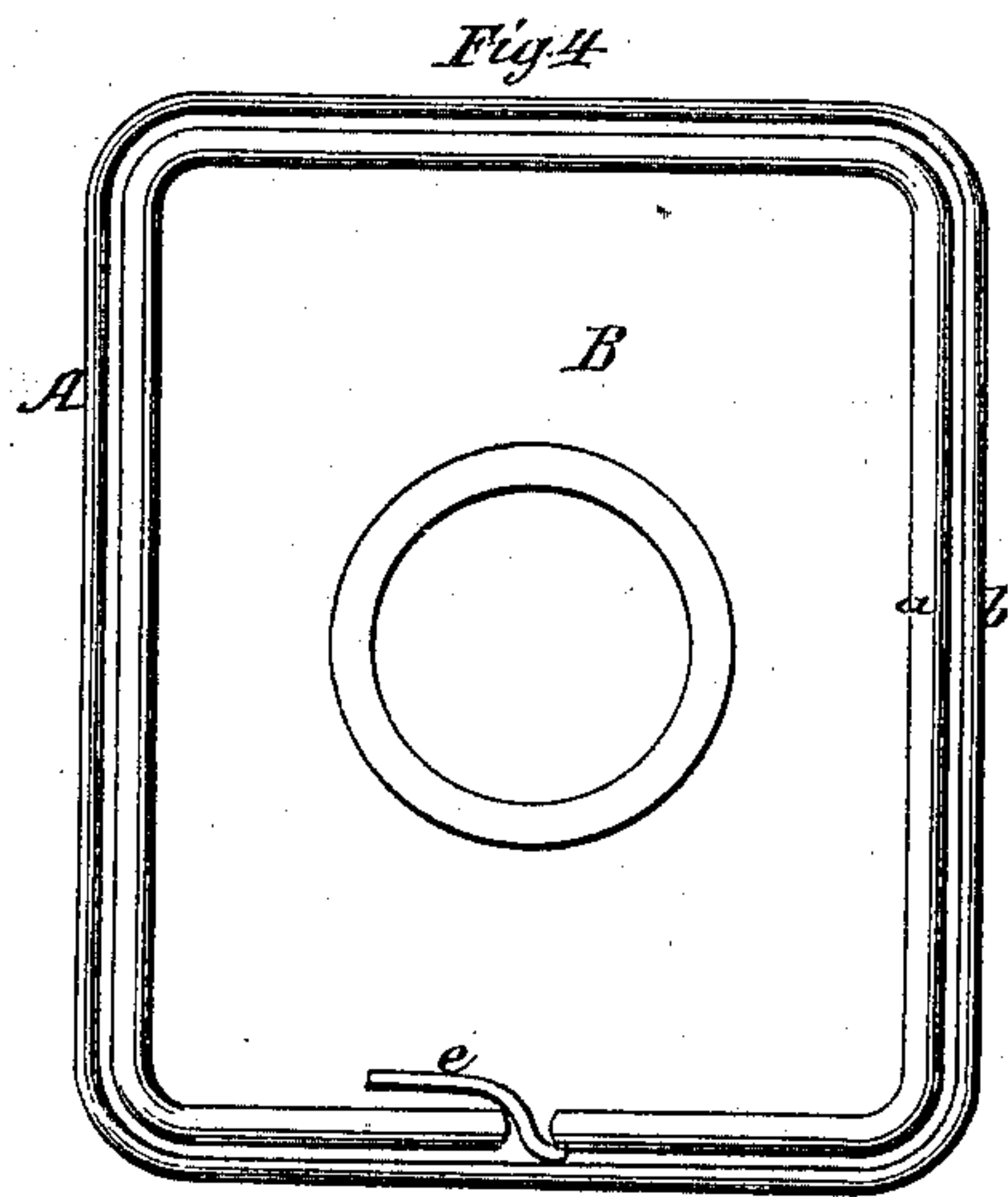
