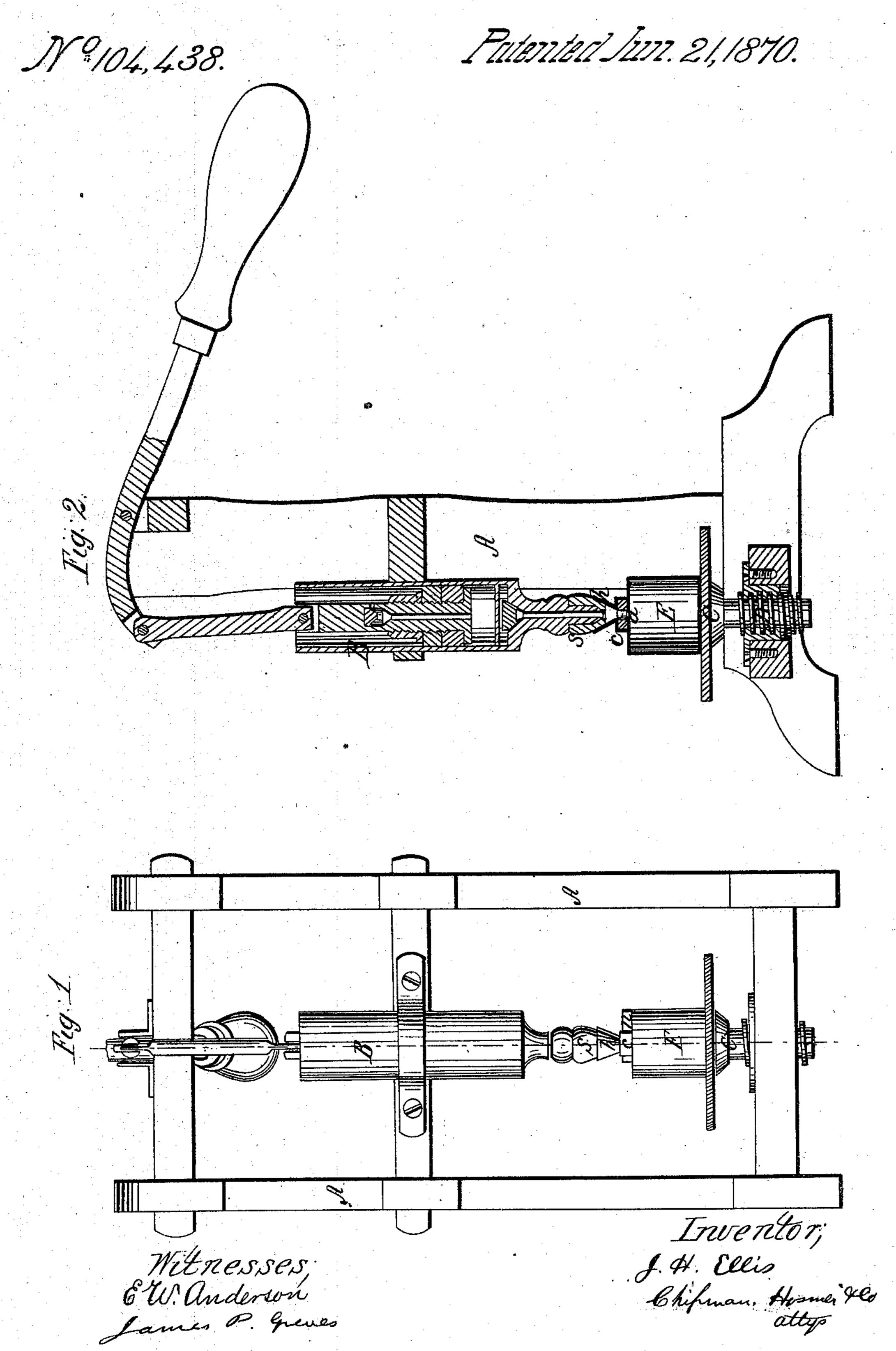


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Anited States Patent Office.

JOHN H. ELLIS, OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 104,438, dated June 21, 1870; antedated June 11, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINES FOR CANNING FRUIT.

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, John H. Ellis, of Peoria, in the county of Peoria and State of Illinois, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Canning and Preserving Fruit; 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 annexed drawing making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1, of the drawing, is a plan view of my in-

vention.

Figure 2 is a vertical section of the same.

My invention relates to means for preserving fruit; and

It consists, mainly, in the construction and novel arrangement of means by which the atmosphere is pumped from a fruit-can, and the can thoroughly and expeditiously sealed.

The letter A, of the drawing, represents a frame, upon which I arrange the air-pump B, in the manner

The letter C represents a rotating table, which is raised or lowered by means of its screw, D, working in a suitable thread set in the lower cross-bar of frame A.

The letter E represents a fruit-can, constructed in the ordinary manner, except that the top has a small opening at the point a.

Immediately above the opening a, I affix to the top

of the can a staple, marked c on the drawing.

It consists of a metallic plate, bent in a quadrangu-

lar shape, with an opening in its top, over which is placed the funnel-shaped cup h.

The letter *n* represents a quadrangular block of India rubber, adapted to the interior of staple *c*, and having an opening through its center, corresponding in size to the opening in the top of the can above mentioned.

The letter s, of the drawing, represents an Indiarubber tube, drawn over the lower end of the pump, as shown, and adapted to fit closely inside the cup h.

My device is operated as follows, namely:

The can is first filled with fruit, and the top attached, by solder or otherwise. I then place the can on the table C, and turn the table around until the cup h fits closely around the elastic tube s. The rubber block n is crowded into the staple c until its opening is brought directly over the opening in the cantop. The air in the can is then pumped out, after which the rubber block n is drawn outward, or forced inward a short distance, and the can is sealed thereby.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure

by Letters Patent, is—

The apparatus herein described, for canning fruit, having frame A, pump B, table C, together with the block n, staple c, tube s, and cup h, when constructed and arranged substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above, I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. ELLIS.

N. E. WORTHINGTON, GEO. PUTERBAUGH.