N. PETERSON.

OIL-CAN.

No. 169,576. Patented Nov. 2, 1875.

Fig. 1.

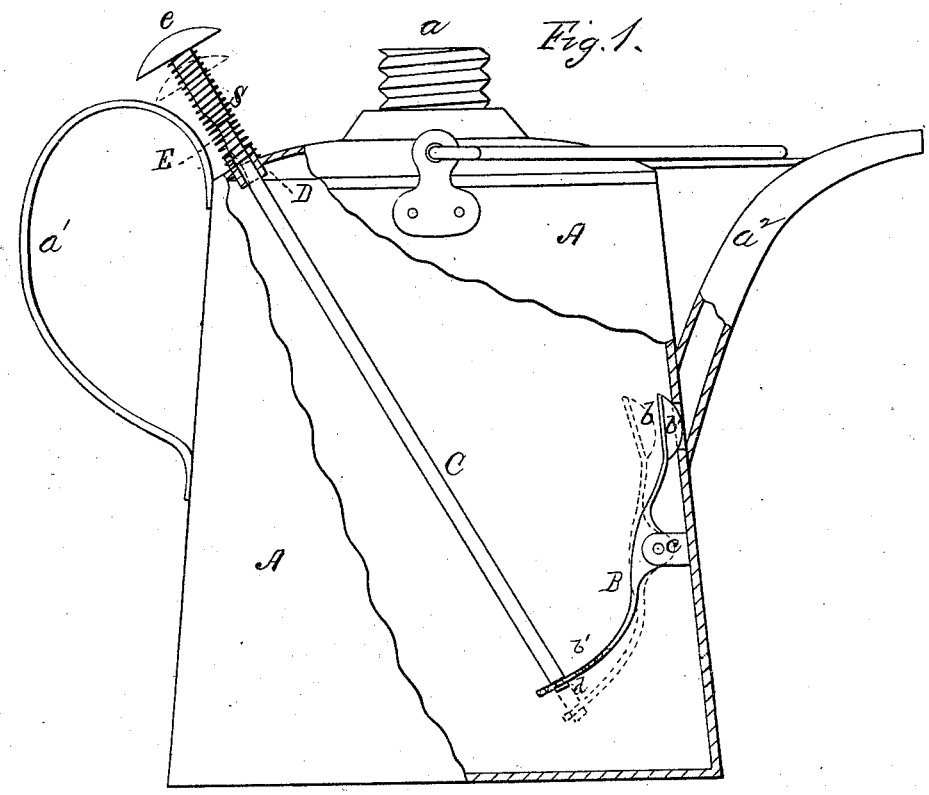
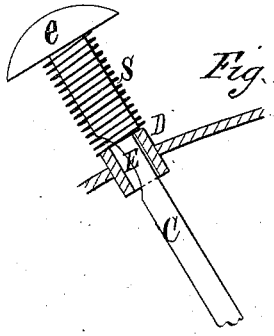


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

Mary J. Utley.

E. A. Bates

INVENTOR

Nicolai. Peterson

Chipman & Fosmer & Co

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NICOLAI PETERSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **169,576**, dated November 2, 1875; application filed August 29, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NICOLAI PETERSON, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Oil-Cans; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of a sectional view of my oil-can. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the same.

This invention has relation to oil-cans wherein a valve operated to open from the outside is used to prevent the casual escape of oil; and the nature of the invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of the parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, A designates the body of an oil-can, having a supply-tube upon its upper surface, closed by a suitable screw-cap, *a*, a handle, a^1, and a spout, a^2. The diameter of the lower part of this spout is purposely larger than that of the perforation in the side of the can, and the said spout is soldered to the outside of the can-body, so that its lower edges shall encircle the said aperture. In this manner, should the spout be accidentally knocked off, the symmetry of the aperture will not be impaired, and the valve, hereinafter to be explained, will prevent the escape of a single drop of oil. B designates a lever, having upon one end a flattened enlargement, *b*, to the inner side of which a suitable pad, *b'*, is rigidly secured. Its other end is provided with a slot, *b'*, for a purpose to be explained. This lever has its fulcrum at *c*, below the discharge-aperture in the side of the can, and its padded end is arranged to press upon and close the said aperture, and prevent the escape of oil through it into the spout. C designates a rod, the reduced end *d* of which is passed into the slot *b'* of lever B, and extends thence diagonally upward through the top of the can, in front of the handle thereof, when it is terminated by a cap, *e*.

It will be seen from the above description that when the rod C is pushed down it will depress the power end of the lever B, causing the valve-bearing end thereof to be elevated, thereby opening the discharge-aperture, the said aperture being closed by the recoil of the said rod, caused by the reaction of a helical spring, S, arranged upon it between the cap *e* and the top of the can.

The rod C is preferably cylindrical in shape, and passes through a tubular cylindrical casing, D, which is rigidly secured to the top of the said can, whereby an air-tight joint is produced, the said casing being of the exact size necessary for the admission of the said rod. When any similar air-tight joint is used, with the end of the valve-lever slotted, as above described, the actuating-rod C will be allowed to descend in the line of the longitudinal axis existing when the valve closes the discharge-aperture in the can, owing to the free play allowed to the said rod in the slot *b'* of the said lever. This provision is a very necessary one, owing to the fact that the power end of the lever B, when it is actuated to open the discharge-aperture, describes the arc of a circle, and if such a slot were not used, the rod C would so rack and strain the air-tight sleeve as to render it leaky and insecure in a very short time, when an accidental upsetting of the can would cause the oil to escape through the said sleeve where it is secured to the can-top, soiling and defiling any object with which it comes in contact. E designates a notch, which is cut out from the rod C at that point thereof which is just above the sleeve D, and which will be partly within the can and partly without, when the said rod is operated to open the discharge-aperture, thus affording an aperture by means of which air is allowed to penetrate into the interior of the can, for the purpose of allowing a free and uninterrupted flow of oil through the spout. When a lamp or other vessel is filled with oil, a releasing of the rod C from pressure will insure a withdrawal of the notch E from the sleeve, thereby cutting off the supply of air, and effectually preventing escape of oil from that portion of my improved can.

It will be seen from the above explanation that, owing to the situation of the padded valve within the body of the can, the spout

may be broken off, even when the cup is full, without any escape of oil occurring; also, that by means of the slot in the power end of the valve-lever, the sleeve through which the actuating-rod passes will not be racked or strained, and will consequently not be rendered leaky; and, finally, that the notch E on the rod C affords a means of ingress for air into the can, which will be closed when the liquid is no longer poured from the spout, allowing no oil to escape when the can is overset.

I am well aware that the pin-and-slot connection at the power end of the valve-lever is not new in call and door bells; also, that springs actuating the valve-lever to close the spout applied within the can are not new; hence I do not make a broad claim to such devices.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The improved oil-can, having the sleeve D, the actuating-rod C, provided with the notch E and reduced end *d*, the valve-lever B, provided with the slot *b*, into which the reduced portion of the rod C is passed, and the spring S, applied upon the upper end of the rod C outside of the can, all constructed and combined as described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

NICOLAI PETERSON.

Witnesses:
B. C. THOMPSON,
E. N. DEVOL.