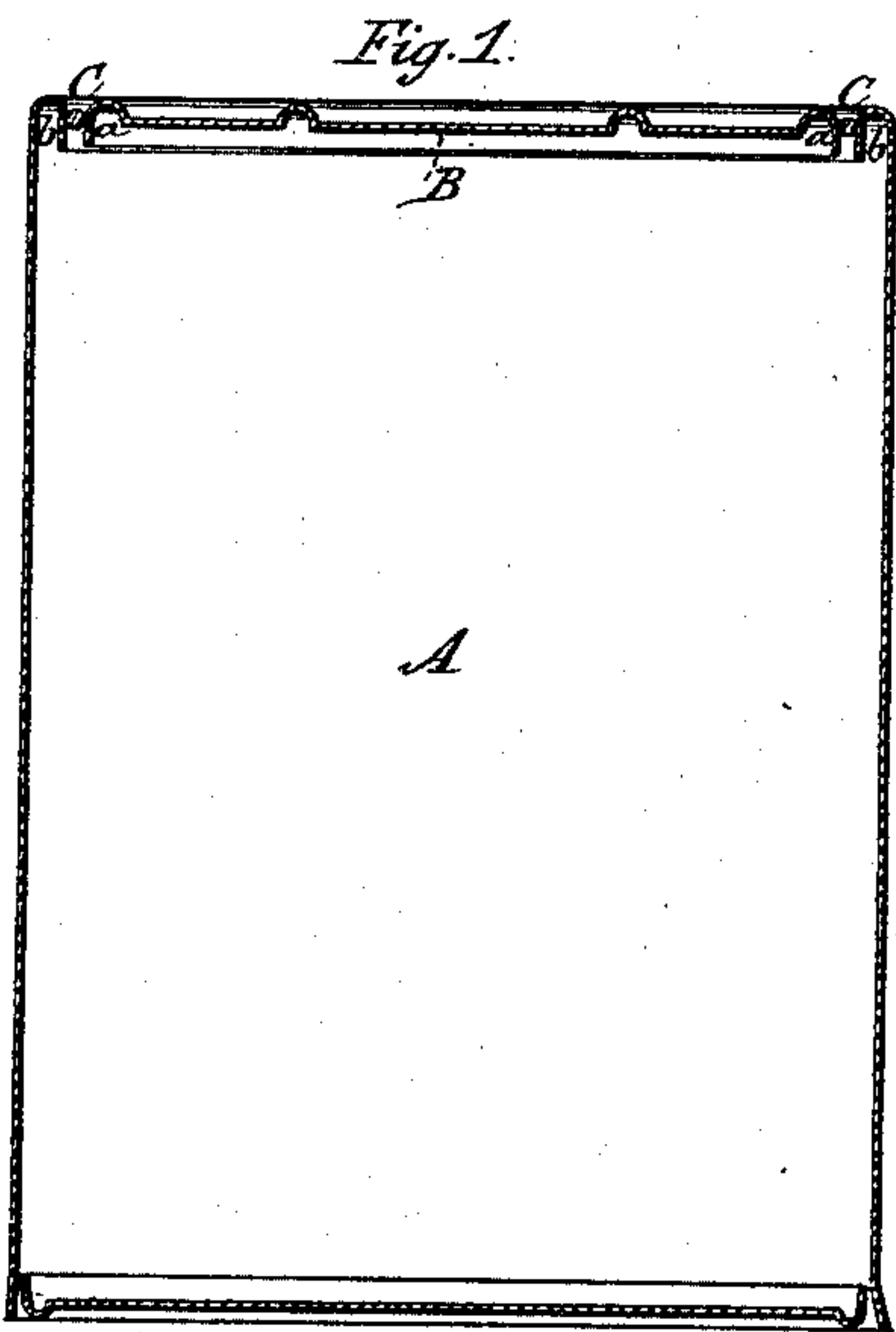
