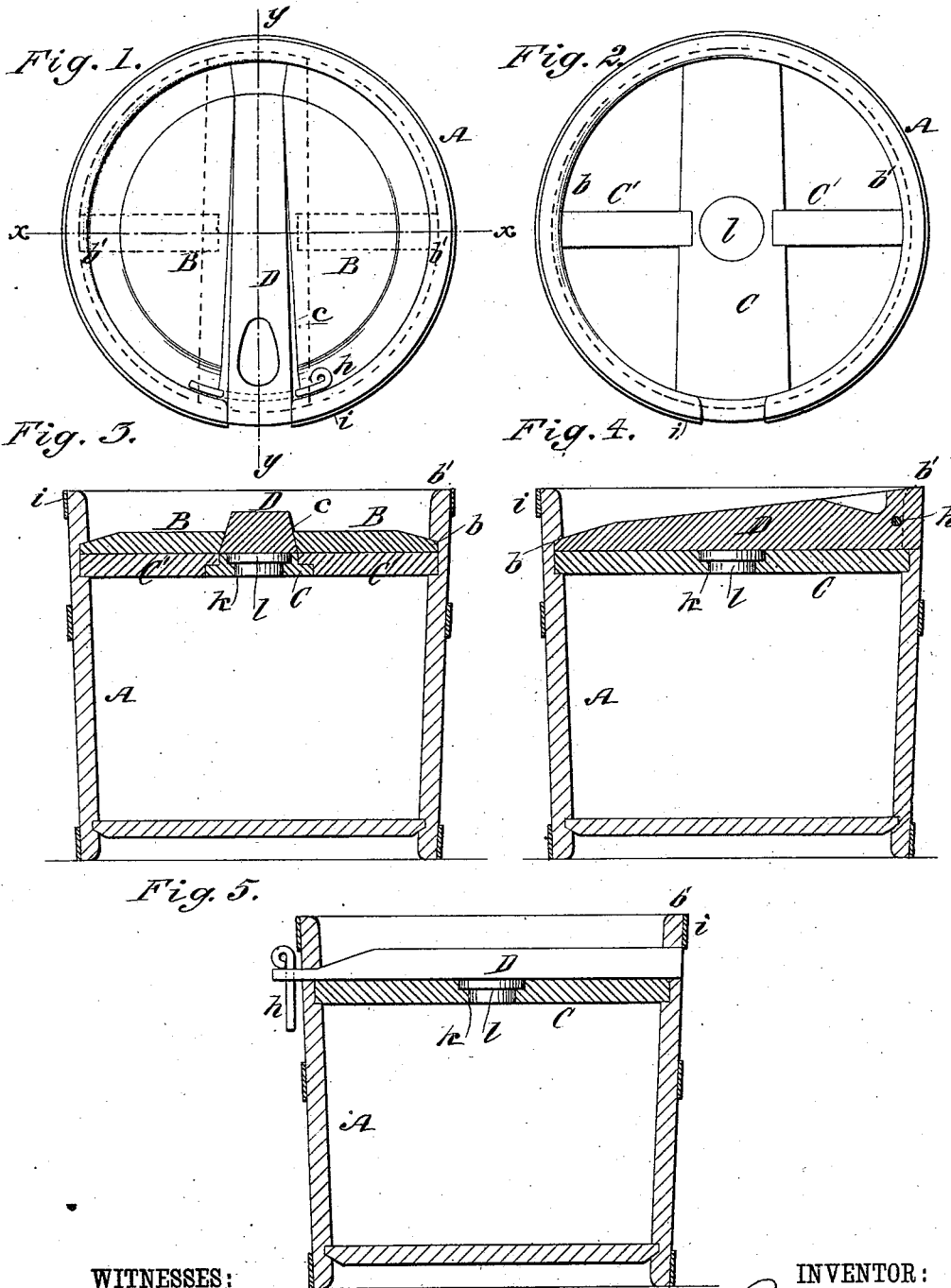


(No Model.)

J. W. WESTON.
PAIL, TUB, OR BARREL.

No. 304,478.

Patented Sept. 2, 1884.



WITNESSES:

John C. Deemer
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. WESTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO EZRA B. WESTON,
OF SAME PLACE.

PAIL, TUB, OR BARREL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,478, dated September 2, 1884.

