

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. CONE, OF WATERLOO, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND HENRY CHURCHILL, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PACKAGES FOR BUTTER AND LARD.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 116,684, dated July 4, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, John L. Cone, of Water-loo, in the county of Seneca and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Packages for Butter, Lard, Oysters, &c., of which the following is a specification:

This invention consists in the arrangement of the packing and of the fastening for the cover, as hereinafter described.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view with the fastening thrown open; Fig. 2, a section with the fastening closed; Fig. 3, a plan of

the vessel, showing the packing.

A represents the vessel, which may be made of wood, earthenware, or other material, and of any desired size. In the top edge is made a groove around the whole circle, in which is sunk a packing, a, projecting sufficiently above the surface to allow the cover to press thereon. I prefer to use a packing made principally of fiber, with only sufficient elastic material to give it body and form, as solid rubber might taint butter or lard, or the other contents of the vessel. I prefer to make the packing round, being more easily applied and better in use. B represents the cover, which is of the proper size to cover the top of the vessel, and rests on the packing a. On the rear side of the vessel is attached an ear, C, projecting above the top, and having a slot or opening, b, therein. On the opposite side of the vessel is attached an ear, D, having a bearing, c, to which is pivoted an upright bar, E. To the top of this bar is pivoted a cam, G, having a suitable handle, H. These parts are so pivoted that, when thrown open, as indicated in Fig. 1, they stiffen and cannot fall lower. They have a free and flexible action in the opposite direction, however, so as to close and hold the cover down. On top the cover is secured a cross-bar, I, having an angular claw, d, at one end, which enters and holds in the slot b, and a conical bearing, f, and open slot, g, at the other, for the connection of the cam and the swinging bar, to hold the cover down. This connection is made by slipping bar E into open slot g, and

then turning the lever over into the position shown in Fig. 2, when the cam G strikes into bearing f and prevents displacement. If desired, the mouth of slot g may be made angular, as shown at g', to guide the bar in entering. The cross-bar I, instead of being made in a single piece, extending across the entire cover, may be made, if desired, in two pieces, secured respectively on each side. The fastening not only serves the ordinary purpose of holding the cover down on the packing, but it also has the advantage of allowing a ready inspection of the contents of the vessel at any time. This results from the open slot, g, which allows the bar E to slip out when the cam is released, so that a moment's work only is required in opening. The concave f, into which the cam shuts, holds the whole as firmly as if the slot was not made open. This arrangement of the fastening is much more effective and convenient than a cross-bar with a hasp and staple, which is difficult to adjust, and is not easily opened or closed.

My fastening has a special relation to the packing, as the cover may be pressed down more or less, to adjust it to position, by the greater or lessor turning of the come in its scalest

lesser turning of the cam in its socket.

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

1. The fastening, consisting of the ears C D, the swing-bar E with cam G and lever H, and the cross-bar I with claw d, open slot g, and socket f, all arranged as described, for the purpose of compressing the packing, thereby forming an air-tight joint.

2. The combination of the vessel A, cover B, packing a, ears C D, cross-bar I, swinging lever E, cam G, and lever H, arranged and operating together substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of April, 1871.

JOHN L. CONE.

Witnesses:

R. F. OSGOOD, ARCHD. BAINE.