

*T. G. Otterson,
Preserve Jar.*

No. 94,236.

Patented Aug. 31. 1869.

Fig. 1.

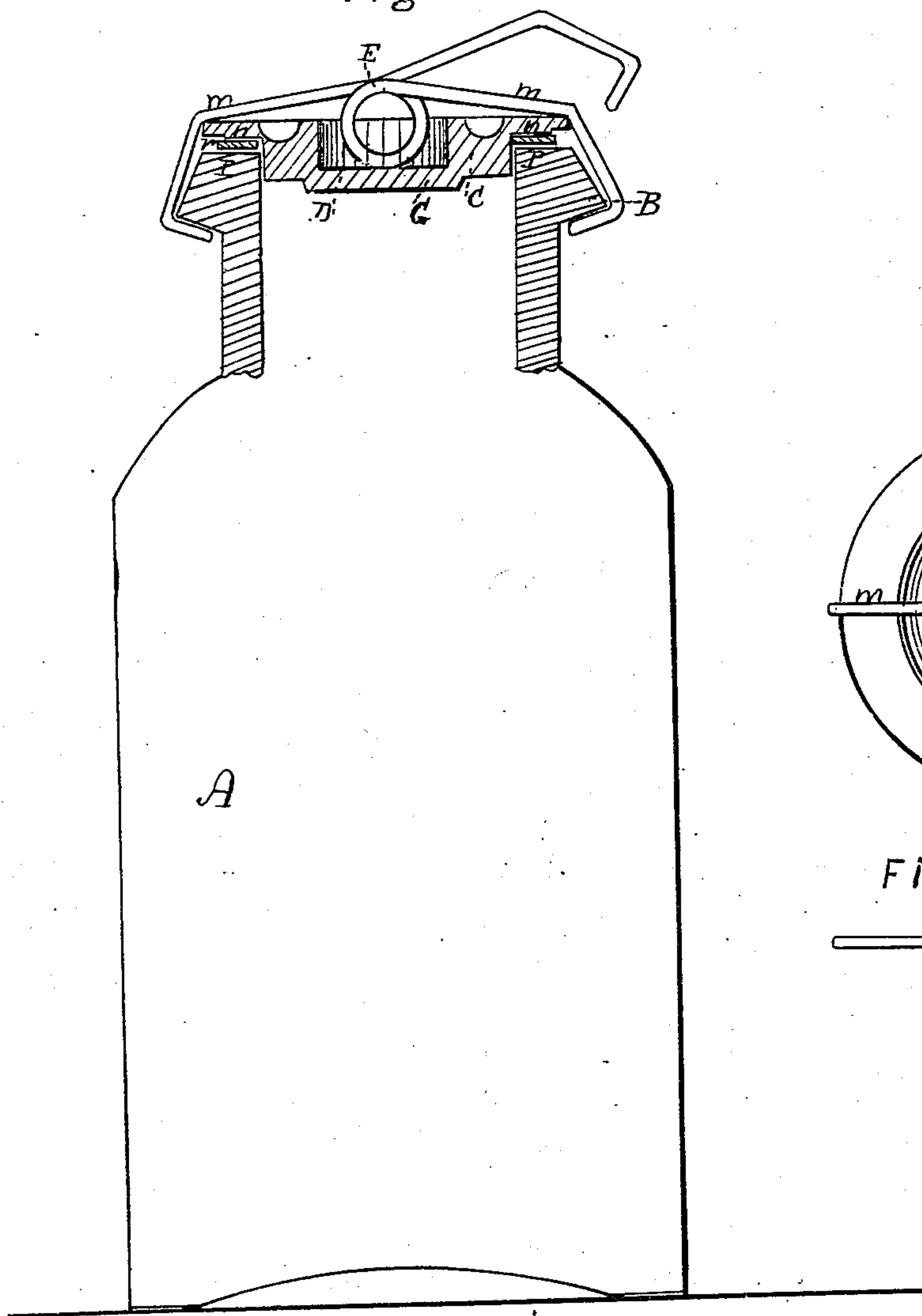


Fig. 2.

