S. E. Southland,

Butter Tub,

No. 57,989. Patented Sep. 11, 1866.

Fig. 2.

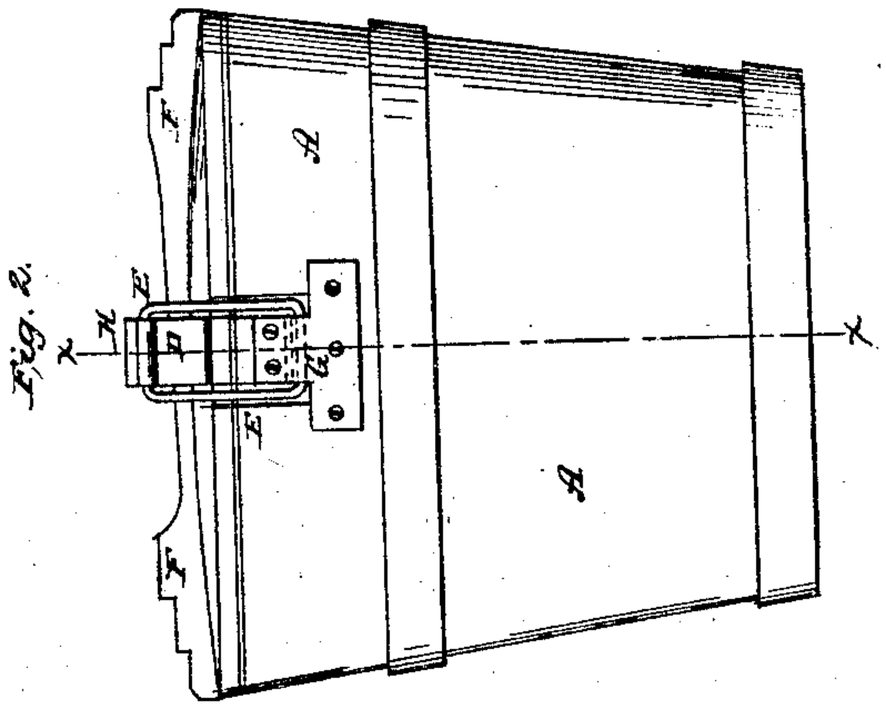
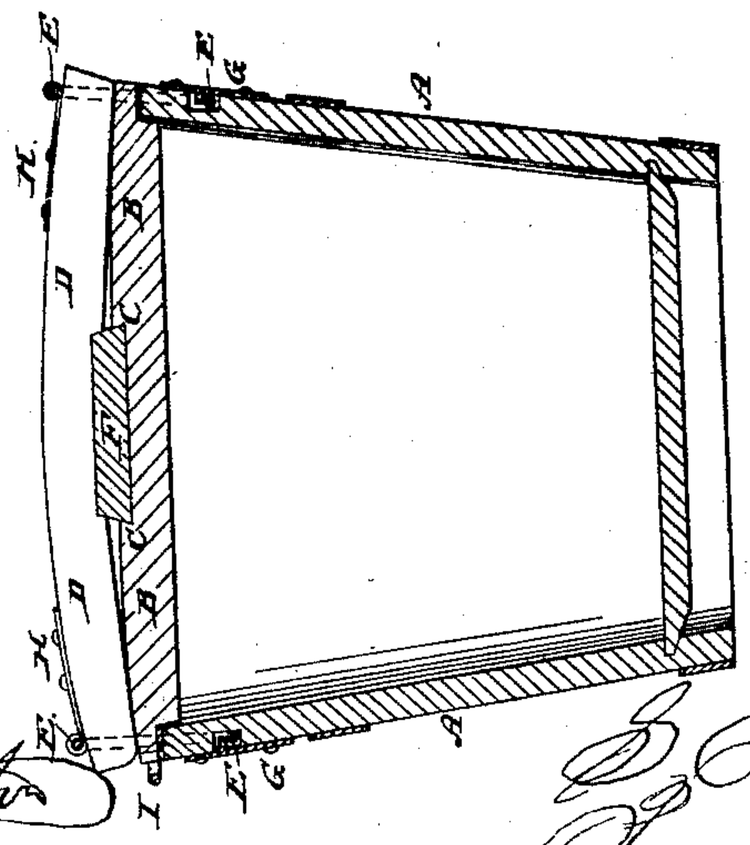


Fig. 1.



