P. H. NILES.

Fruit Can.

No. 51,264. Patented Nov. 28, 1865.

Fig. 1.

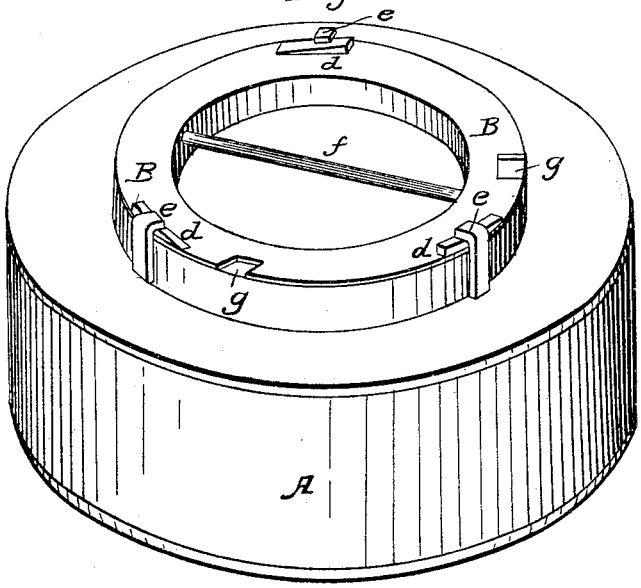
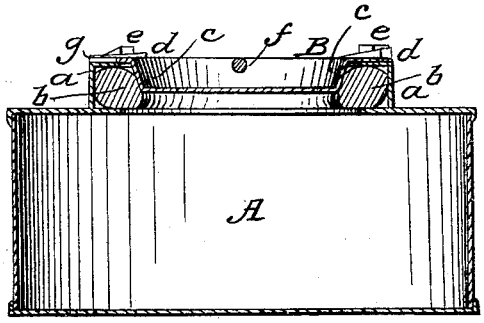


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

H. C. Fischemacher.

N. W. Stearns.

Inventor:

P. H. Niles

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER H. NILES, OF BOSTON, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND AUGUSTUS RUSS, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRESERVE-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **51,264**, dated November 28, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER H. NILES, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Preserve-Cans, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved preserve-can. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the center of the same.

That class of preserve-cans in which the cover has been pressed down onto a flat rubber ring, or a rubber packing has been placed on the under side of the cover, have been objectionable, as any inaccuracy or unevenness of the bearing-surfaces would render it difficult to make a tight joint without exerting a great pressure on the cover. My invention has for its object to overcome this difficulty, and consists in so placing an elastic ring in the mouth of the can that the cover, which is slightly conical, shall press against the sides of the ring and thereby effect a tight joint with very little pressure, and without regard to the accuracy of the bearing-surfaces, in combination with wedges or inclines on the cover which slide under hooks on the can and serve to hold the cover securely in place.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings, A is the body of the can, in the upper part of which is formed a groove, *a*, in which is fitted an elastic packing-ring, *b*, of vulcanized rubber or other suitable material.

B is the cover, the edge *c* of which is made slightly conical, so that when pressed into the mouth of the can against the sides of the elastic ring *b*, as seen in Fig. 2, a tight joint will be effected without regard to the accuracy of the bearing-surface of the cover.

The cover is pressed down firmly into the mouth of the can and against the packing-ring by means of wedges or inclines *d*, which are forced under the hooks *e* on the sides of the can by turning the cover B by means of the rod *f*, (as seen in Fig. 1,) openings *g* being made in the cover to allow of its edge passing under the hooks.

In removing the cover B it is simply necessary to take hold of the rod *f* and turn the cover until the openings *g* in its edge are opposite to two of the hooks *e*, when it is free to be lifted off as required.

It will thus be seen that no pressure at all is applied to the top of the packing-ring, as heretofore, but that a tight joint is effected by wedging the conical edge of the cover against the sides of the packing-ring, which requires much less pressure on the cover and less accuracy of parts than has heretofore been found necessary. There is also less liability of the cover adhering to the packing-ring, while the can is of very simple construction, and may be furnished at a low cost.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, as an improvement in preserve-cans, is—

The elastic packing-ring *b*, in combination with the cover B, provided with wedges or inclines *d*, and the hooks *e*, or their equivalents, operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

P. H. NILES.

Witnesses:

P. E. TESCHEMACHER,

N. W. STEARNS.