(No Model.)

J. B. & R. JOHNS.

FRUIT JAR.

No. 381,250. Patented Apr. 17, 1888.

Fig. 1

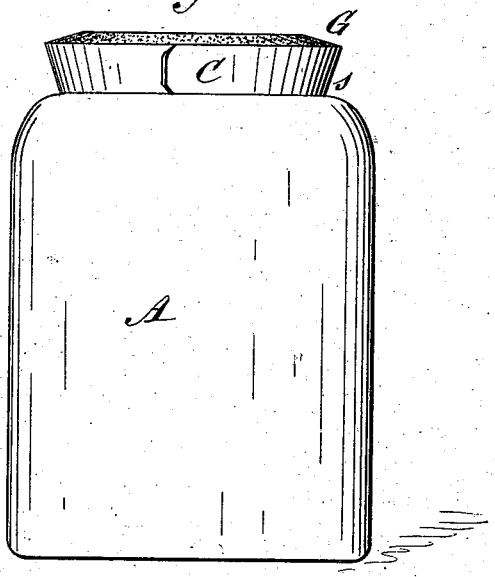


Fig. 3

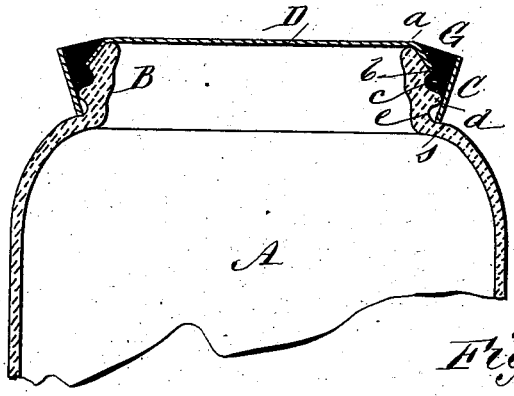


Fig. 2

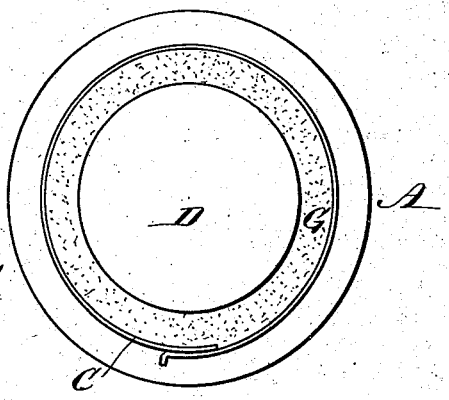
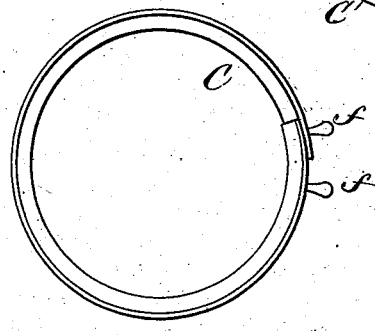


Fig. 4



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JOHN B. JOHNS AND ROBERT JOHNS, OF MASSILLON, OHIO.

FRUIT-JAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,250, dated April 17, 1888.

Application filed February 14, 1888. Serial No. 264,024. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN B. JOHNS and ROBERT JOHNS, both of Massillon, in the county of Stark and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fruit-Jars, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to fruit and other like jars usually known in the trade as "wax jars." Ordinarily these jars, which are made of glass, have an annular groove in the upper ends of their neck, into which the cap of the jar fits, and where it is held and hermetically sealed by wax, rosin, or their equivalent run into the groove. Practically there are many objections to this construction, among which a few only here need be mentioned. Thus the jars, which are first blown, have to be taken back to the furnace to form the ring or groove in them, which materially adds to their cost. Said jars, too, are troublesome to seal and still more so to open. The fruit-liquid getting into the groove interferes with their sealing, and the narrowness of the groove makes it difficult to remove the liquid; also makes the removal of the wax tedious when opening the jar, and the wax or sealing material is liable to get into the fruit in the jar; and the grooved portion of the jar, which is often warped and makes an imperfect fit for the cap, is liable to be broken. Besides these, there are many other objections, all of which our invention obviates, and we are enabled to produce a much cheaper and more effective and convenient hermetically-sealing jar, one which will be more handy to seal and open, and which, so far as the jar itself is concerned, can be blown by a single exposure in the mold to complete it.

