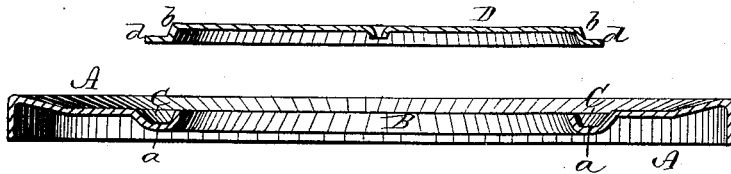


T. H. HAMILTON.  
Tops for Preserving-Cans.

No. 163,484.

Patented May 18, 1875.



WITNESSES  
Frank L. Ourand.  
C. L. Ewert.

By

INVENTOR  
Thos. H. Hamilton.  
Alexander Mason  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS H. HAMILTON, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO JAMES E. STANSBURY, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TOPS FOR PRESERVING-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,484**, dated May 13, 1875; application filed April 6, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. HAMILTON, of Baltimore, in the county of Baltimore and in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tops for Preserving-Cans; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a top and cap for preserving-cans, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, which represents a longitudinal section of my can-top.

A represents the top of a sheet-metal preserving-can, stamped with a central aperture, B, through which the can is to be filled in the usual manner. Around the opening B, in the upper surface of the top A, is formed a groove, C, the bottom *a* of which is made flat or horizontal, as shown. D represents the cap to cover the opening B, and to be soldered to the top. This cap is formed with a rim, *b*, extending downward all around the cap, and the lower edge of said rim is turned outward, forming a straight or horizontal flange, *d*.

When the cap D is placed on the top A the rim and flange fit in the groove C, the flange *d*

resting flat on the flat bottom *a* thereof. The cap is soldered to the top by placing the solder in the groove and under the horizontal flange of the can. The soldering-iron is then applied to the top of said flange, the groove serving as a guide therefor.

Heretofore the can-tops have been provided with a V-shaped groove, and the cap provided with a flange or rim fitting therein, and the groove then filled with solder to the top of the cap. With my construction of the top and cap, so as to have two flat surfaces against each other, only a very small quantity of solder is required to hermetically seal the can, as only the under surface and the edge of the flange *d* need to be covered.

This invention may be used on cans for any purpose, whether designed for putting up fruit, meats, fish, oysters, or any other articles placed in cans.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The can-top A, provided with the opening B and the groove C, having flat bottom *a*, in combination with the cap D, provided with the rim *b* and flat flange *d*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of April, 1875.

THOMAS H. HAMILTON.

Witnesses:

C. L. EVERT,  
W. A. SKINKLE.