H. E. WOLCOTT.

Tank-Can for Oils.

No. 163,289. Patented May 11, 1875.

FIG I

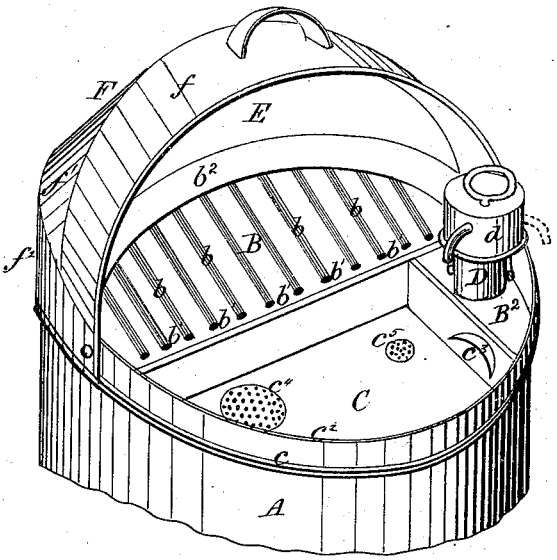


FIG V

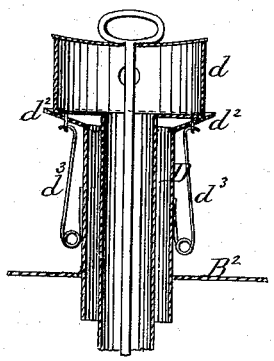


FIG II

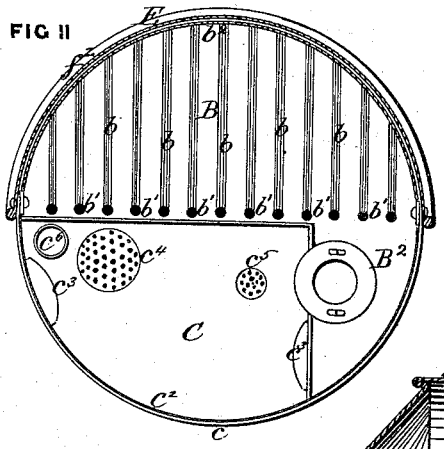


FIG III

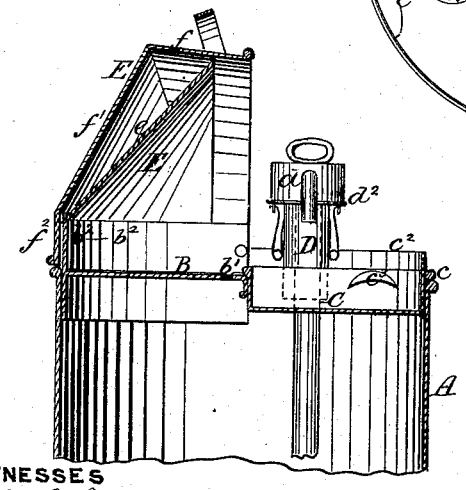
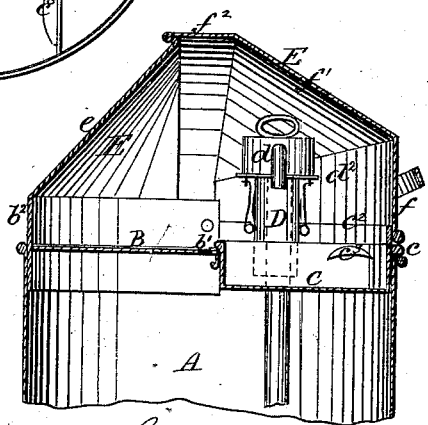


FIG IV



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY E. WOLCOTT, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN TANK-CANS FOR OILS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,289**, dated May 11, 1875; application filed March 24, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY E. WOLCOTT, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tank-Can for Oils, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This tank-can has been devised as an improvement upon others of the same general class, the characteristics of which are a movable cover, a fixed hood, and a tray, which is exposed when the cover is open, and a pump, for drawing the liquid into the measures, which stand within the tray, the top or cover serving, when closed, to conceal and protect the measures and pump, which are accommodated beneath it.

