J. SEARS.

LARD PAIL.

No. 181,286. Patented Aug. 22, 1876.

Fig. 1.

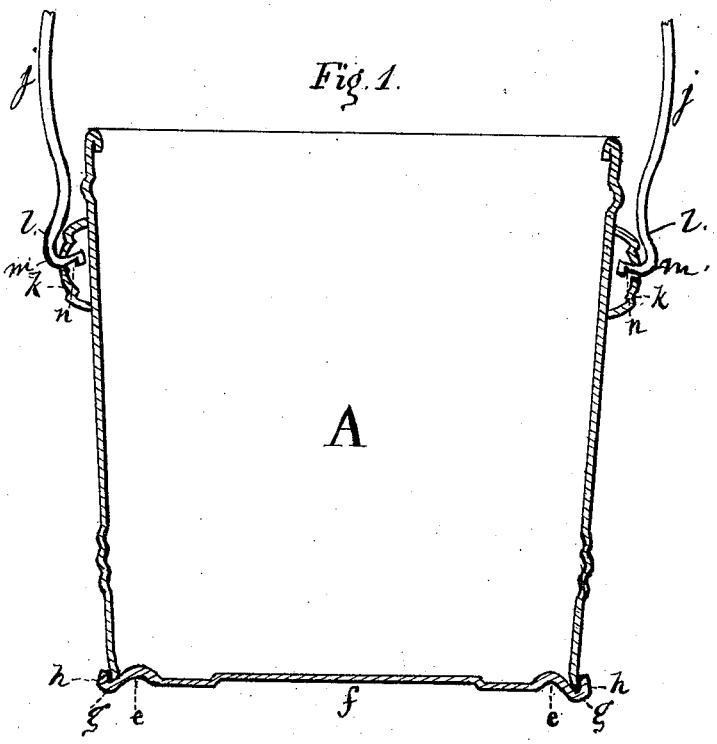

Fig. 2.

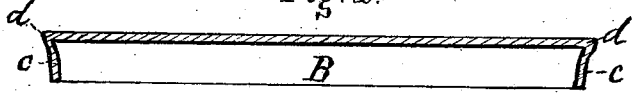

Fig. 3.

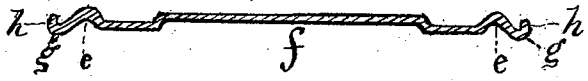

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH SEARS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN LARD-PAILS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **181,286**, dated August 22, 1876; application filed July 11, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH SEARS, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pails or Buckets for Containing Lard, &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 appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to the manufacture of tin or metallic pails suitable for holding lard, &c., for transportation and use, and more particularly to those of tapering or conical shape, having a base of less diameter than the top; and it consists in the construction of the top or cover adapted for the tapering vessel; in a peculiarly-constructed bail, adapted to be readily sprung into connection with the ears, and to fit snugly around them, and which, while readily removed or inserted, is at the same time not likely to be accidentally dislodged, and in a pail having the several features above named.

Figure 1 represents a pail, partly in section, made in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, a section through its top or cover; Fig. 3, a section through and near its bottom, and Fig. 4 an enlarged view of one end of the bail.

The pail A is made tapering from its top to base, this form being not only an approved one, but also one making the vessel somewhat stronger, as well as facilitating the removal of its contents, and the cleaning of the vessel for other uses.

The cover B I strike up from a single sheet of metal, in such manner as not only to give it a flange, *c*, but also a bead, *d*, above the flange. This flange, in connection with the taper of the pail, insures a tight hold of the cover when put to place, the flange springing and enlarging slightly when the cover is first put on, and then, when pushed down to place, reacting, and closing upon a smaller circumference of the pail. The bead *d* strengthens the cover, and also gives it a finish. It also, in striking up the flange or rim *c*, allows the crimping of the metal to terminate or be lost in the bead, and not to extend to the angle of the cover, thus adding materially to the desired springing quality of the crimped flange.

In the bottom *f* of the pail, and near its edge, an annular depression, *e*, is made, bending inward, and thus forming a reversed bead, giving strength and rigidity to the bottom, as well as adding to its finish; and outside of this depressed bead the bottom is bent downward and outward, and then upward and inwardly, as seen at *g h*, thus still further increasing its strength and rigidity, these last-named parts receiving the bottom edge of the tapering portion of the pail, with which they make a strong seam or connection. The bent part *g* projects below the plane of *f*, and alone comes in contact with the table or object on which the pail may stand, the reversed bead *e* and the remainder of the bottom being out of contact with such object.

The ends of the bail *j* are bent in a form corresponding to the exterior of the ear *k*, being so curved as to fit closely around it, as shown at *l*, and the extreme tips of the hooks *m* are nicked or notched, as shown at *n*. The object of these nicks, in connection with the bent form of the bail ends, is to allow the application of the bail to the pail with perfect facility, by springing the ends to place in the ears, and also its ready removal for any repairs, or when required for packing many pails together for transportation, the nicks affording a sufficient hold of the bail in the ears to prevent accidental dislodgment.

That portion of each end of the bail which is in close proximity to the convex or swell of the ear, being first curved or bent to conform thereto, terminates in a straight, or nearly straight, tip, so that the ends of these two tips are in line with each other, and the holes in the ears for their reception need be but slightly larger than the diameter of the wire of which the bail is made; and these tips, when the bail is applied, spring into the ears readily, as they have no short bend at their extreme terminal point, as is customary. I therefore avoid the annoyance incident to such hooked ends, as well as the nice labor required to form them, and also the risk of having the hooks too long or too short, or of straining the eye of the ears while inserting or removing them. I make

the notch in the under side of these tips, and the catching of such notches upon the ears checks and prevents the bail from being accidentally detached. The avoidance of a hook, or of a downward turn at the tips of the bail, also allows a free movement of the bail, there being nothing to get wedged in the ear, the tips simply working like journals in their bearings.

The whole pail, thus constructed, permits of a number being nested within each other for storing or shipping, the covers and bails being first taken off, the cylindrical form of pails not admitting of such nesting unless with graduated sizes.

I claim—

1. In combination with a pail tapering from top to bottom, the cover B, made, as described, of a single piece, and provided with the annular bead *d* at its edge, and flange *c* connecting therewith.

2. In combination with the bail-ear, the removable bail *j*, made as described, and with its ends which enter the ears nicked or notched, as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. As an article of manufacture, the tapering pail described, provided with the annular depression *e* in its bottom, the cover B, with its bead *d* and flange *c*, and the removable notched bail *j*.

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