CHARLES E. DAYTON.

Improvement in Can-Tops.

No. 114,931. Patented May 16, 1871.

FIG. 1

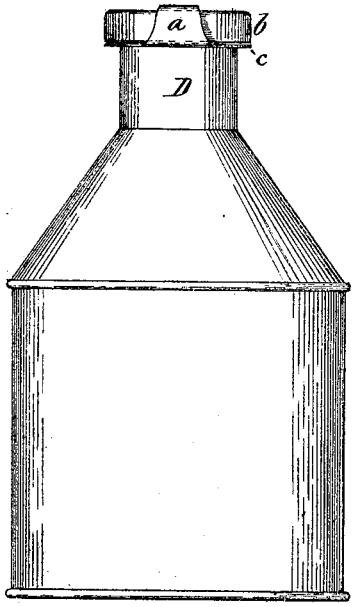


FIG. 2

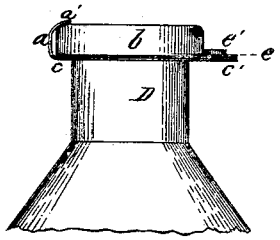


FIG. 3

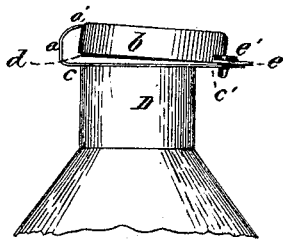
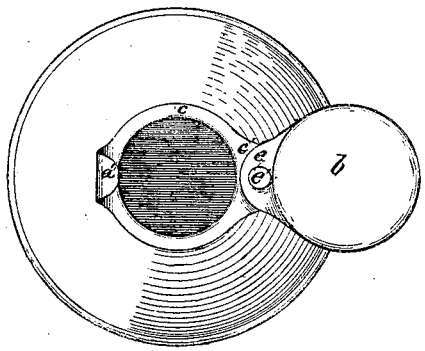


FIG. 4



Witnesses.

Clarence Buckland.

Clarence E. Howard

Charles E. Dayton. Inventor.

By T. A. Lewis. his atty.

A.M. PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHIC CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS)

United States Patent Office.

CHARLES E. DAYTON, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 114,931, dated May 16, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN CAN TOPS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. DAYTON, of Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful improved Can Top; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a can having my invention applied thereto;

Figure 2 is another side view of the invention with the cover closed;

Figure 3 is a similar side view with the cover partially open; and

Figure 4 is a plan view, showing the cover entirely open.

My invention relates to the construction of a cover and its fastening to be used upon and attached to the tops of cans, to prevent the contents from being spilled, and, if of a light and volatile character, to prevent the evaporation of such contents; and

It consists of an annular flange attached to the top of the can, said flange having an ear upon one side, and upon the opposite side a projection, which is bent up and over the flange.

A cup-shaped cover, having an ear upon one side, is secured to the annular flange by means of a pivot extending through the ear of the cover and the ear of the flange, and riveted, so that the cover may swing upon said pivot horizontally.

The cover has a cork fitted tightly therein, which is of sufficient thickness to project down a little below the lower edge of the cover, and the cover is of sufficient size that, when the cover and cork are in place upon the top, the cork rests upon the flange all around, completely covering the orifice.

The distance between the top of the flange and that part of the projection thereon which is bent over it is a little less than the whole thickness of the cover and the cork within it, so that, as said cover is swung horizontally over the orifice, if pressed down a little, it passes beneath the said bent projection, which impinges upon its top, pressing the cover and cork down tightly upon the flange, securing it firmly in place, and completely stopping the orifice.

That others skilled in the art may be able to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and its operation.

In the drawing—

D represents the neck of a can, to which is attached the horizontal annular flange *c*, having an ear, *c'*, thereon.

At the other side of said flange is a projection, *a*, which is bent upward, and also backward over the flange, as shown at *a'*.

A cup-shaped or hollow cylindrical cover, *b*, having an ear, *e*, thereon, is secured to the flange *c* by means of a pivot, *e'*, extending through the ear *e*, and also through the ear *c'* upon the flange, and is riveted to secure it therein, but in so loose a manner as to permit the cover to be moved horizontally either way, swinging upon its pivot.

The said cover has a cork fitted tightly therein, which is of sufficient thickness as to extend down a little below the lower edge of the cover, as seen at *d* in fig. 3.

If the cover is in the position shown at *b* in fig. 4, and it is desired to shut it, it is moved or swung around upon its pivot *e'* until it strikes against the bent projection *a'*, and if the cover then be pressed down firmly it may be easily moved under the projection *a'*, thus closing the orifice, the said projection *a'* operating as a spring to keep the cover and its cork pressed firmly down upon the top of the flange *c*, keeping the orifice tightly closed, and preventing the fluid within from being spilled even if the can were overturned, and also preventing the evaporation of the fluid.

If the part *a'* of the projection were made with the sides inclined upward slightly from the middle, or were made slightly convex underneath, or if the edge at the top of the cover were a little rounded, the cover would pass underneath the part *a'* much more readily and easily.

This cover, with its fastening, makes a very effectual and complete stopper for cans, and is particulary adapted to cans containing such fluids as "kerosene," "benzine," &c., and is much more convenient for use than the common screw-cap.

As the part *a'* extends backward over the flange to a point perpendicularly above the inner edge of the flange, as is clearly shown in fig. 4, it is evident that when the funnel, the small end of which is tapered, is placed in the orifice to fill it, the upper and larger part of such tapered ends strikes against the part *a'*, and the lower and smaller part is kept away from that side of the flange, leaving a small space between the flange and nozzle of the funnel, so that, as the vessel is being filled, the air can easily and freely escape from the vessel through said space, thus preventing the blowing out of the liquid, which so often happens when the funnel fills the entire orifice.

Instead of the pivot *e'* the cover *b* might be hinged to the flange *c*, so as to swing in a vertical direction, and the part *a'* would then be bent back just sufficiently to be sprung or pressed outward by bringing

the cover *b* down in a vertical direction, the front side of the cover pressing against the part *a'* to force it outward, and the part *a'* springing back into place again after the cover is down, thus retaining the cover in place, as before.

Having thus described my invention,

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

An improved can top, consisting of the cover *b*, having the cork or other similar elastic material, *d*, and pivoted to the flange *c* having the bent projection *a'* thereon, all constructed and operating substantially as described.

CHARLES E. DAYTON.

Witnesses:
T. A. CURTIS,
CLARENCE BUCKLAND.