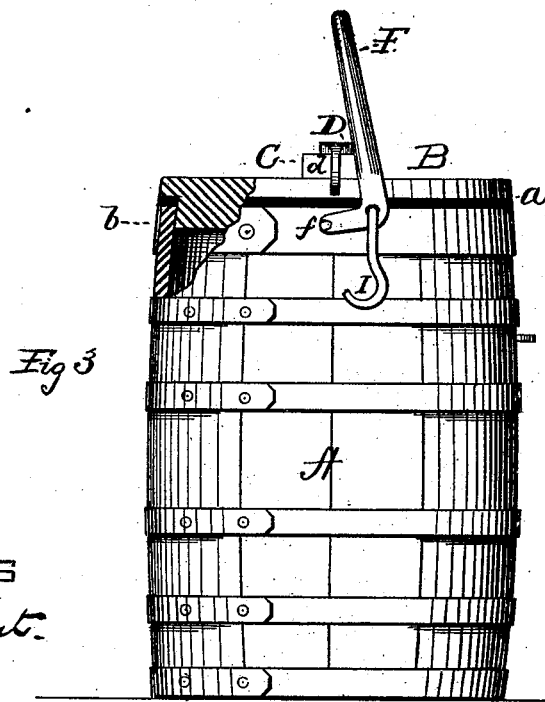
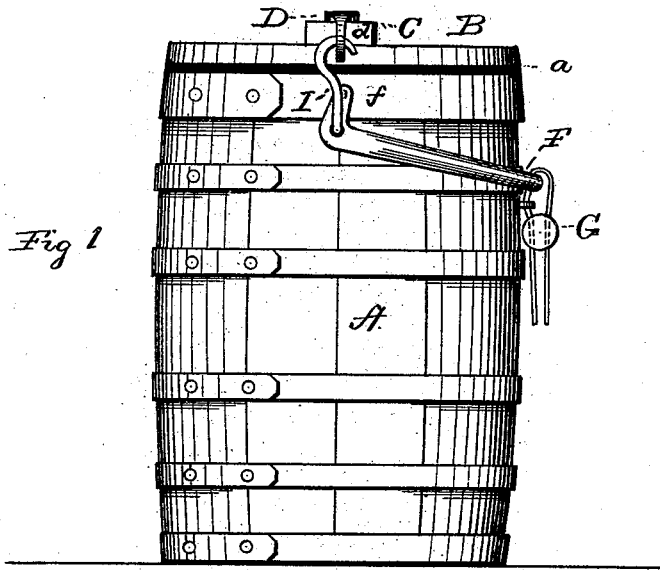


F. PFEIFFER.
Oyster-Package.

No. 209,189.

Patented Oct. 22, 1878.



WITNESSES
Nat. E. Oliphant.
D. P. Cowl

INVENTOR
Frank Pfeiffer.
Per *R. M. Davis.*
atly.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK PFEIFFER, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN OYSTER-PACKAGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **209,189**, dated October 22, 1878; application filed October 11, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK PFEIFFER, of Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Oyster-Packages; 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 letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is an elevation of the package. Fig. 2 is a view of the cover, to show cross-bar and eye, part being broken away. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the package with the hooks detached.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a device for fastening the covers of oyster-buckets and other similar vessels, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

A represents a wooden bucket made of staves, in any suitable dimensions, fastened by metallic hoops, and having a bottom secured therein in any of the known and usual ways.

B represents the cover of the bucket, which cover is rabbeted around the edges, as shown at *b*, so that a portion of the cover will fit within the bucket and the circumferential edge of the cover rest upon the upper edges of the staves forming the bucket. I, however, interpose a rubber gasket, *a*, made to fit in the rabbet *b*, so as to make the joint perfectly tight when the cover is fastened down.

Across the top of the cover B is a cross-bar, C, to keep the cover from warping, and at the same time serves as a handle for lifting the cover off and on the bucket.

On top of the cross-bar C is secured a metal bar or strap, D, running longitudinally therewith, and terminating at both ends in perforated lugs or eyes *d*, which are turned downward at the ends of the cross-bar.

F represents a semicircular bail or handle, having at each end a short arm, *f*, turned at right angles to it; and the end of this arm is bent inward and passed through the top hoop of the bucket, or to a metal plate secured to the outside of the bucket under the upper

hoops, thus pivoting the bail or handle to the bucket. The thus inwardly-turned ends of the arms *f* may be headed or riveted on the inner sides of the hoop or plates, so as to prevent the bail or handle from becoming detached from the bucket.

To each end of the bail F, at the angle formed by the arm *f*, is pivoted a hook, I, which is to be hooked into the eye *d* at the end of the bar D. The bail F being raised, the hooks I are easily disconnected from the eyes *d*, and the cover is perfectly free to be removed and put on as required.

When the cover is put on the hooks I are engaged in the eyes *d*, and the bail F is then turned down to the side of the bucket, whereby the hooks draw the cover tightly down on the bucket; and as this position of the bail F throws its arms *f* sufficiently far beyond a vertical line to bring the pivot of the hooks I to one side of the pivots of the bail, the parts are locked and cannot become accidentally detached.

The only way to remove the cover is to raise the bail F sufficiently far to bring the arms *f* on the opposite side of the vertical line, when the parts will easily separate and allow the cover to be taken off.

When the cover is fastened down an ordinary lead seal-lock, G, may be applied, as shown. When the cover is not fastened down the bucket can be carried by means of the bail F.

Though my invention is principally intended for oyster-buckets it is evident that it is equally applicable to buckets, barrels, or other vessels designed for any other purpose.

The fastening device is strong and durable, and at the same time cheap, simple, and easily manipulated.

The eyes or perforated lugs *d* may be applied directly to the cover without the use of the metal bar or strap D, if so desired.

I am aware that it is not new in bottle-stoppers to have a sliding and swinging bail combined with locking devices, and I do not therefore claim such, broadly, as my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In combination with a vessel, A, and cover

B, having wooden cross-bar C secured thereto, the metal bar or strap D, fastened to and extending the entire length of the cross-bar, and provided with the eyes *d* at its ends, the bail F, provided at the ends with right-angle crank-arms *f*, which are securely pivoted at their ends to the vessel, and the hooks I, pivoted in the angles at the junctions of the bail and crank-arms for engaging with the eyes *d*, sub-

stantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK PFEIFFER.

Witnesses:

R. M. BARR,
H. A. HALL.