# J. Ashton,

## Oil Can.

No. 55,975. Patented July 3, 1866.

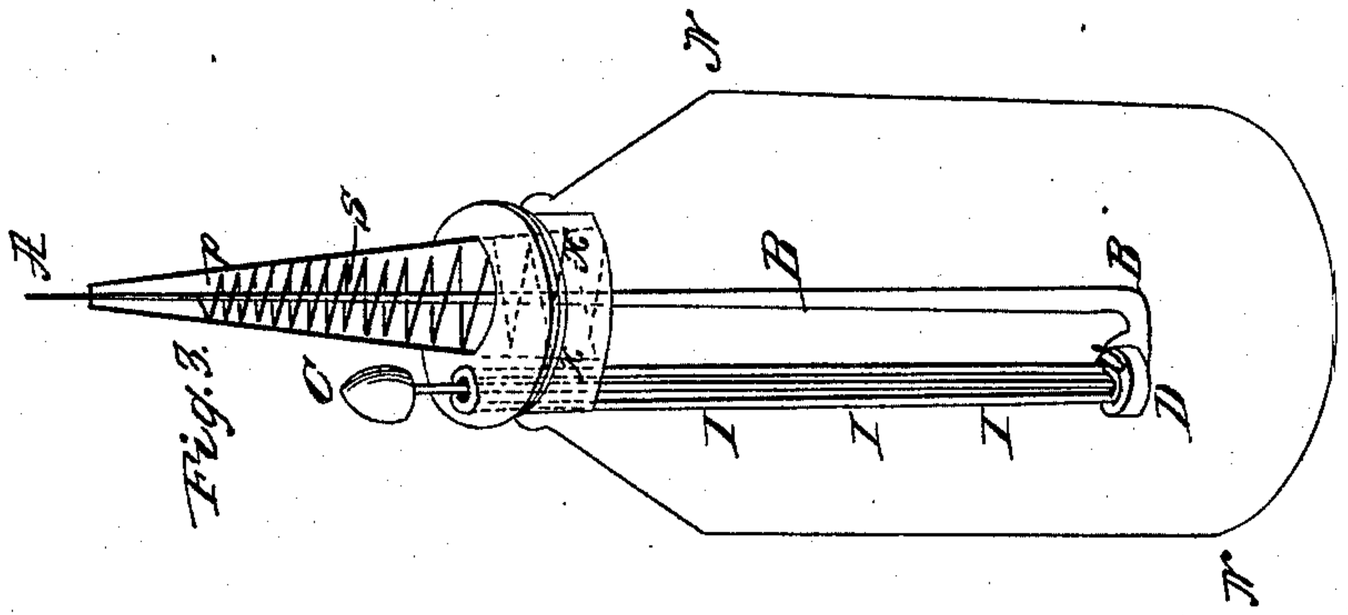

Fig. 3.

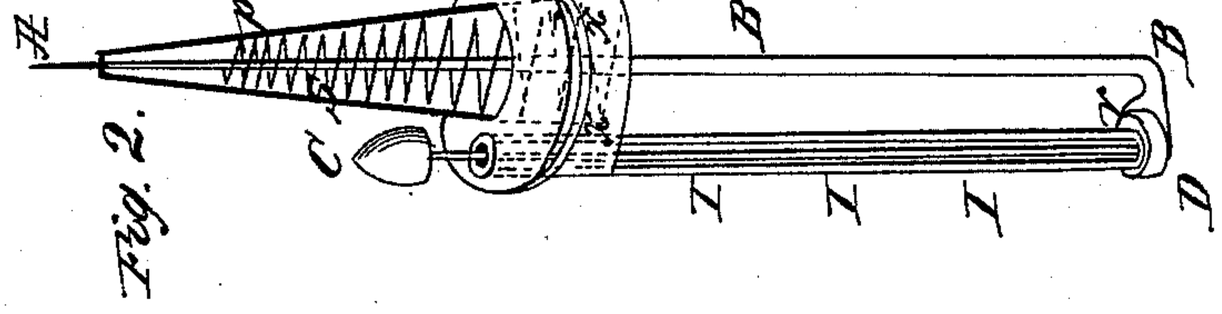

Fig. 2.

