E. A. LELAND.
Sheet-Metal Can.

No. 198,305. Patented Dec. 18, 1877.

Fig. 1.

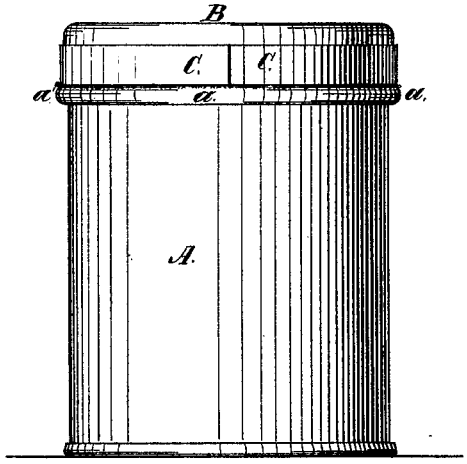


Fig. 2.

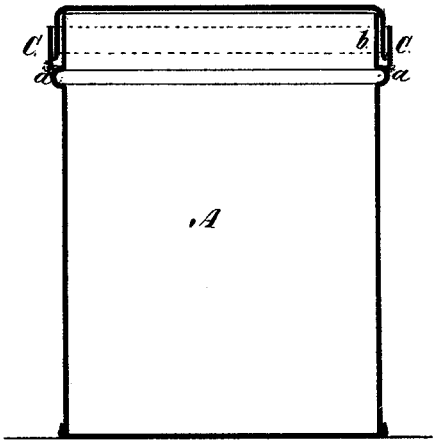
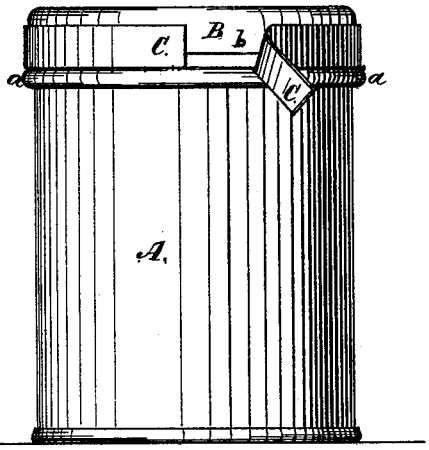


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Henry Eichling
A. Wells Jr

Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN A. LELAND, OF NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO LEONARD RICHARDSON, OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHEET-METAL CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,305**, dated December 18, 1877; application filed November 3, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN A. LELAND, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Sheet-Metal Cans, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of hermetically-sealed cans in which a sealing-strip is soldered between the slip-cover of the can and the body thereof in such manner that, by tearing off the sealing-strip, the soldered joint is broken or destroyed between the cover and the body, to permit the removal of the former; and its object is to provide an easy and efficient means of removing the strip, when desired, without the employment of a projecting lip thereto, which, in practice, is employed to be broken off or to project in the way during the handling of the can.

Figure 1 is a side view of a can made according to my invention, hermetically closed for storage or transportation. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view, showing the position of the sealing-strip when partially detached in the opening of the can.

A is the body, and B the slip-cover of the can, which may be of any suitable or ordinary construction, the body, however, being provided with a circumferential rib, *a*, at a slight distance below the lower edge of the flange *q* of the cover B. C is the sealing-strip, placed upon the circumference of the flange *b*, as represented in the drawings; but (and this must be especially kept in mind) the said sealing-strip has its inner circumference soldered to the lower edge of the flange *b*, while the upper edge of said sealing-strip remains unsoldered to the said flange. This is done before the cover B and the sealing-strip attached thereto is applied to the body A. The cover and the sealing-strip, soldered together, as just explained, are then placed upon the top or upper part of the can, with the lower edge of the sealing-strip lapped upon, and nearly or quite in contact with, the outer surface of the rib *a*, the said lower edge of the sealing-strip being then soldered direct to the said rib.

It is also to be observed that the opposite ends of the sealing-strip, where they come together after being passed around the flange *b*, are butt-jointed against each other, or lapped upon each other and soldered fast without any projecting lip.

In order to detach the sealing-strip it is only necessary to insert the point of a knife-blade or other suitable implement within or inside of the unsoldered upper edge of the sealing-strip adjacent to the point where the two ends of said sealing-strip come together. This enables a leverage to be exerted upon one or the other end portions of the sealing-strip, as the case may be, which enables it to be readily and conveniently detached; and this end portion, being thus separated, the sealing-strip is then rapidly and readily torn away, leaving the slip-cover upon the top of the can, in the same manner as is the case with an ordinary tin can, so that the can may then be opened by simply removing the slip-cover in the usual way.

What I claim as my invention is—

In a sheet-metal can of the class indicated, the sealing-strip C, having its inner surface soldered direct to the lower edge of the flange *b* of the cover B, and its upper edge unsoldered or free from the said flange, to permit the insertion of the point of a knife or other instrument, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

EDWIN A. LELAND.

Witnesses:
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