W. H. FOWLER.

FRUIT AND PAINT CANS.

No. 186,333. Patented Jan. 16, 1877.

Fig. 1.

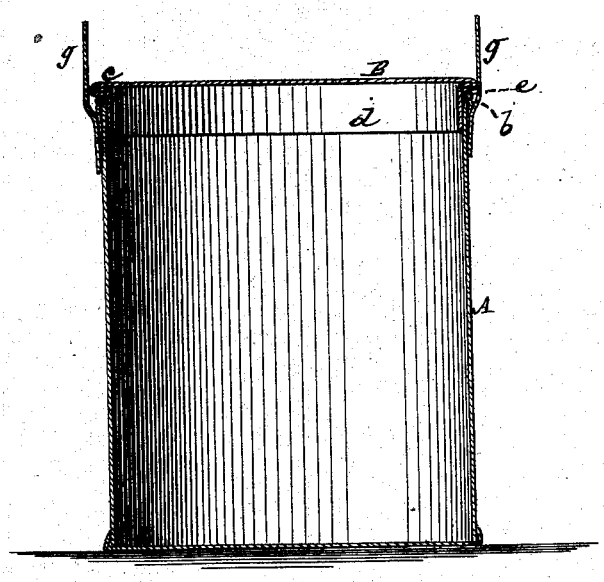

Fig. 2.

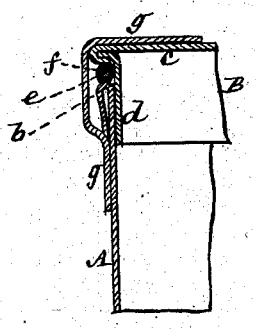

Fig. 3.

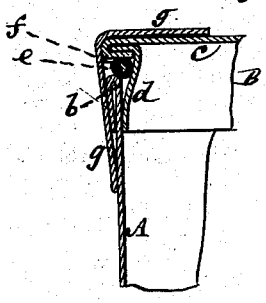

Fig. 4.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. FOWLER, OF AUBURN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT AND PAINT CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **186,333**, dated January 16, 1877; application filed December 16, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. FOWLER, of Auburn, in the county of Cayuga and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cans or Boxes for Paints, Fruits, and other materials or liquids; 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, which forms part of this specification.

This invention, which is mainly designed to be applied to metal cans for holding, transporting, and preserving paints and fruits, consists in the combination, with a flanged lid or cover constructed to enter within the mouth of the can, of a cemented cord lapped around the entering portion of the lid beneath the head of the latter, so that when the lid is seated and pressed down to its place, and secured by clips, as hereinafter described, the mouth of the can is hermetically sealed, or made to form a close air-tight joint with the lid, by the jamming or contact of the cemented cord on or within the outer edge of the mouth of the can.

This not only forms a simple and efficient mode of hermetically closing the can, but, also, by pulling on the outer end of the cemented cord, provides for the ready opening of the lid, and, by afterward replacing such end of the cord, allows of the reclosing of the can in an air-tight manner, thus preserving the contents of the can remaining unused after the opening of the latter.

The cement with which the cord is saturated or coated should be of a permanently plastic and adhesive character under all ordinary atmospheric temperatures, so that it will neither harden into a concrete mass, nor yet liquefy.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a longitudinal sectional view of a can constructed in accordance with my invention, before the clips used to hold the lid to its place are bent over and secured. Fig. 2 is a similar view, in part, upon an enlarged scale, of the upper portion of the can and its lid after the clips have been bent down over and secured onto the latter; and Fig. 3, a like view of corresponding parts, but subject to a slightly different modification as regards the construction of the lid. Fig. 4 is a partly sectional and longitudinal view of the cemented cord by which the lid is made to form a close joint with the mouth of the can.

A is the metal body of the can, the upper edges of which are turned over at the mouth *b*. The lid B is composed, in part, of an overlapping head, *c*, and an inner or under annular flange, *d*, which, when the lid is fitted to its place, enters down within the mouth *b* of the can.

Around the flange *d* of the lid, directly beneath the head *c* thereof, is wound or lapped a string or cord, *e*, which is saturated with or has a coating, *f*, of cement, of a permanently plastic or sticky character under different conditions of the atmosphere, applied to it.

A suitable cement for the purpose may be made by mixing sixteen parts, by weight, of resin, three parts of mutton-tallow, two parts of bees-wax, and one part of red-lead, and, under a suitably heated condition of the same, coating the cord *e* therewith.

After the cemented cord *e f* has been lapped or wound around the flange *d* of the lid, beneath its head *c*, said lid is fitted to its place over and within the mouth *b* of the can, and whereby the cemented cord is made to bear down on the upper edge of the can, or more or less within it, which latter seating of said cord may be secured by making the flange *d* of a slightly tapering form—that is, of an increasing diameter in an inner or downwardly direction, as shown in Fig 3.

The lid B, having been thus fitted in a close or air-tight manner to its place, is secured in position by means of clips *g*, permanently fastened at their one end to the body A of the can, and bent down or over the lid B, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and secured by cement—such, for instance, as used to coat the cord *e* with.

The outer end of the cemented cord *e f* is left loose or free, whereby, on pulling said end to unwind it from the lid, it is made to de-

tach the lid, after which it may be readjusted to hermetically seal the lid again, to preserve the remaining contents of the can.

I claim—

The combination of the cemented cord *e f* with the annular flange *d* and head *c* of the lid B, the mouth *b* of the body A of the can, and the clips *g*, substantially as specified.

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Witnesses:
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