L. B. Harberger.
Fruit Jar.

No. 97,293. Patented Nov. 30, 1869.

Fig: 1.

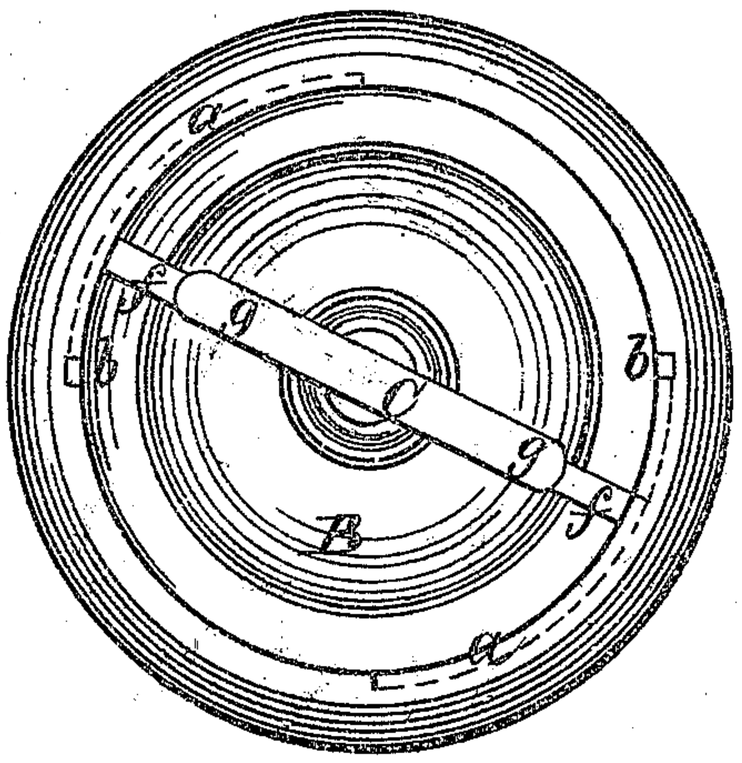
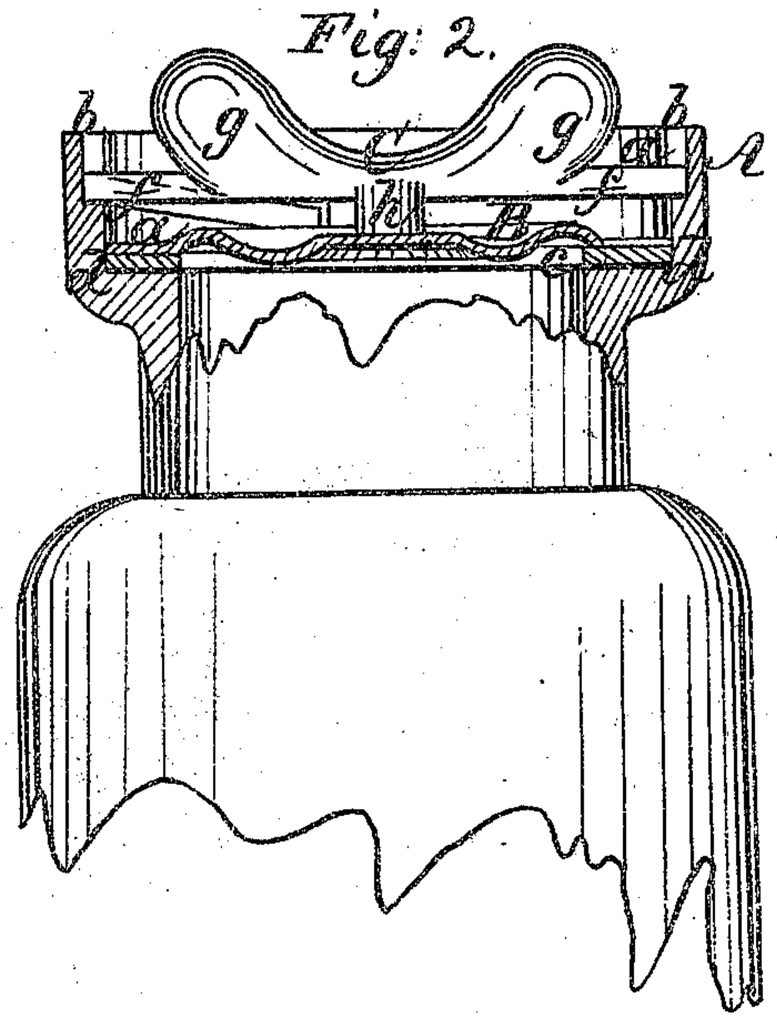


Fig: 2.