To these and other ends the invention comprises a jar the neck of which has its sealing-surface blown or formed on its outside, and which has combined with it an adjustable ring to complete or form the sealing-groove for the cap, the outside sealing-surface of the jar, which may be blown or molded and afterward ground to form, preferably being of peculiar construction, and the adjustable ring readily adapting itself to the jar or different-sized jars, and not of necessity requiring hooks or catches to hold it in place, substantially as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

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 an exterior elevation of a fruit or other like jar, hermetically sealed or closed, embodying our invention; Fig. 2, a top view of the same; Fig. 3, a vertical section, in part, upon a slightly-larger scale; and Fig. 4, a view showing a modified construction of the adjustable ring used on or in connection with the jar proper.

Referring in the first instance or more particularly to Figs. 1, 2, and 3 of the drawings, A is the body of the glass jar, and B its neck, *s* indicating the shoulder. The exterior of the neck, as represented in the drawings, is fashioned substantially as follows: It is made of irregular shape to form the inner side of the groove outside of the neck, the adjustable ring C forming the other side of the groove. The top of the neck is indicated at *a*. This slopes downward and outward on the exterior of the neck to a point, *b*, down to which the cap D comes when closing the jar. Below this point *b* is an annular groove, *c*, which provides for the wax or sealing composition G to pass inward under the cap. The groove *c* terminates below in an annular projection, *d*, which serves to hold the adjustable ring C, that forms the bottom and outer side of the sealing-groove, and beneath this annular projection *d* is another annular groove, *e*, that prevents the seam of the mold, when worn, putting a burr on the shoulder *s*, which would raise the adjustable ring C, whereas by means of the groove *e* said burr will be carried under the projecting annular portion *d* and out of reach of the adjustable ring.

The cap D, as here represented, is supposed to be made of thin metal; but it may be made of any suitable material, including glass.

The adjustable ring C, which is preferably a conical one, inclining outward in an upward direction when in place, is a terminal or divided one, and its ends preferably made to overlap one another, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and its outer end bent outward to form a lip for the convenience of opening the ring; or it may be constructed with handles *f f*, if desired, as shown in Fig. 4. Said ring C, which is a spring one, may be made of any

suitable metal or material, and is self-adjustable to the neck of the jar; but it may be made otherwise adjustable. Said ring C is applied to the jar after the latter has been charged with the fruit or contents, the cap D then put in place, and the sealing composition G subsequently filled in.

To unseal the jar the adjustable ring C is first removed, thereby exposing all of the wax or sealing composition, which can then readily be knocked or picked off with the fingers. The adjustable or expanding and contracting ring, when constructed as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, can readily be opened or expanded, when necessary to take it off, by applying the finger-nail to the outer lap of the ring and drawing the same outward, which will loosen the ring all around the wax, after which it may be lifted over the top of the jar and the wax or composition be removed without any liability of its entering into the jar to mix with the contents thereof. After the fruit or contents have been removed from the jar the adjustable ring may readily be put in place again, ready for use, as before.

If desired, after the wax or sealing composition has chilled or hardened, the ring C can be removed and be used upon another jar or upon a series of jars in succession. A wire may or may not be used on the jar to keep the cap D down.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a fruit or other like jar, the combination, with the neck of the jar and a cap closing its mouth, of an opening and closing ring arranged outside of said neck and forming, in connection with the exterior of the neck, a surrounding groove adapted to hold a sealing composition, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the neck of the jar and a cap closing its mouth, of an outer opening and closing spring-ring arranged to form the outer wall of a sealing-groove surrounding the neck of the jar, essentially as described.

3. The jar provided with annular grooves and projections on the exterior of its neck, in combination with a cap closing the mouth of the latter, and an opening and closing ring arranged to form the outer wall of a sealing-groove around the outside of the neck, substantially as specified.

JOHN B. JOHNS.
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Witnesses:
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