

M. H. Barnes

Oil Can.

N^o 96,380.

Patented Nov. 2, 1869.

Fig. 1.

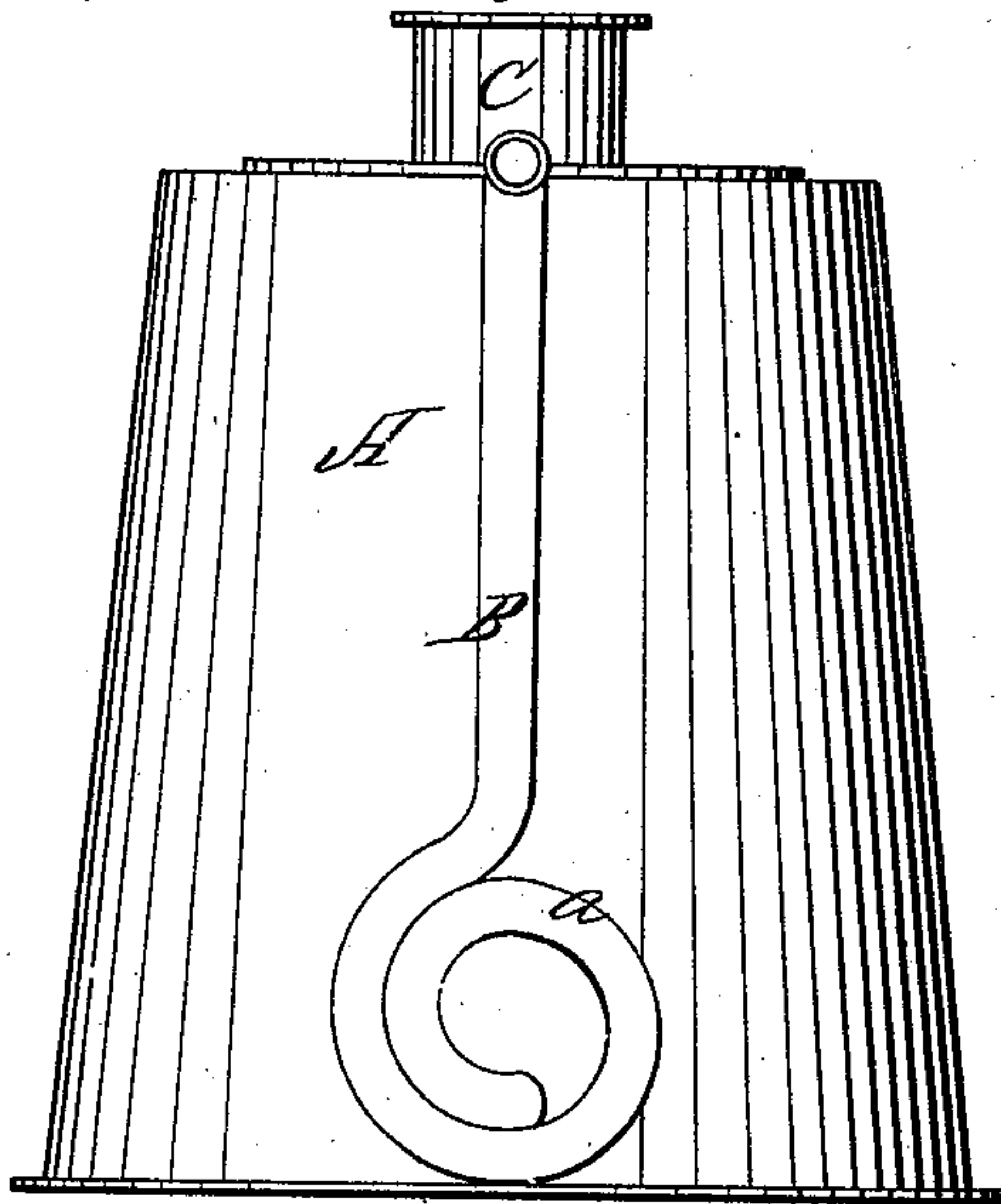
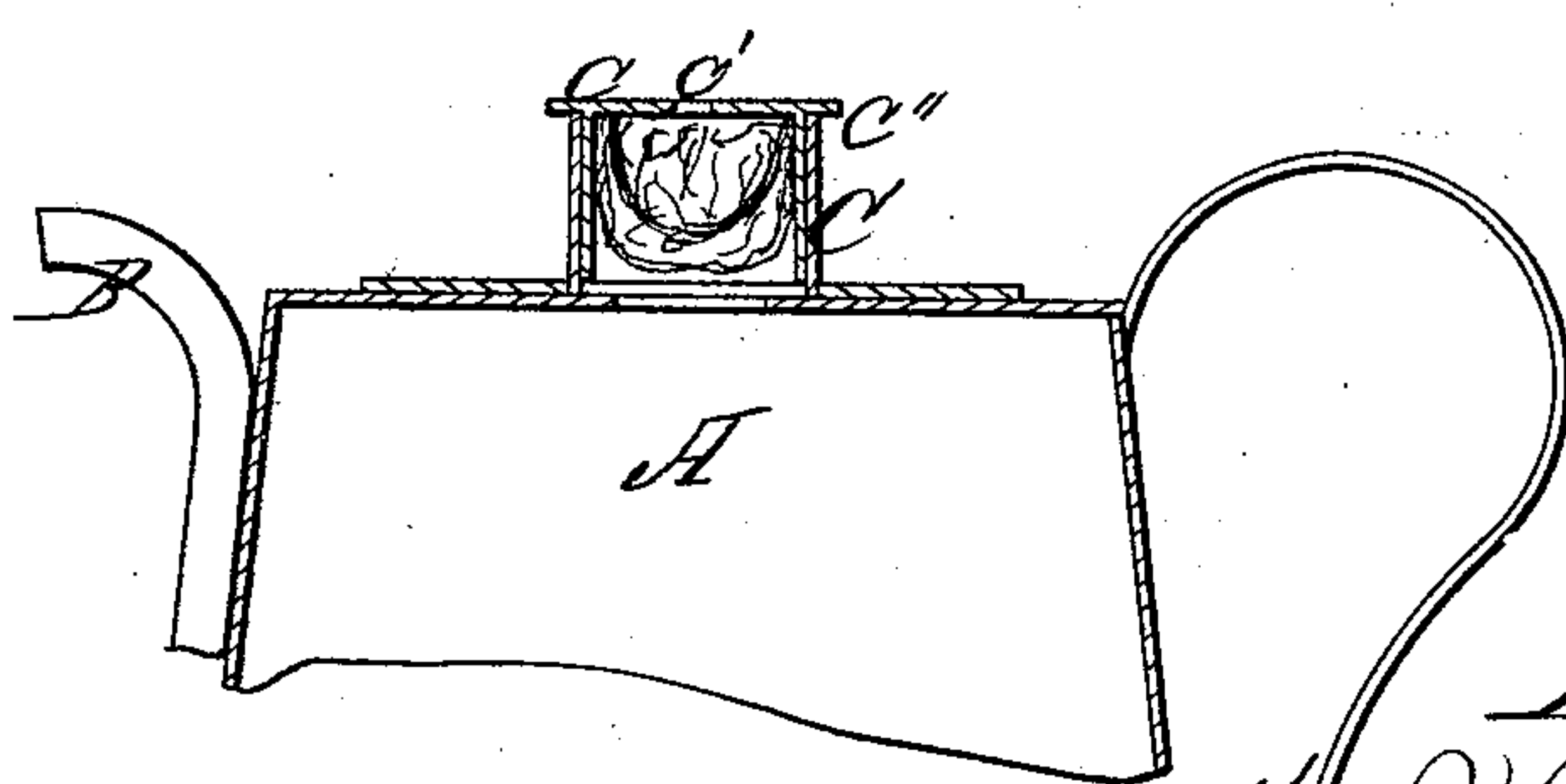