The tank-cans are designed for convenience of retailers, and are especially adapted to contain kerosene or coal oil in large quantity, and to facilitate drawing this offensive liquid.

The features of invention claimed herein consist, first, in the combination, in a tank-can having a fixed hood, of a permanent dripping-shelf, provided with inclined corrugations or gutters, and perforations, whereby the measures may be stored, and the drippings therefrom returned into the tank-reservoir, leaving the tray and its strainers free from being gummed and clogged by the measures; second, in the combination, with the fixed dripping-shelf, of an extension thereof for the pump support; third, in the combination, with the dripping-shelf, of a fixed hood and the rim-guard, inclosing and forming a base-boundary for the shelf, whereby the drippings upon the latter are confined upon the shelf, and the top of the can braced both by the shelf and its rim-guard; fourth, in the combination, with a removable sink or tray, and a fixed dripping-shelf, of the extension of said shelf as a support for the pump independent of the sink and the shelf, leaving the shelf free and unobstructed for its proper use and purpose; fifth, in the construction of the cover with tapering plates and an intermediate gore, and combined for use with a fixed hood having an inclined back and a base-guard rim, over and upon which the cover is hinged, to be opened and closed with a free movement and without binding of the overlapping parts; sixth, in the combination of the hinged cover, the fixed hood, and the permanent shelf, the latter being inclosed and rim-bounded above the sink and with the pump support, to obtain a firm and compact superstructure for the can.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of the tank-can, open as in use, illustrating my invention; Fig. 2, a horizontal section through the open cover; Fig. 3, a vertical section with the top open; Fig. 4, a similar view with the top closed; and Fig. 5 a section through the pump and its supporting-tube.

The improved tank-can has a cylindrical body, A, of any suitable metal, which constitutes the reservoir, and the size of which determines the capacity of the tank. The sink C occupies the front portion of the top, while the other portion is occupied by a shelf, B, soldered or otherwise secured to the can, and is provided with corrugations or gutters *b* in its upper surface that lead to perforations *b'* along the front of the shelf.

The shelf serves for holding the measures and funnels used for and in connection with retailing the oil, and by this means serves to prevent the sink and its strainers from being gummed and clogged, and serves to also brace the can. The corrugations are inclined, and serve to conduct whatever oil that drips from the measures back into the reservoir through the series of apertures at the terminus of the gutters.

Rising from the rear semicircular part of the shelf B is a rim or guard, b^2, that extends the entire distance round the shelf, and forms a boundary to the latter, which, with a separate rim or guard, forms an edge uniform with the edge of the sink or tray, and over which latter guard the cover closes tightly. The shelf has an extension, B^2, to the right for supporting the pump-tube D, which is a fixture with the extension, and is thereby arranged outside of both the shelf and the sink.

The pump-head d carries the usual spout, and has the usual pump attachment that extends down into the reservoir and oil, and can be removed at pleasure. The pump head rests upon a rim, d^2, of the tube D, that is slightly raised at its outer edge, or dished, and the pump-head is held in place by two oppositely-arranged spring-catches, d^3, attached to the part D, and fit into loops through slots in the rim d^2. The sink C is segmental in form, and has a depressed bottom and rising sides, upon which a wire, c, is soldered that determines the distance the sink shall set into its opening in the reservoir. The front side c^2 of the sink joins the rim of the shelf-extension, and, with the shelf rim or guard, forms a continuous rim round the top of the can, and by this means an inclosure is formed for the sink-space, the shelf-space, and the pump-space, and all kept in good condition.

The sink is provided with the usual internal handles c^3 for removing it, and also a large removable strainer, c^4, which can be taken out to fill the can, and a depressed strainer, c^5, and a tube, c^6, for the usual gage-rod.

