

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVOE & PRATT, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN PAINT-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 32,397, dated May 21, 1861.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES F. DRUMMOND, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pail-Cans for Paint and other Materials; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a can constructed according to my invention filled and in condition for transportation. Fig. 2 is a central section corresponding with Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a central section of the can in an unfinished condition. Fig. 4 is a plan corresponding with Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

My invention consists in a certain construction and mode of applying, securing, and sealing the head of the can, whereby, though it is hermetically sealed for transportation, provision is afforded for its easy removal when the paint or other contents of the can are to be used, and for its use as a lid while the can is subsequently used as a pail. The body of the can is made with a wired rim, *a*, and in other respects similar to that of an ordinary tin pail; but the bottom *A* is not applied until a portion of the head or cover has been put on and secured, as will be presently described. The head or cover is made of two pieces of tin-plate or other sheet metal, *B* and *C*, of which *B* is in the form of a ring, with a rim, *b*, to fit over the rim *a* of the body, and *C* is circular and of a size greater than the circular opening *c c* of *B*, for the purpose of covering the said opening. The part *B* has several (say from four to eight) clasps, *d d*, for securing it to the body of the can, formed upon it by cutting notches in its rim *b*. The said part *B*, without the part *C*, is put on the body before the bottom *A*, and is secured by closing the clasps *d d* tightly upon the wired rim *a* of the body in the manner represented more or less distinctly in all the figures of the drawings; and while the can is in an inverted position, after the said part *B* has been put on, but before the bottom has been put on, melted beeswax or other sealing cement of a similar character, (shown of a yellow tint and indicated by *e e* in the drawings,) is poured all round the corner, which is formed between the

inside of the said part *B* and the rim *a*. This condition of the can is shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

In order to make a channel for the reception of the cement, the portion of *B* immediately within the rim is made with a depression toward the interior of the can, as shown in the sections, Figs. 2 and 3. When the part *B* has been thus secured and sealed, the bottom *A* is soldered on in the usual manner, and the can is ready for filling, which is effected at the opening *c c*, and when it has been filled it is closed by soldering the piece *C* over the opening *c c*, which opening is only for filling the can.

In order to enable the piece *C* to be put on in a proper position, and to facilitate the soldering of it in place, its margin is turned a little downward, as shown at *f f* in Fig. 2, and a corresponding depression is formed around the part *B* for the reception of the so-turned margin.

The bail *D* may be attached to the body of the can by button-like lugs *g g*, or in any other convenient manner which will allow it to drop down entirely below the head.

When the can has been filled and closed up, as above described, it is as completely airtight as though the head were soldered on, and as little likely to receive injury during transportation, for the head is firmly secured by the clasps *d d*, and the soft cement *e*, being entirely inside of the can, is effectually protected.

When the can is to be opened, it is only necessary to unfasten the clasps *d d* by a knife or other convenient instrument, and the cover may then be pulled off, the cement *e e* requiring very little force to break it when the clasps no longer secure the head. When the head has been thus removed, it may be put on to serve as a lid, and taken off again as often as may be required.

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

As an improved article of manufacture, a paint-can having one of the parts of its top sealed upon its inside to the rim of the pail by cement *e*, and fastened to the pail by clasps *d d*, formed as set forth, and the whole constructed otherwise as herein shown and described.

Witnesses:

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