Application filed January 12, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. WESTON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pails, Tubs, Barrels, and other Like Receptacles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to close or headed pails, tubs, and barrels, or other like receptacles in which separated removable head-sections are used and combined with a tapering key or wedge arranged to enter through an opening in the one side of the chine and to engage with the body of the receptacle on its opposite side, and constructed to close the opening between the head-sections and to force and hold them to their places in the croze of the barrel; and the invention consists in a combination, with said head-sections and key, of a removable support or follower, substantially as hereinafter described, and arranged to close the opening between the adjacent head-sections of the separated head-sections and to receive the key on or over it.

It also comprises a special construction of said follower with a sampling hole and plug for sampling the contents of the vessel by simply withdrawing the key which secures the head.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 represents a plan view of a pail with its head closed and secured in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan of the same with the head-sections and their securing-key removed. Fig. 3 is a section on the line *xx* in Fig. 1; Fig. 4 a section on the line *yy* in Fig. 1; and Fig. 5 is a similar section to Fig. 4, but showing a modified construction of the key and fit of it within or through the pail.

A indicates the body of a pail, or it might be any other receptacle designed to have an air-tight or close-fitting head within it. The head is composed, mainly, of opposite side sections, B B, which fit within the usual groove or croze, *b*, and when adjusted to their places leave a tapering space, *c*, between them, and the adjacent margins of which form the walls

of a dovetail-shaped opening extending wholly across the head.

C C is a support or follower arranged immediately beneath the head-sections B B and held in position either by being let into recesses in the sides of the vessel beneath the chine *b'* and croze *b*, or in any other suitable manner that will admit of said support or follower being lifted out when required to fill or empty the pail or vessel. Said support or follower is composed, mainly, of a cross bridge piece or strip, C, of a sufficient width to rather more than close the tapering space *c* between the head-sections B B and of side struts or braces, C' C'. These struts or braces C' C' are rabbeted at their inner ends into the sides of the bridge piece or strip C, as shown in Fig. 2. Said struts or braces and bridge-piece may be sprung to their places in the croze of the barrel or receptacle.

D is a tapering key or wedge, of a length sufficient to extend wholly across the pail or vessel and of a shape transversely corresponding with the tapering dovetail space *c* between the head-sections B B. This key is slid to its place through an opening in the one side of the chine *b'*, which opening forms an extension of the space *c*, and passing over the head-closing portion C of the follower may either enter at its reduced end the croze *b* on the other side of the vessel or pass through an opening in said side. In Figs. 1 and 4 it is represented as fitting at its smaller end within the croze, and of sufficient thickness at its butt-end to form a continuation of the chine when driven home to close and tighten up the head, after which it is fastened from being accidentally withdrawn by an inside removable pin or wire, *h*. In Fig. 5 said key passes at its smaller end through an opening in the side of the vessel, opposite the opening through which it was entered, and is represented as secured by the fastening-wire *h* on the outside. Said key, too, in Fig. 5 is made of reduced thickness at its butt-end, so that the opening through which it is entered need not extend much above or beyond the croze, which leaves the outer hoop, *i*, of the pail or vessel intact, and so that said hoop need not be removed when opening the head, which either it would be necessary to do or to stop the hoop short of

the key when of thicker construction at its butt-end, as in Figs. 1 and 4.

The support C C' not only forms a follower for the head-sections B B when fitting them to their places, and prevents all possibility of their falling into the interior of the pail or vessel, but it also constitutes a follower or guiding-base for the key D. Said support or follower also serves to stiffen the pail or vessel, and the whole combination forms a very perfect, strong, and air-tight or close-fitting head, easily opened on withdrawing the key D, and as easily or rapidly closed again. In the portion C of the support or follower is a sampling-hole, *k*, closed by a plug or stopper, *l*, so that on simply removing the key D a sampling-tool may be inserted without exposing the contents of the vessel to dust or injury, the head-sections B B and follower C C' remaining in their places. This—as, for instance, in the case of sampling butter and many other substances—will be found very convenient.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with the removable head-sections B B of the pail, tub, or other

like receptacle, and an intermediate tapering key or wedge, D, arranged to enter through an opening in the chine on the one side of the vessel, and to engage with the other side thereof, of a removable support or follower constructed to close the opening between the adjacent edges of the separated head-sections, and to receive the key on or over it, essentially as described.

2. The removable head support or follower composed of a cross bridge piece or strip, C, and side struts or braces, C' C', in combination with the tapering key or wedge D and separated head-sections B B of the pail or receptacle, essentially as described.

3. In a headed pail, tub, barrel, or other like receptacle, the combination, with the separated head-sections B B and their closing or tightening wedge-shaped key D, of the cross bridge or strip C, and of a support or follower for said head-sections and key, provided with a sampling-aperture, *k*, under cover of the key, substantially as specified.

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Witnesses:

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