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

*Victor Haymann
C. A. Pettib*

Inventor:

*M. H. Barnes
by Hum & Co
Attorneys*

United States Patent Office.

M. H. BARNES, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND
ENOCH P. SLOAN, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 96,380, dated November 2, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN SAFETY-CANS.

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, M. H. BARNES, of the city and county of Peoria, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and improved Safety-Can ; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and

Figure 2, a central vertical section of the can and hollow plug.

This invention has for its object to prevent the access of flame to the explosive vapor that always fills the empty portions of cans partially full of oil, so that the can may be safely used to supply lighted lamps, or brought into any proximity, however close, with flame, without danger of exploding.

The invention consists in providing a spout, opening out of the bottom of the can, so that whatever oil may be in the vessel, however small its quantity, shall shut off the superjacent vapor from the spout; and in forming the spout with one or two coils at the bottom, so arranged that they shall interpose no obstacle to the free escape of oil from the can, but shall prevent the return of all the oil in the spout to the can after the pouring has ceased, a small quantity of oil being retained in the coils, and there serving as a valve to prevent flame from communicating with the explosive vapor through the spout.

Also, in providing, at the top of the can, a hollow plug that may be removed for the supplying of oil to the can, and that has a hole in its top for ventilation, and that contains in its hollow chamber, between the vent-hole and the interior of the can, sponge or other porous material which shall also shut off flame.

In the drawings—

A is the can, and B the spout, the latter opening out of the bottom of the former, and having one and one-half or more coils, *a*, at its lower end.

On tipping the can so far that the oil inside it rises to the level of the top of the coils, the oil in the latter rises to the same height and enters and flows out of the straight part of the spout. On restoring the can to the horizontal, as soon as the oil has flowed down out of the straight part of the spout, there ceases to be sufficient pressure to make it run up the opposite side of the coils, and it consequently stops flowing, filling the coils, and making it impossible for flame to get at the vapor in the interior of the vessel through the spout.

In the top of the can there is a tube, C, into which fits the hollow plug *c*, having a flange at its top to closely shut the tube when the plug is in place, and a vent-hole, *c'*, through its head, and a sponge, *c''*, or other porous material, within its hollow chamber, and between the vent-hole and the inside of the can, which spongefreely admits air, but allows no flame to traverse it.

Thus the interior of my can is guarded at all points against danger by fire, and may be truly said to be impregnable to this agent.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. The tube B, opening out of the bottom of the can A, and provided at its lower end with the coils *a*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The hollow plug C, provided with the vent-hole *c* and porous material *c''*, and arranged in respect to the can A, substantially as described.

To the above specification of my improvement, I have set my hand, this 4th day of September, 1869.

M. H. BARNES.

Witnesses:

CHAS. A. PETTIT,

T. J. W. ROBERTSON.