Witnesses;
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United States Patent Office.

L. B. HARBERGER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 97,293, *dated November* 30, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-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, L. B. HARBERGER, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fruit-Jars; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains, to fully understand, and to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a top view, and

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the upper portion of the jar, in partial section.

This invention consists in the provision of inclined grooves in the inner face of the neck of the jar, and in the peculiar construction of a cross-bar or key, the extremities of which travel in the inclined grooves above referred to, while a projection at its centre presses on the sheet-metal cover of the jar, and locks it in place, at the same time compressing a rubber packing-ring placed beneath.

I will now proceed to describe my invention in detail, as shown in the drawings, in the two figures of which like parts are indicated by similar letters of reference.

In the inner face of the mouth A, of a fruit-jar, are formed inclined planes or grooves, *a a*, represented by dotted lines in fig. 1, and by full lines in fig. 2. These grooves can be easily formed in the process of manufacturing the jars.

At their elevated ends, these grooves terminate in vertical grooves or slots, *b b*, open at the top.

c is a packing-ring of rubber, which is placed on a shoulder, *d*, formed within the neck of the jar, just below the grooves *a a*.

On this ring rests the lid or cover B, of sheet-metal, which I prefer to swage into the form shown, or any equivalent form, simply for the purpose of preventing bending under the application of the locking-bar, to be hereinafter described.

It will be seen that the centre of the cap B is raised, and that its outer portion is straight all around, where it comes in contact with the packing.

The locking cross-bar C will be made in the form described, and will be probably of cast-metal.

This lock consists of arms *f f*, which travel in the grooves *a a*, ears *g g*, by which it is turned, and a projection, *h*, which presses on the centre of the cap B.

The mode of sealing this fruit-jar must be obvious, from the above description of the drawings.

After the jar has been filled, the packing is first introduced, then the cap, and finally the locking-bar is fitted in, its arms *f f* entering the grooves *a a* by way of the slots *b b*, after which, by the application of the thumb and finger, the bar C is turned as far as desired, thereby compressing the packing, and securely fastening the cap, and forming a perfectly air-tight joint.

It will be seen that the projection of the locking-bar serves as centre or pivot, on which said bar is turned, and, as it presses directly on the centre of the cover, the pressure is equal all around.

I am aware that inclined projections have been formed on the upper side of the cover, and the latter is tightened by means of a locking-bar, which moves in a circular groove in the neck of the jar, so as to ride over the inclined projections, and thereby tighten the cover; but in such cases provision must be made to prevent the rotation of the cover.

The inventor of such devices states that he forms lugs on the periphery of the cover, so that the latter will remain stationary, and thereby allow the locking-bar to engage with the inclined projections.

Should such lugs not exist, the cover will rotate with the bar, and thereby cannot be tightened on the jar; but by my invention, it is immaterial whether the cover does or does not rotate. The ends of the locking-bar move in the inclined grooves, and will surely press the cover to its place.

The ears formed on said bar are sufficiently elevated to allow a firm hold taken thereon, and the lower projection bears uniformly against the centre of the cover.

I thereby produce a simple and practical invention.

Having thus described my invention,

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

The locking-piece, constructed with ears *g g*, and the central bearing-projection *h*, in connection with the cover B and the inclined grooves *a*, in the inner face of the mouth or neck of a jar, substantially as and for the purpose described.

To the above, I have signed my name, this 28th day of September, 1869.

L. B. HARBERGER.

Witnesses:

ROBERT HOMYER,

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