W. J. ALRICH.

Milk-Can.

No. 203,694. Patented May 14, 1878.

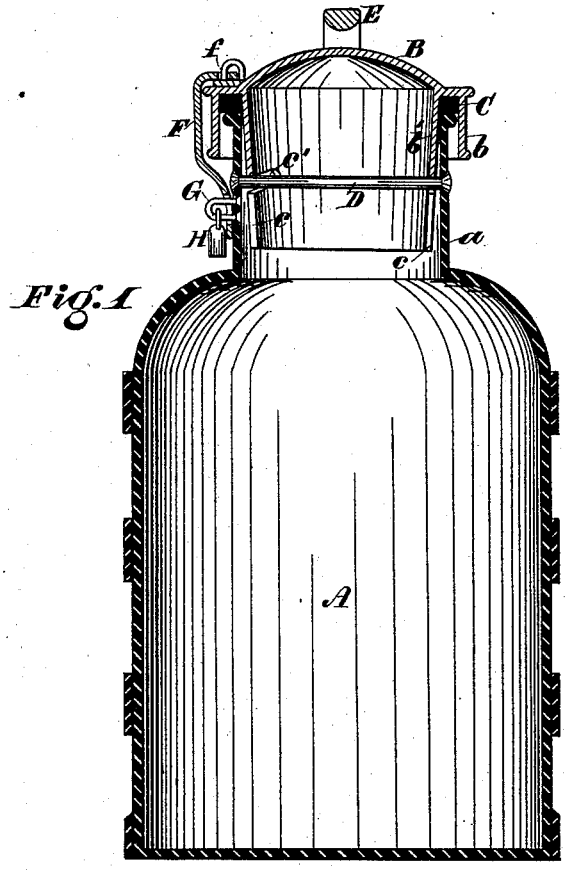

Fig. 1

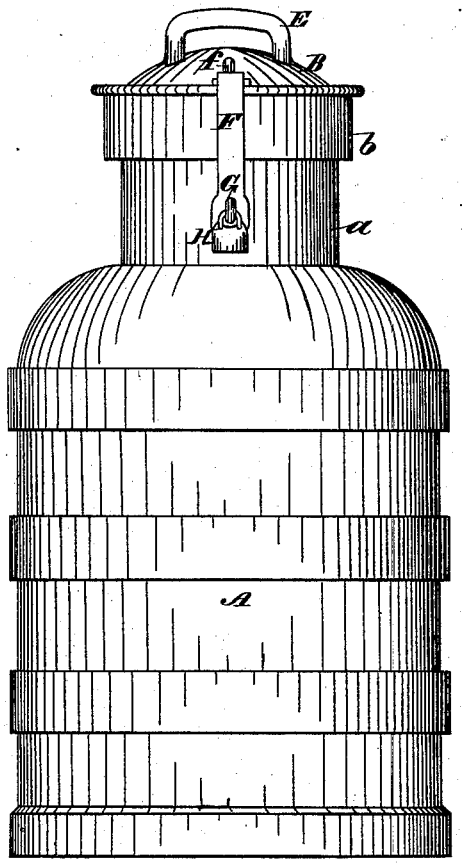

Fig. 2

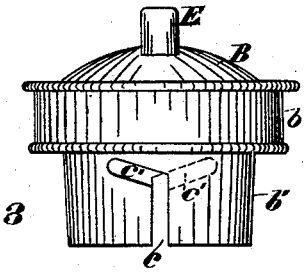

Fig. 3

WITNESSES:

Saml. J. Van Stavoren.

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INVENTOR

William J. Alrich,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. ALRICH, OF ELKTON, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN MILK-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,694**, dated May 14, 1878; application filed November 12, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WM. J. ALRICH, of Elkton, in the county of Cecil and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Milk-Cans; and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of a milk-can. Fig. 2 is a side view. Fig. 3 is a side view of cap or cover.

The object of my invention is to provide a locking milk-can from which the lacteal fluid can neither leak nor be feloniously abstracted without removing the lid or top.

My improvements consist in the peculiar construction and combination of parts hereinafter more fully described, having reference particularly to devices whereby the top is caused to form a tight joint with the neck of the can, and is securely fastened on the latter.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, A designates the body of a milk-can of the usual or any suitable construction, and *a* the neck thereof. B is the top of said can, formed with two downwardly-depending annular flanges, *b* and *b'*, between which the neck *a* enters. C is a rubber gasket, which rests between the flanges *b* and *b'*, so as to meet the upper wired edge of the neck *a* when the top is fitted on the can.

The flange *b'* is slotted, as shown at *c c'*, the slots *c* being vertical and the slots *c'* slightly inclined.

D is a rod, which extends across the neck *a*, being firmly fastened at both its ends to said neck.

When the top B is slipped into position the rod D passes through the slots *c c* until it meets the lower termination of the slots *c' c'*, the wired edge of the neck *a* at the same time meeting the gasket C. The lid is now to be rotated, by taking hold of the handle E, such rotation having the effect of causing the rod D to pass through the inclined slots *c' c'* to their upper terminations, thereby drawing the top down upon the neck *a*, and compressing the gasket C between said top and neck. Now, to hold the top in this position, the hasp F, hinged at *f* to said top, is brought down over the staple G, which is made fast to the neck *a*, and a padlock, H, duly secured therein, as shown.

It will be observed that the locking devices described not only prevent the lid from being lifted off vertically, but also from being rotated on the neck *a*, to relieve the compression of the gasket C and open the joint.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A milk-can top provided with two depending annular flanges, and having its inner flange *b'* slotted at *c* and *c'*, the slots *c* being vertical and the slots *c'* inclined, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In combination with the neck *a*, the rod D fastened therein, substantially as shown and described.

3. In combination with the can-neck *a*, having rod D and staple F, the top B, having annular flanges *b b'*, the latter being slotted at *c c'*, the hasp F, and gasket C, the several parts being constructed and arranged to form a tight-locking joint, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of November, 1877.

WILLIAM J. ALRICH.

Witnesses:

DANIEL L. STANTON,

WM. G. BRYAN.