The fixed hood and hinged cover are of peculiar construction, and designed with a view to obtain the full space of the can-top and perfect freedom in the opening and closing of the cover. They are each of semicircular form—that is, they each cover the half diameter of the can-top, and the cover opens and closes with a free space between them. The rim b^2 not only serves as a guard to the dripping-shelf, but also as the foundation and support for the fixed hood E or shelf-cover, and with the latter forms a sort of alcove and a brace for the can-top. This hood is formed of a single piece of sheet metal, and rises from the guard rim b^2 by an inclined back, e, extending one-half way round the top of the can upon the rear, and terminates in a vertical front edge, which forms a half circle in front of the sink. The cover F is pivoted to the rim b^2 or to ears fixed to the can diametrically, so that its rear and front edges, which form semicircles, will, when the cover is opened and closed, form close-fitting joints upon the rim at the front and rear of the can. The cover is constructed of three pieces of sheet metal, $f f^1 f^2$, soldered or otherwise secured together along their edges. The parts f and f^2 are wired along their outer edges, and to the part f is attached a convenient handle for operating the cover. These parts f and f^2 are situated at right angles to each other, and are each cut tapering from center toward each end. The piece f^1 serves as a gore, and is flat on top, and connects the pieces $f f^2$.

It will be observed that the cover, when thrown back, turns concentrically over the fixed hood, the part f^2 fitting snugly the part b^2 of the hood, and the inclined parts $e f^1$ of both the cover and hood lie back to back with a free space between them, so that the backs $e f^1$ do not touch in opening or closing the cover.

When the pivoted cover is closed the rear part f^2 fits closely upon the inside over the semicircular front edge of the part e, and the front part f fits over the rim of the pump-support and of the sink, and forms thereby a close joint with the hood and top of the can.

By this construction the cover, in turning, does not rub upon the hood, but the hood forms a support for the cover when turned back. The semicircular form of the hood and cover allows the latter to turn within the circle of the can, and yet occupy the full diameter of the top, so that the can may be placed against the wall or in a corner, or in any space where it can be set, and still the cover be opened. This advantage is obtained by utilizing the whole top of the can, and by the semicircular form given to the hood and cover.

It will also be seen that whether opened or closed the alcove, formed by the hood in combination with the shelf, is available for use as a storage for utensils, cleanly and conveniently, and which alcove is of very great importance in tank-can, as it not only aids in keeping the top clean but the measures in a dripping compartment, separated not only from the sink and the pump but from the cover.

In the various improvements in tank-cans the pump has been arranged both inside and outside of the sink, and the latter has been extended back under a fixed hood, over which a cover has been arranged to be opened and closed within the diameter of the can; but in this plan there is no separate shelf and sink, but the fixed hood is employed as a cover for the rear part of the sink, and in this sink the vessels are kept. Nor is it possible to use the unguarded top of the can above the sink as a shelf, nor a cover when thrown back for such use, without making both the can and the place where it stands an intolerable nuisance. The dripping-shelf is, therefore, a highly-important feature in a tank-can, and in connection with the inclosure therefor, and for the sink and the pump space, the whole can-top is kept in very good condition.

The following is claimed as new in this invention, namely:

1. The combination, in a tank-can having a fixed hood, of a permanent dripping-shelf, B, provided with inclined corrugations or gutters b, and perforations b^1, substantially as herein set forth.

2. The combination, with the dripping-shelf B, of the shelf-extension B^2 for the pump-support D, substantially as herein set forth.

3. The combination, with the dripping-shelf B, of a fixed hood, E, and the rim-guard b^2, inclosing and forming a base boundary for the shelf, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination, with a removable sink, C, and a fixed dripping-shelf, B, of the extension B^2 for the pump-support, independ-

ent of the sink, and the shelf, as and for the purpose set forth.

5. The cover F, constructed with the tapering end and gore sections f f^1 f^2, in combination with the fixed hood E, having the inclined back e and guard-rim b^2, over and upon which the cover is hinged to be opened and closed without binding of the overlapping parts, as set forth.

6. The combination of the hinged cover F, fixed hood E, and the dripping-shelf B, the latter being inclosed and rim bounded above the sink, and with the pump-support, to obtain a firm and compact superstructure for the can, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY E. WOLCOTT.

Witnesses:

ALPHONSO W. BLYE,

NEWELL W. WILSON.