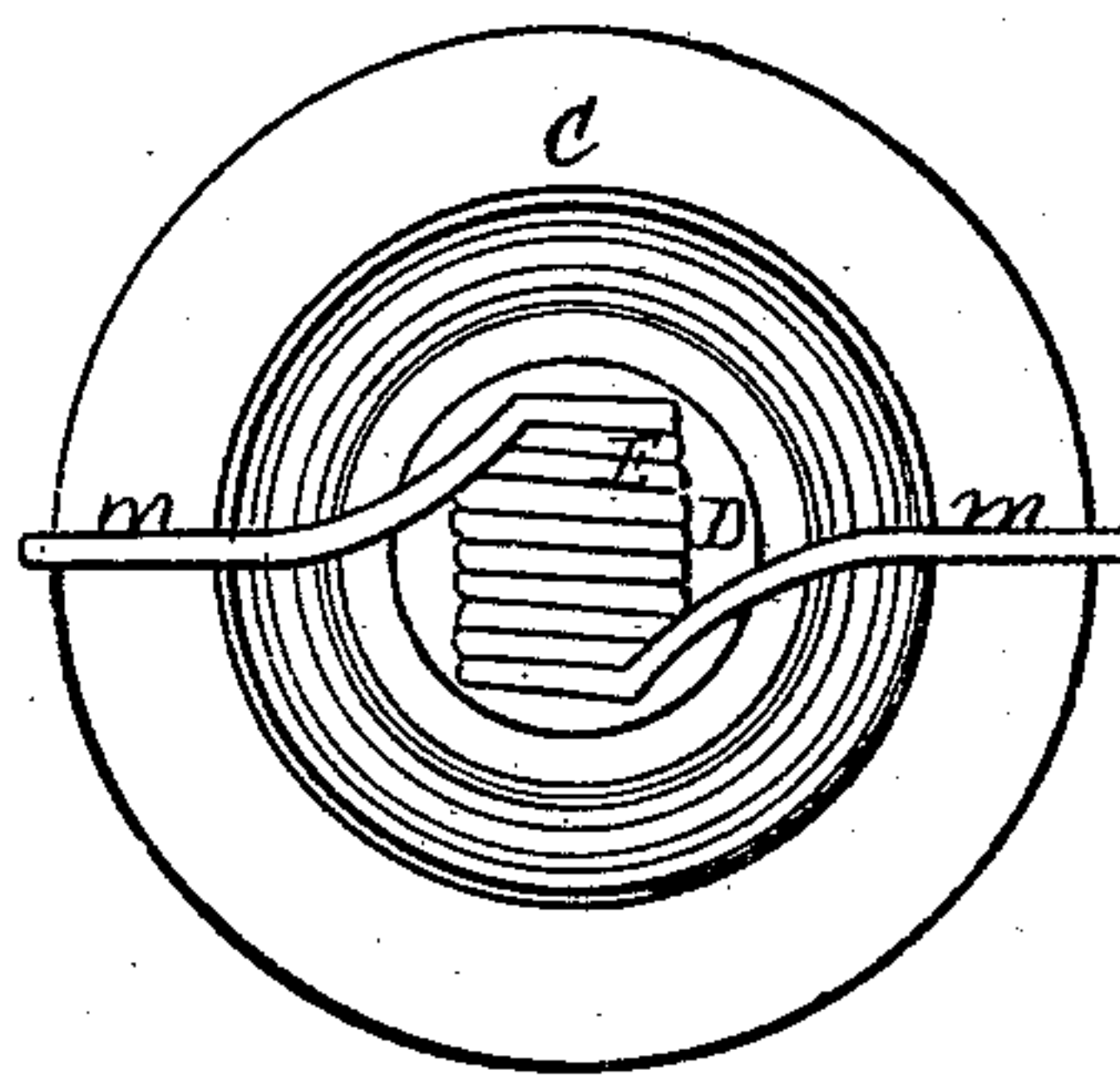
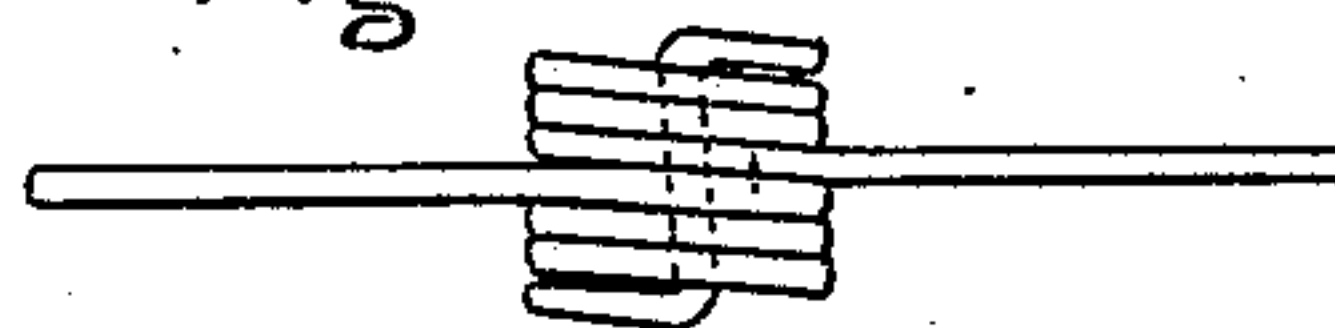


