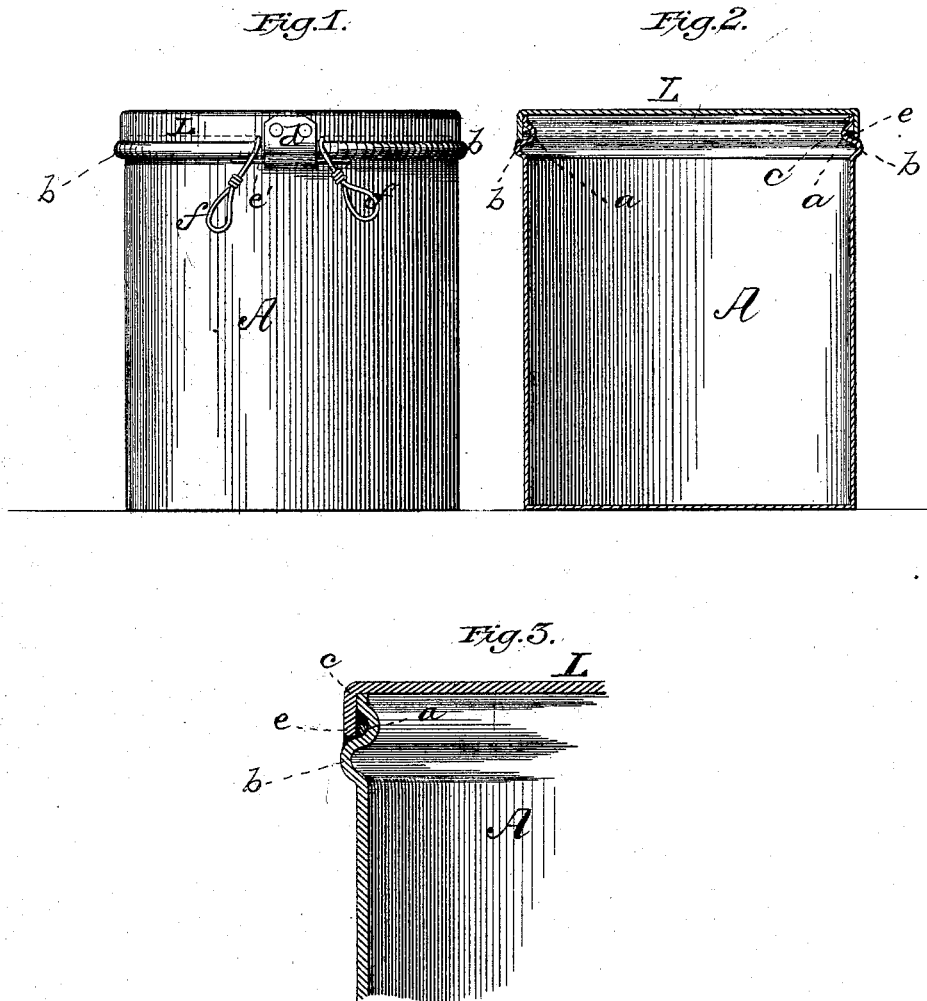


J. G. WIGGINS.
Sheet-Metal Can.

No. 219,048.

Patented Aug. 26, 1879.



WITNESSES
John A. Lee
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEFFERSON G. WIGGINS, OF SENECA FALLS, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHEET-METAL CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,048**, dated August 26, 1879; application filed June 21, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEFFERSON G. WIGGINS, of Seneca Falls, in the county of Seneca and State of New York, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Sheet-Metal 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 annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a side view of my improved can, showing the opener. Fig. 2 is a vertical central section of the same; and Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional detail of the same.

This invention has relation to improvements in sheet-metal cans; and the nature of the invention consists in the construction and novel arrangement of parts, as hereinafter shown and described.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A designates an ordinary tin can of the description used to contain vegetables, fruits, oysters, and other like articles of a perishable nature. This can has near its chine an annular groove or channel, *a*, bounded at its lower edge by a bead, *b*, extending out beyond the walls of the can, and at its upper edge by a rectilinear portion, *c*, in line, or nearly so, with said walls, the whole being spun out or swaged from the blank before the can is put together. The lid *L* fits snugly over the rectilinear part *c* of the chine, and bears at its lower edge against the bead *b*, forming an inclosure for the wire *e*.

Usually the lid is hinged to the body of the can by means of a strap, *d*, vibrating on a staple, *e'*, on the can; but any hinge may be used.

The wire *e* has at each end a loop, *f*, and

does not completely encircle the can. It is passed into the groove *a*, drawn taut, and the lid closed down upon the can, so that the wire *e*, with the exception of its loops *f*, is entirely shut in the said groove by the lid, the lower edge of which bears upon the bead *b*. The lower edge of the lid is then lightly soldered to the bead *b*, the solder coming in contact with the wire only at the points, two in number, where the wire extends out of the groove, neither end being permanently fixed.

In opening the can, either loop is seized and forcibly drawn out; and should one of them break, the other remains.

The wire has a purchase or leverage on the bead *b*, and its function—cutting the film of solder—is accomplished with surprising ease.

Either loop may be used as a grasping-point, and with equally good results.

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

The combination of a can-body having an annular groove in its chine, a bead, *b*, at the lower edge of said groove and extending out beyond the sides of the can, and a rectilinear portion, *c*, above said groove, a lid fitting snugly on said rectilinear portion and bearing at its lower edge against said bead, and a wire secured in said groove, inclosed therein by said lid, and provided with loops, the lower edge of said lid being soldered to the bead, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JEFFERSON G. WIGGINS.

Witnesses:

JASPER N. HAMMOND,
NATHL. L. BENHAM.