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S. E. SOUTHLAND, OF JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVED COVERED TUB FOR BUTTER AND LARD.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **57,989**, dated September 11, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, S. E. SOUTHLAND, of Jamestown, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Covered Vessels or Tubs for Butter, Lard, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of a butter-tub illustrating my invention, taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention has for its object to so improve the covers of tubs and other vessels, when used to contain butter, lard, &c., as to make them air-tight, or nearly so, and at the same time much more convenient in use; and it consists, first, in the combination of a transverse sliding key with the cover and binding-bar of a butter or other tub; second, in the formation of a key-seat in the cover, and also in the binding-bar of the tub; third, in the manner of connecting the bar and cover with the ears; fourth, in the use of leather, india-rubber, or other suitable material as a packing between the cover and the edge of the tub; and, fifth, in the ears, in combination with the tub, cover, and binding-bar, the whole being constructed and arranged, as hereinafter described.

A is the tub, which may be made of any desired shape, and may be bound or hooped with wood or metal, as may be most convenient.

The cover B may be flat or convex on its upper side. The lower side is flat, and is grooved or channeled around its edge, so as to fit into the mouth of the tub, and have a projecting shoulder which rests upon the upper edge of the tub A, as shown in Fig. 1. In the bottom of the groove or channel thus formed around the edge of the cover B is placed a narrow strip of leather, india-rubber, or other suitable material, which, when the cover is in place, comes between the cover and the upper edge of the tub A, and when the cover is forced down, in the manner hereinafter described, makes the connection between the said tub and cover air-tight, or nearly so. Upon the upper side of this cover B is formed a dove-tailed key-seat, C, which is cut in the cover from side to side across the grain of the wood; or the key-seat may be formed by attaching strips of wood to the upper side of the cover B; but I prefer the manner of forming it first described.

D is the binding-bar, the under side of which should be of such a shape as to fit the upper side of the cover, whether that be flat or convex. The binding-bar D should be of such a length that its ends may be even with the sides of the tub, and it should have a notch or groove formed across its central part corresponding with the key-seat C formed in the cover B, as before described. The binding-bar D is held down to its place by the ears E, hereinafter described.

F is the transverse sliding key, which should fit into the key-seat C formed in the cover B, and also into the notch formed in the binding-bar D; should be of such a breadth as to give it ample bearing-surface upon the cover, and of such a thickness that it will not spring when driven into its place. This key F acts as a wedge between the binding-bar D and the cover B, forcing the said cover closely down upon the upper edge of the tub.

The key F may be used without a key-seat, if desired; but I prefer to use it in the manner first described, since, when used with a key-seat, it will retain its place when the cover is detached or raised from the tub. This key, when driven to its place, serves three distinct purposes; it presses the cover tightly to its place; it keeps the cover from warping, and it holds the binding-bar, so that it cannot be moved endwise until the key is driven back. During transportation a common screw, driven through the key into the cover, will keep it secure.

The ears which hold the ends of the binding-bar D may be made in various ways. They may be made by extending two opposite

staves and cutting holes through them to receive the ends of the binding-bar D. These wooden ears may be replaced by jointless plate-metal ears attached to the sides of the tub, or by jointless wire ears inlaid in the sides of the tub, and secured in place by a plate or otherwise; but I prefer to make them of annealed wire inlaid into the upper part of the staves, as shown in Fig. 2, where they are secured in place by the plates G. These plates are secured by screws to the sides of the tub, as shown, and have inwardly-projecting flanges which support the lower ends of the ears, as shown in Fig. 1.

By this construction the lower ends of the ears are pivoted to the sides of the tub, so as to enable them to act as hinges. The upper ends of the ears pass over the ends of the binding-bar D, as shown, and are secured in place by strips H of thin sheet metal looped over the ends of the ears and nailed or tacked to the upper side of the bar. By nailing this strip H securely at one end of the bar the ear E becomes a hinge to the bar at that end. The cover B may also be hinged to the same ear by driving a staple, I, firmly into the edge of the said cover around the said ear, as shown in Fig. 1.

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

1. The combination of a transverse sliding key, F, with the cover B and binding-bar D of a butter-tub or other vessel, substantially as herein described, and for the purposes set forth.

2. The formation of a key-seat, C, in the cover B, and binding-bar D, for the reception of the key, substantially as described.

3. The ears E, constructed as herein described, in combination with the tub A, binding-bar D, and cover B, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 8th day of March, 1866.

S. E. SOUTHLAND.

Witnesses:

J. F. SOUTHLAND,

ED. R. BOOTEY.