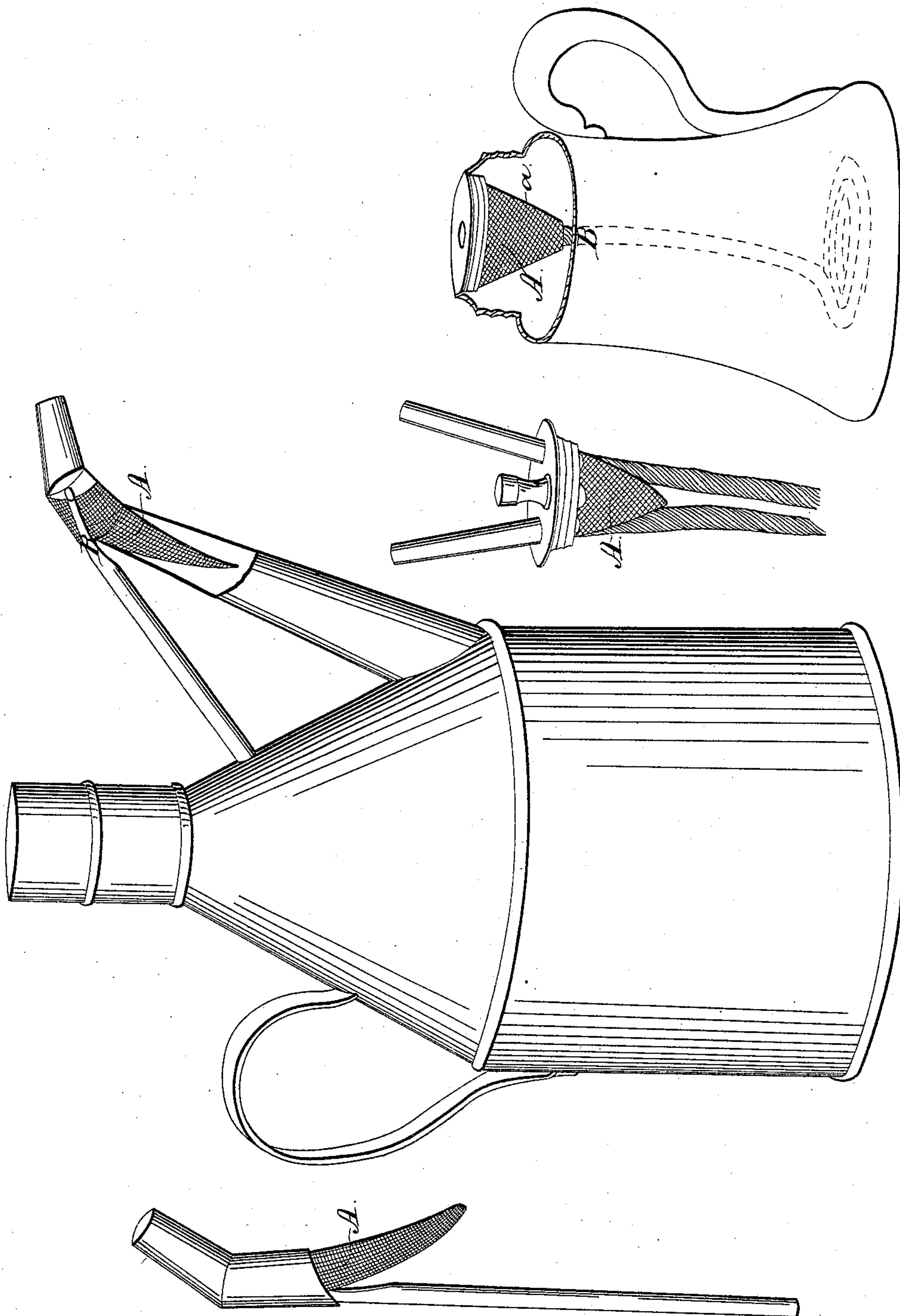


S. E. Winslow

Oil Can.

N^o 15,206.

Patented June 24, 1856.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

S. E. WINSLOW, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SAFETY-CANS FOR BURNING-FLUIDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **15,206**, dated June 24, 1856.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SETH E. WINSLOW, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and improved method in the use of burning-fluids and other explosive mixtures used in cans and other vessels or lamps, so as to prevent or greatly lessen accidents arising therefrom; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in providing a conical wire-cloth strainer, (in the drawings marked A,) with one or more small openings in it, (marked B,) said opening for the passage of a wick or tube, and this conical strainer so placed within the nozzle of a can or other vessel, or over the opening of a lamp, as to exclude the flame from its interior. I also make a small tube, open from the body of the can, open to and through the spout of the can, and solder this and said conical strainer into the nozzle of the can, so as to carry up the air or the gas escaping from the vessel being filled, to supply the vacuum produced by the flow of fluid from the can, and thus prevent all need of unstopping the can, by which unstopping accidents often occur.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

I cut a semicircular piece of wire-cloth and make a small hole through it, and doubling the straight edge or side upon itself, or bringing the two radii together, it forms a cone adapted to lamps; or I cut a section of a semicircular piece of wire-cloth, and folding the edges together, I form the cone adapted to cans and fasten it with solder, and afterward I fasten the cone—i. e., conical strainer—into the nozzle of the can or bottle-stopper, or over the opening by which a lamp may be filled, (marked in the drawings A a and A a,) and thereby all flame is excluded from either vessel and accidents resulting therefrom obviated and prevented.

The principle upon which the safety of my invention is based is that the smallness of the tube admitting air or gas, or a mixture of both, to the can will not admit of the flame to pass by reason of absorbing or abstracting the heat or reducing it below the burning-point, and that the wire-cloth keeps separate to a certain extent the gas contained in the can or the lamp from the atmospheric air, and operates in the same manner or upon the same principle as does the wire cloth or gauze of Sir H. Davy's safety-lamp, and that the conical form of the strainer is best adapted to the top of lamps, to bottle-stoppers, and to the nozzles of cans, for the following reasons: First, that with a flat strainer or disk the lamp is not easily filled; second, that the cylindrical strainer admits of a partial explosion; third, that a conical strainer lights when ignited, as does a wick or a cup wet with burning-fluid; fourth, that through the conic strainer the lamp is easily filled; fifth, that in the lamp and can it is placed above the fluid, and not subject to its chemical corroding influences, as if immersed in it.

I do not claim the wire-cloth strainer placed at the mouth or opening of cans, or at the bottom of the spout of cans, or a long tube of wire-cloth extending to the bottom of a lamp, or as forming part of said tube, for this use of it has been made by others; but

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

The conical form of the wire-cloth strainer, with a small aperture at its apex or side, which may be adapted to the lower part of lamp-tops and to cans; and I do hereby disclaim any application of said conical strainer to the cap of a lamp, with an orifice in said cap through which the lamp may be filled.

SETH E. WINSLOW.

Witnesses:

HUGH CLARK,
WM. DARKIES.