B. F. ELLS.

Fruit Can.

No. 56,390. Patented July 17, 1866.

Fig. 1.

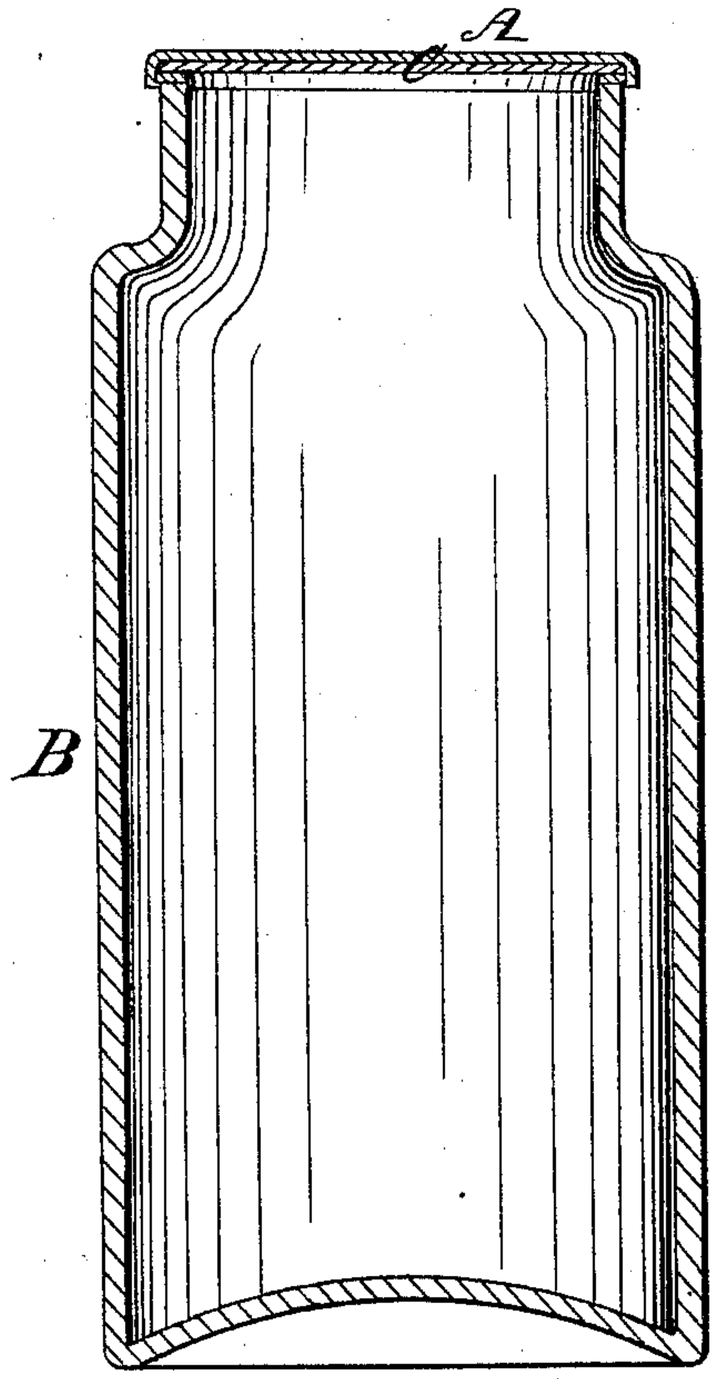
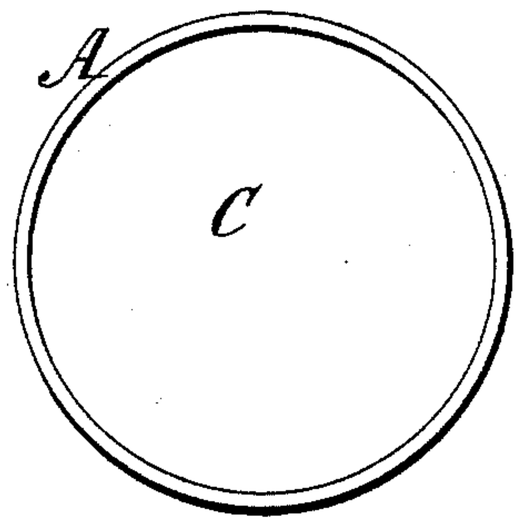


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

B. F. ELLS, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

IMPROVED FRUIT-CAN.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **56,390,** dated July 17, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, B. F. ELLS, of Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Mode of Sealing Fruit-Cans; 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 and to letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention consists in the construction of a circular metallic lid, A, which has the edges turned down so as to form a cap or casing for the mouth of the fruit-can. This lid or cap A is filled with molten sealing-wax C, which, when cold, firmly adheres to the said lid, the wax being put on the under side of lid and between the turned-down edges of the same.

B is a fruit-can of any ordinary description and material used for the same.

The lid A with the sealing-wax C is applied to the can when the wax is perfectly cold. The fruit-can is filled with warm fruit and the lid is pressed upon the mouth of the can, the heat of the fruit being sufficient to soften the wax, and forming a perfect connection, making the inner side of the can entirely air-tight.

It will be seen that in my invention the wax is placed between the parts cemented, thus forming a perfectly hermetical joint, and not over the parts to be joined, as in the ordinary way, which has never been an infallible mode, it being an established fact that a very great many bottles and cans are destroyed annually by mold and fermentation.

My invention may be illustrated by taking, for instance, two pieces of straight wood, together with glue between the parts, the parts thus forming a strong and durable union, while another puts the same parts or pieces together with no glue between, but spreads it over the top of the joint.

My mode of sealing cans does not expose the wax on the outside, where it would be liable to destruction in case of transportation, and which is also a bar to placing the can on its mouth, when filled and stored away, being an excellent mode of proving the tightness of the sealing.

It is also obvious from my mode of sealing (which seems to be really from the inside) the steam arising from the hot fruit presses the wax more tightly and firmly into the joint, while in the ordinary way of spreading the wax over the joint it has a tendency to force it off or penetrate it with small holes, by which the air is admitted and the fruit destroyed.

This mode of sealing fruit-cans saves time in the operation, and can be gotten up at very little expense, while the bottles themselves are plain and the caps can be applied to almost every style of fruit-can commonly used. The wax first used will last for many years, and it is impossible for the air to penetrate the bottle. Almost any child can seal the cans, and a great many be sealed in a very short time. After they are cooled off they can be put away, turning the sealed end downward, there being no wax on the outside to adhere to the shelves and tear off when the cans are removed.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The flanged top A, provided with sealing-wax, as set forth, and used with the can B, in the manner and for the purpose described, whereby a can is formed which, when filled with fruit, will seal itself, substantially as specified.

As evidence that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

B. F. ELLS.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. HOSIER, Jr.,

WILLIAM HOSIER.