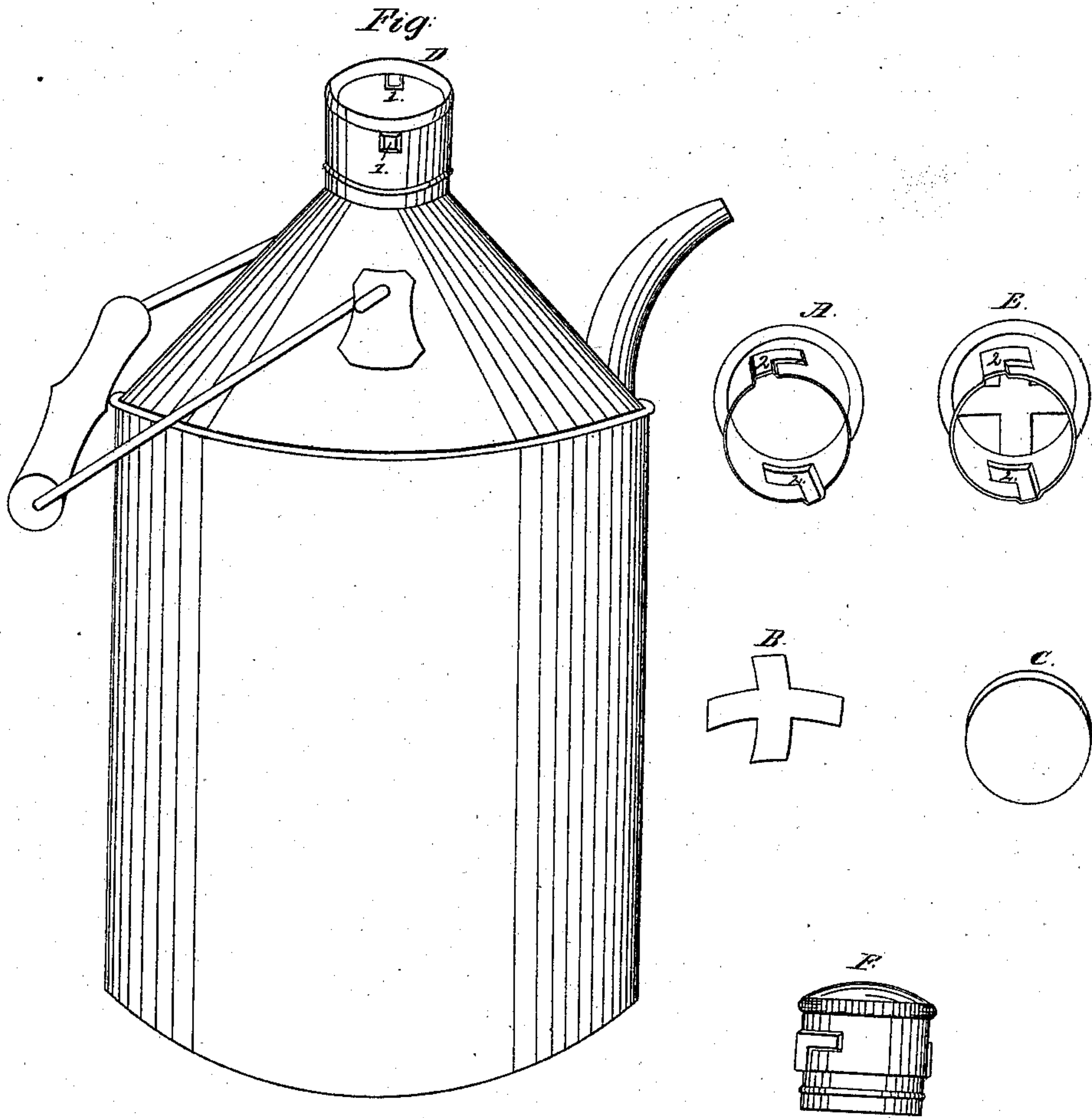


*J. H. Breckenridge,*

*Oil Can.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 31,866.*

*Patented Apr. 2, 1861.*



*Witnesses:*

*Wm. H. H. H. H.  
a. J. J. J. J.*

*Inventor:*

*J. H. Breckenridge*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. BRECKENRIDGE, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT.

## IMPROVED CAP FOR OIL-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **31,866**, dated April 2, 1861.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, J. H. BRECKENRIDGE, of the town of Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Cap for Cans, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This cap pertains to that class which are secured to the can by means of lugs or projections upon the neck of the can. The common method is either to have the cap made of such a thickness that suitable can-shaped or bayonet-formed recesses may be cut upon the interior of the cap to fit the lugs, or if the cap is made thin of sheet metal, then the sides are cut through into the bayonet shape. The first method is objectionable, because the whole cap must be made thick, heavy, and clumsy, while the formation of the grooves is difficult, consumes much time, and is expensive. The second method is also objectionable, on account of the cost and difficulty of properly cutting out the metal, and also because it renders the cap weak in consequence of having its sides or band divided.

My invention consists of an improved article of manufacture—viz., a sheet-metal can-cap having a portion of its exterior surface raised into the form of a hollow groove or grooves to receive the lugs, as will be hereinafter shown and described.

In the drawing, A shows one of my improved caps in perspective and partially upturned, 2 indicating the raised groove for receiving the lugs.

D shows the neck of the can, 1 indicating the lugs, which fit into the grooves 2.

F is a side elevation of my improved cap, having a portion of its surface raised, so as to form the hollow groove 2, as shown. When desired, a spring, B, may be placed within the head of the cap, as shown at E. A disk of cork, C, is then placed upon the spring within the cap. When a cap thus provided is placed upon the can, the edge thereof comes in contact with the cork, and a tight joint is formed. Any other elastic material may be substituted for the spring and cork.

My improved cap is made wholly of sheet metal by means of dies of proper form. These caps are produced with great rapidity and very cheaply. The sheets or blanks are fed between the dies, which then move and at a single blow form the cap complete. All filing, cutting, and fitting are thus saved, no stock is wasted, and the time of workmen is greatly economized.

My improved cap is much stronger than the open-grooved or cut caps, because in my improvement the band of the cap remains entire. For the same reason it is also much more convenient in placing upon or removing from the can. There are no sharp corners to abrade the fingers.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent as an improved article of manufacture—

A sheet-metal can-cap having a portion of its exterior surface raised and formed into a groove of the form herein shown and described, for the purposes set forth.

J. H. BRECKENRIDGE.

Witnesses:

WM. H. GREEN,  
A. SINCLAIR.