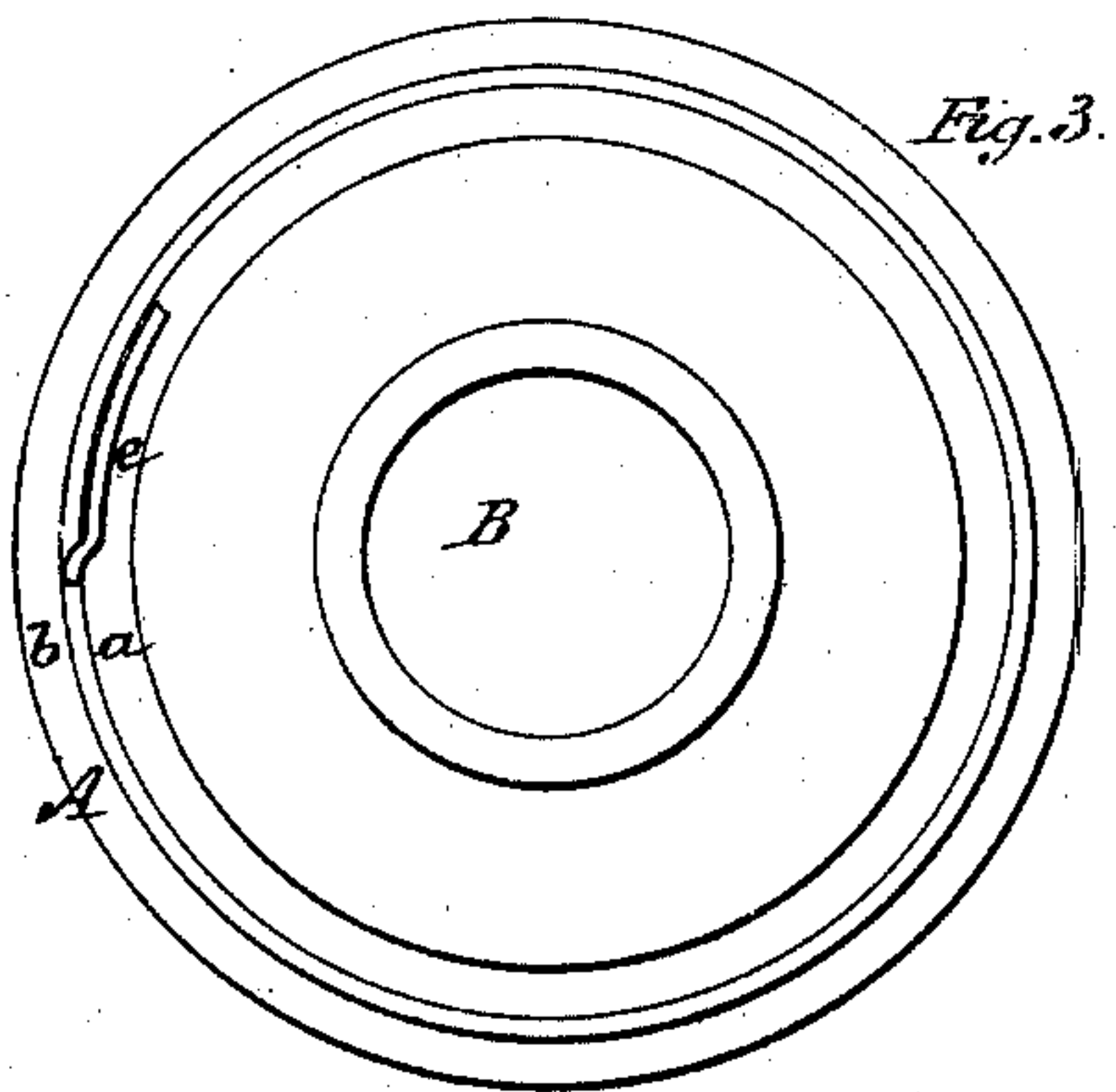
