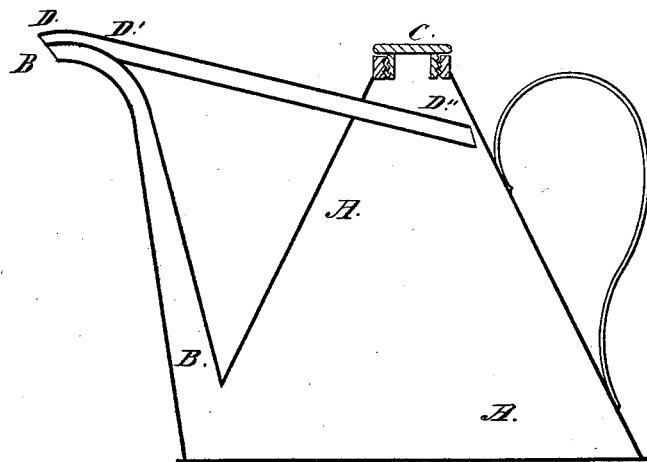


*R. Cornelius,*  
*Oil Can.*  
*N<sup>o</sup> 3,031.      Patented Apr. 6, 1843.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT CORNELIUS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-FEEDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 3,031, dated April 6, 1843.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT CORNELIUS, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful manner of constructing an oil-can for the filling of lamps, by means of which improvement the oil will cease to flow from the can as soon as it has attained the height to which it is desired that it shall rise within the lamp, and by which lamps may be filled in the dark without the danger of their overflowing; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

The accompanying drawing represents a vertical section through the middle of my oil-can.

A A is the body of the can, which is formed in the usual manner.

B B is the spout, which is likewise similar to those now in use.

C is a screw-cap, which is made to close the top of the can air-tight, being furnished with a leather washer for that purpose. A like effect, however, may be attained by means of a cork fitting well into the neck, so as to close it air-tight, but the screw-cap is to be preferred as being more certain in its operation.

D D is a tube open at both ends, its outer end terminating with the opening in the spout, and its inner end opening into the upper part of the oil-can. The tube D must have an inclination downward from the upper side of the spout to the interior of the can when the latter stands upright, and the tube D D should have its capacity enlarged, say, from the point

D' to its termination at D'' within the can. It should extend across the interior of the can also, nearly to the side opposite to that at which it enters, in order that it may be kept from all danger of having its interior opening covered with oil when the can is tilted. If the tube D D is not larger as it proceeds toward the can than it is at its outer end, its action will not be certain.

When a lamp is to be filled by means of this can, the end of the spout must be passed into said lamp, so as to reach that point which it is desired the oil should attain. As the oil runs from the spout, air will pass into the can through the tube D D, and this operation will continue until the oil rises so as to close the opening of said tube, and as air cannot then pass into the can, no more oil will flow out of it.

Having thus fully described the manner in which I construct my improved oil-can, what I claim therein as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combining of an air-tube with the ordinary spout of a can, which is rendered air-tight at its neck, which air-tube has its outer termination even with the mouth of the spout, and its inner opening within the upper part of the can, under an arrangement such as is herein set forth.

ROBERT CORNELIUS.

Witnesses:

THOS. P. JONES,  
JOHN HOTE.