaporation, to which coal-oil is very much subject.

In the drawing, A denotes a firm frame, constructed of joists, the cross-pieces being concave for the reception of the ends of the barrel, and giving it a firm support. Letter B denotes an ordinary oil-barrel, and letter C a covering over the barrel, and resting on the frame-work, to which it is attached by means of dowels or cleats. This cover has an opening, *f*, in the top for gaging the barrel to ascertain the quantity of oil on hand at any time while retailing. Letter D denotes a chamber under the barrel, in which the retailing-cans are placed. This chamber is lined with tin, zinc, galvanized iron, or any substance, so as to hold all the oil which may leak from the cask while retailing the contents. This chamber is of great importance in my invention, as great quantities of oil are lost by leakage and evaporation while it is being drawn from the barrel, as in ordinary cases. This chamber D with its lining extends forward, and becomes a part of a tray, H, covered by the hinged lid F. The tray H is provided with a depressed trough, (shown in Fig. 2,) into which the drippings from the barrel and the overflow while drawing pass, and from which they are removed as often as desirable. The tray and chamber D are also provided with a drainer. Letter E represents a siphon, passing through a vented plug, G, into the barrel. The siphon has a faucet attached to the portion outside of the barrel, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

In Fig. 2, *d* represents an orifice in the top of the siphon, having a short tube, through which the siphon may be filled, and set in operation without suction on corking the tube and turning the faucet.

In Fig. 1, *g* represents a strap of iron, adjustably attached to each end of the cover C, and passing over the siphon, holding it firmly against the barrel, the central portion of this strap being concaved to adapt it to the size of the siphon, and thus hold it more securely. However, any other method for securing the outer portion of the siphon firmly may answer the same purpose. Neither do I consider it indispensable to have the orifice *d* in the siphon. A gage-rod, suitably graduated, will indicate with sufficient nearness the quantity of oil in the barrel at any time during the process of retailing by inserting it into the barrel vertically through the vent G.

The lid F covers the tray H and all access to the chamber D, thus not only keeping out dust, but making the apparatus neater, as well as safer from fire, than otherwise.

By this arrangement, which is less expensive than the ordinary recently-patented tanks, the pump is dispensed with, which pumps in said tanks have given considerable dissatisfaction, and, besides, it is not necessary to injure a barrel by boring to insert a faucet.

The advantage of the covering and the chamber below is well understood by those familiar with the great tendency of coal-oil to leak and to evaporate, it being no uncommon fact for a barrel to evaporate and leak its entire contents within a few months.

It is well known that tin tanks will only last but a few years, and, therefore, several have recently patented and put into the market a better, but more expensive, tank of galvanized iron; but the cost of these new tanks precludes many from purchasing them, and, besides, it is becoming a serious question if the destroying action of coal-oil will not so soon also destroy galvanized iron as to make the purchase of such tanks a question of economy.

In the apparatus herewith described the body of the oil is not in contact with the metal lining, and although the action of the drippings and overflow will tend to destroy the

lining, it may be replaced at a comparative small expense, and, besides, it can be made of light cast-iron.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. A closed barrel-case having one side of the lower part of it extended, so as to form, with a portion of the drip-tray, a closed dispensing-tray, with independent movable entrance thereto, for the purpose and in the manner substantially as described.

2. The siphon, in combination with the adjustable cross-bar *g*, the barrel, and the barrel-case, substantially as set forth.

3. The troughed tray in the bottom of, and in combination with, the barrel-case, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 16th day of March, A. D. 1875.

J. H. BOARDMAN.

Witnesses:

SOLON C. KEMON,

CHAS. A. PETTIT.