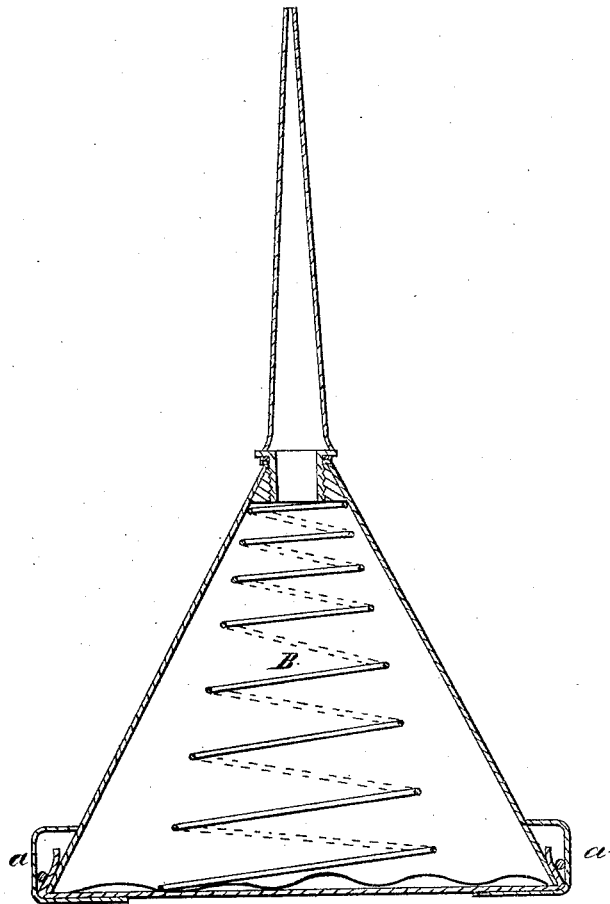


*B. Clark,*

*Oil Can.*

*No 49,979.*

*Patented Sep. 19. 1865.*



*Witnesses:*  
*J. C. Smith*  
*Fred B. Ginn*

*Inventor:*  
*Benjamin Clark*  
*By*  
*D. C. Jones & Co*  
*attys*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN CLARK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **49,979**, dated September 19, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN CLARK, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Oil-Cans; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to construct an oil-can that can be filled without removing the nozzle and that shall serve as a useful lubricating-cup for machinery. To effect this object I construct an oil-can in the usual form, having a bottom of india-rubber or other highly-elastic material. I fasten this india-rubber bottom around the lower end of the can by strong wires drawn firmly around the same, and I protect the said india-rubber bottom by a guard that forms a ring and incloses the same except in the center of the bottom. This guard is marked A on the drawings.

It is known that india-rubber and other highly-elastic substances will lose somewhat of their elasticity by long and constant use, especially when brought in contact with oil and oleaginous substances.

To remedy this evil, so far as my oil-can is concerned, I attach a spiral or other durable spring to the can just below the nozzle thereof, with the bottom end resting upon the center of the india-rubber bottom; or I may attach it firmly to said bottom, as may be most desirable. This spring is marked B on the drawings.

In order further to protect the diaphragm

from the effects of the oil or other lubricating substance in the can, I may stretch a bag of oiled silk, skin, leather, bladder, or other suitable material across the bottom of the can and directly above the said diaphragm, and I secure it firmly in its place under the same wires that hold the diaphragm or by any other suitable means.

Care must be taken to make this bag sufficiently large to allow the diaphragm to be moved upward as far as may be necessary for filling, and also for ejecting the contents, as herein described.

The method of filling my oil-can is as follows, namely: Place the thumb upon the bottom of the india-rubber bottom or diaphragm and press the same well up. Then place the nozzle of the can in the oil and remove the thumb. The result is that the bottom springs into its natural position, the oil is drawn into the can, and it is filled.

When using this can for lubricating purposes I press upon the bottom with such force as shall eject the oil to the distance required. A very little force will eject the oil three or four feet. Machinery can be easily lubricated at a distance of twenty feet from the operator by using my improvement.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An oil-can having a spring, B, and a lined elastic diaphragm protected by a guard, A, all substantially as shown and described.

BENJAMIN CLARK.

Witnesses:

J. C. SMITH,  
FRED. B. GINN.