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

*W. H. Dennis
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Inventor

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By his Atty. J. Dennis & Co.*

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS G. OTTERSON, OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY.

Letters Patent No. 94,236, dated August 31, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN PRESERVE-JARS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS G. OTTERSON, of Camden, Camden county, in the State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Preserving-Jars; and I hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in providing the cover with a recess in its outer lower edge, by which a shoulder is formed for contact with the rubber gasket, and a space is insured between the cover and top of the jar, for the introduction of an instrument to facilitate the raising of the cover in opening the jar.

In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a jar, with my improvements, the upper part being a middle section, with the cover and spring in place;

Figure 2 is a top view of the cover and spring; and

Figure 3, a modification of the spring, as regards the manner of coiling.

The jar A is provided with a flange, B, around its top, projecting at the bottom from a quarter to a half an inch, horizontally or nearly horizontally from the neck, but narrower or thinner at the top, its sides tapering toward the centre of the top of the jar.

The cover C has a central cavity, or cup, D, which receives about one-half, more or less, of the coiled spring E.

The arms *m m* of this spring are curved from the ends of the coil, so as to converge to a line at right angles to the axis of the coil, at its middle point, and pass over the edge of the cover, on directly opposite sides thereof.

Each of these arms is bent, first at an obtuse angle, and then at about a right angle, so as to form hooks, or fingers adapted to catch under the flange B, on the jar.

A packing-ring, or gasket, *p*, is placed on the top of the jar, to secure a tight joint, and when the cover is in place, and the spring first applied, one arm will

have the position shown in red, which is then to be drawn down, and its point, striking on the bevelled side of the flange, slips over it, and catches beneath, holding the cover firm and tight.

The coil of the spring, being held by the cup D, is in no danger of being pushed off the cover in handling or packing, and the hooks of the arms, being on directly opposite sides of the cover, if one of them be pushed around, the other follows, and their relative position, and consequently their hold upon the flange and the pressure upon the cover, remain undisturbed.

The extreme ends of the arms are made so as to not quite reach the neck of the jar, which prevents the neck from being struck by them when the spring is put on, and by inserting a table-knife or other similar implement at this point, the hook may be thrown off the flange, and the cover released in an instant.

Beneath the outer edge of the cover, I form a rebate or recess, seen at *r*, just outside the portion *n*, resting on the ring *p*, in order to make it easy to lift, or pry off the cover without mutilating or damaging the packing, and a second or supplementary flange is thus formed outside that resting on the packing.

On the bottom of the cover, beneath the cup D, a hub, or projection, G, is formed, to make room for the cup, and at the same time preserve the required stiffness and strength.

Fruit-preserving jars, with my improvements and their covers, may be made of clay, earthen, or glass-ware.

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

The cover C, having a recess, *r*, in its outer lower edge, for the purpose specified, and a shoulder, *n*, for contact with rubber gasket, as herein set forth.

Also, a spring, (for securing and holding the covers of fruit-jars,) constructed as shown in fig. 3, and arranged to operate substantially as described.

THOMAS G. OTTERSON.

Witnesses:

WM. DENNIS,
J. DENNIS, Jr.