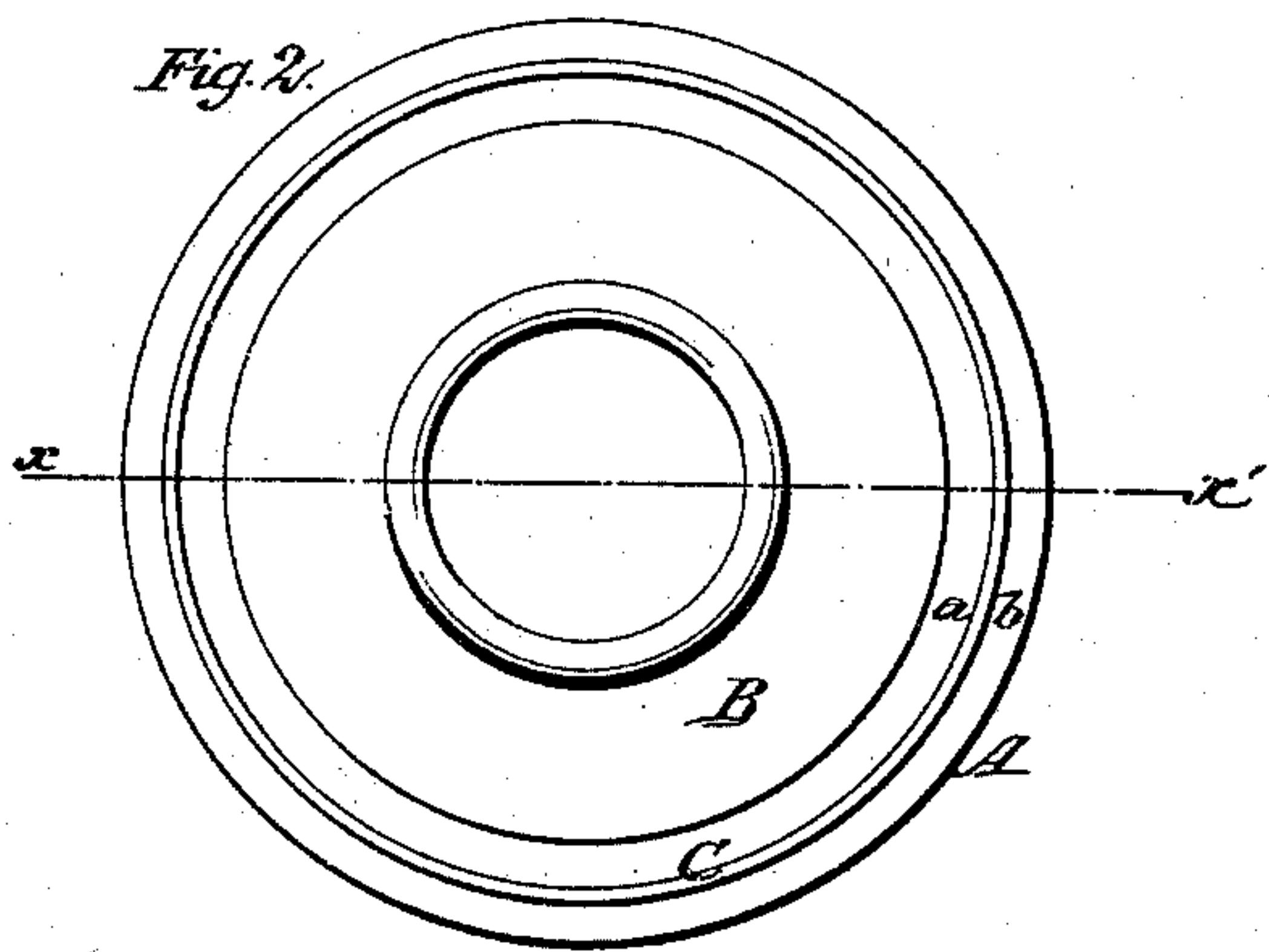