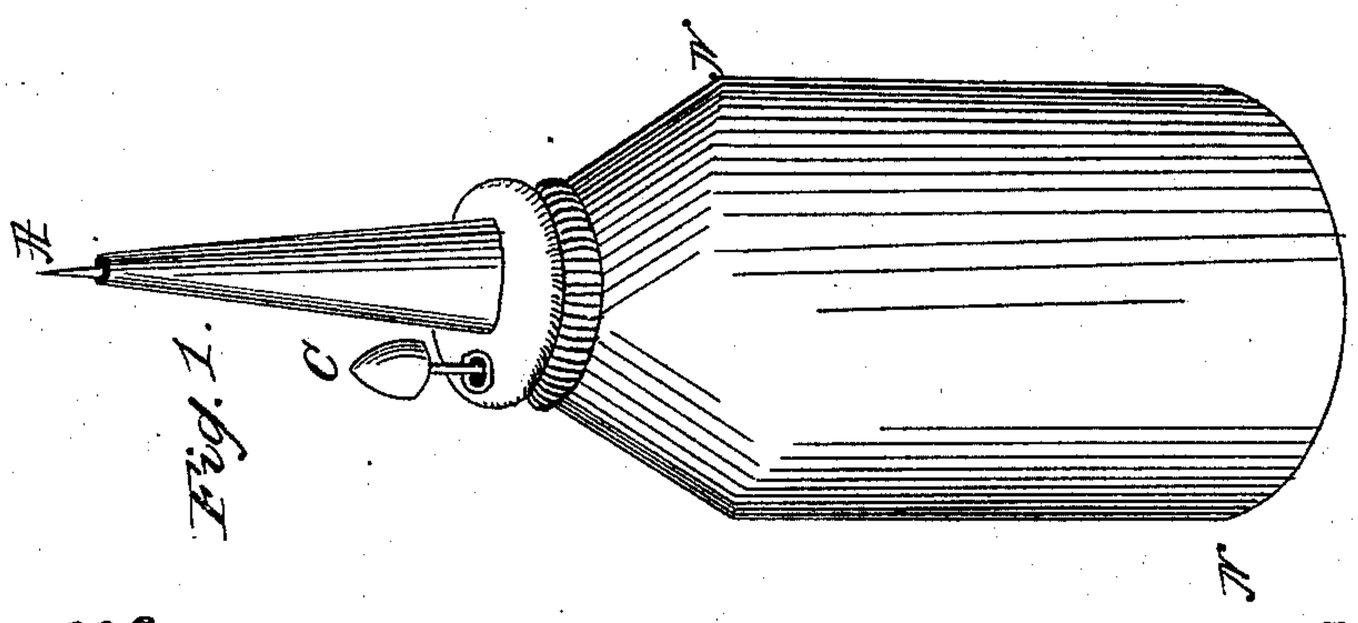

Fig. 1.

Witnesses.

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AM. PHOTO-LITHO. CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS)

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES ASHTON, OF FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **55,975,** dated July 3, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES ASHTON, of Fall River, Bristol county, Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Oil-Can; and I do declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the oil-can. N N is the fountain. C is the cap upon the rod in the air-inlet. A is the shut-off, and T T the supply tube or outlet.

Fig. 2 is a transverse diagram of the oil-can, Fig. 1, in which A B is the shut-off; X X, the dripping-chamber; S, the spiral spring attached to the shut-off A B at *p*. C D is the valve-rod passing through the air-inlet I I I, and attached to the shut-off rod A B.

Fig. 3 is the same repeated with the fountain N N attached.

In order to more fully explain this oil-can, I will illustrate its operation.

Supposing the fountain N N to be filled with oil for use, now, if I desire to oil some object with a continuous stream of oil, I invert the can, press my finger upon the cap C, which pushes down the rod C D through the air-inlet I I I, at the same time withdrawing the shut-off A B through the opening O in the end of the supply-tube J J. By this means the oil in the fountain N N is allowed to flow copiously, the air passing into the fountain N N through the air-inlet I I I as it becomes emptied at O.

Now, if I desire to stop the flow of oil without inverting the fountain N N, I remove my finger from the cap C. Then, by means of the spiral spring S attached to the rod or shut-off A B, the same is thrown up and into the opening O in the supply-tube J J J, while at the same time the air-inlet I I I, by means of the valve V attached to the rod C D, is closed, so that no air can pass in, and by the shut-off A B no oil can pass out.

Now, if I desire to let out of the supply-tube J J only a drop of oil, I take the oil-can in my hand, and, without touching the cap C, I place the point A upon the object requiring the drop of oil and press it for an instant. The oil follows, and as soon as the pressure is removed from the point A by the force of the spiral spring S the point A is driven through the opening O, and the oil cut off and ceases to flow.

If, by any means, the air-inlet or supply-tube should become gummed up by oil, by removing it from the fountain N N it can easily be cleansed.

By reason of the chamber X X all oil which may accumulate in the air-inlet I I I will be secured and kept from flowing out of the inlet at its top, and when the can is returned to its proper position will flow back again.

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

The combination of an air-inlet, I I I, supply-tube J J, dripping-chamber X X, spiral spring S, shut-off rod A B, valve V, and rod C D, all as applied to an oiler or oil-can, in the manner described, and for the purposes set forth.

JAMES ASHTON.

Witnesses:

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