J. BOUVET.
SEALING TIN CANS, &c.

No. 43,378.

Patented June 28, 1864.



Witnesses.

Reynolds
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Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEAN BOUVET, OF LA ROCHELLE, FRANCE, ASSIGNOR TO MORITZ PINNER,
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IMPROVEMENT IN METAL CANS, CASES, BOXES, &c., FOR PRESERVING FOOD, GUNPOWDER, LIQUIDS,
PAINTS, OILS, AND OTHER ARTICLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 43,378, dated June 28, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEAN BOUVET, of La Rochelle, in the Empire of France, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Metal Cans, Cases, Boxes, &c., Designed for Preserving Food, Gunpowder, Liquids, Paints, Oils, and other Articles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists of an improved mode of closing or sealing tin preserve-boxes and other vessels in a manner which allows their being opened without the use of sharp instruments, and consequently without risk of injuring the contents, and at the same time without injuring the box or lid, so as to allow their being used again.

In order to make others skilled in the art understand the manufacture and use of my invention, I will now proceed to describe the same more closely, referring thereby to the annexed drawings, in which like letters denote like parts in all the figures.

Figure I shows a longitudinal sectional view over the line X X' of Fig. II of a tin preserve-box of a round shape. Fig. II is a plan or top view taken from the inside of the box. Fig. III is a similar view taken from the outside. Fig. IV represents an outside top view of a square tin box of a shape generally made use of for preserving sardines.

A represents the body of a tin preserve-box or sardine-box made in any known manner, the upper end or rim of which is bent toward the inside, so as to make this rim form a sort of inverted gutter or hollow swelling, *a*.

B represents the lid, the edges of which are also bent toward the inside, so as to form a similar gutter or swelling, *b*.

C represents a wire made of tinned iron or other suitable metal in any desirable shape, but of a size to fit into the vacant space left between the gutters *a* and *b*.

The body of the box is put over a form or block of wood or metal, (corresponding with its size and shape,) and receives thereupon the top or lid B by the latter being laid on the form or block. The lid is then surrounded by said wire C, and the two gutters *a* and *b*, thus connected by the wire C, are then soldered to-

gether, the soldering being done on the outside of the lid over the wire. The wire should not only reach around the lid, but one end, *e*, of it should also protrude a little to the outside of the same and be free from solder. When the box is to be opened, this small free end *e* of the wire is taken hold of by a pair of pinchers or a similar contrivance, and with a little effort is turned or coiled around the pinchers. It thereupon gets loose from the solder, and by becoming free itself separates the lid from the body of the box without injury to either or the contents. This new mode of fastening and soldering the lid to the body of the box is fully as secure as the old ones. Boxes thus secured can be submitted to the same amount of boiling, heat, and handling as others, and have the advantage of much greater convenience in opening them.

While the box is in process of being made, and for the purpose of access to its inside, the lid, which is fastened to the body by said wire, forms the bottom. The contents are then introduced through the other end, and the other lid is fastened to the body in the ordinary manner. Then and thereupon that lid which is fastened to the box by said wire forms the upper end of the box.

It will easily be perceived that the principle embodied in this invention is applicable not only to tin cans and boxes designed for the preservation of food and liquids, but also to metallic vessels containing gunpowder, oils, paints, chemicals, books, or the many other articles for which (while in transit or store) metal cases, cans, boxes, or other metallic vessels are generally used for the purpose of preservation and protection against the elements.

Having thus given a full description thereof, I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

The manufacture and use of metal boxes, cans, cases, and other metallic vessels hermetically sealed or closed by inserting and soldering a wire between the body and the intended opening of such metal box, can, case, and other metallic vessel, one end of such wire protruding at the outside for beginning and effecting such opening.

Witnesses:

JEAN BOUVET.

A. G. BRADE,
REGNAULD.