

M. L. GEARY & W. J. WARD.  
Cans for Paints, Preserves, &c.

No. 157,811.

Patented Dec. 15, 1874.

Fig. 2.

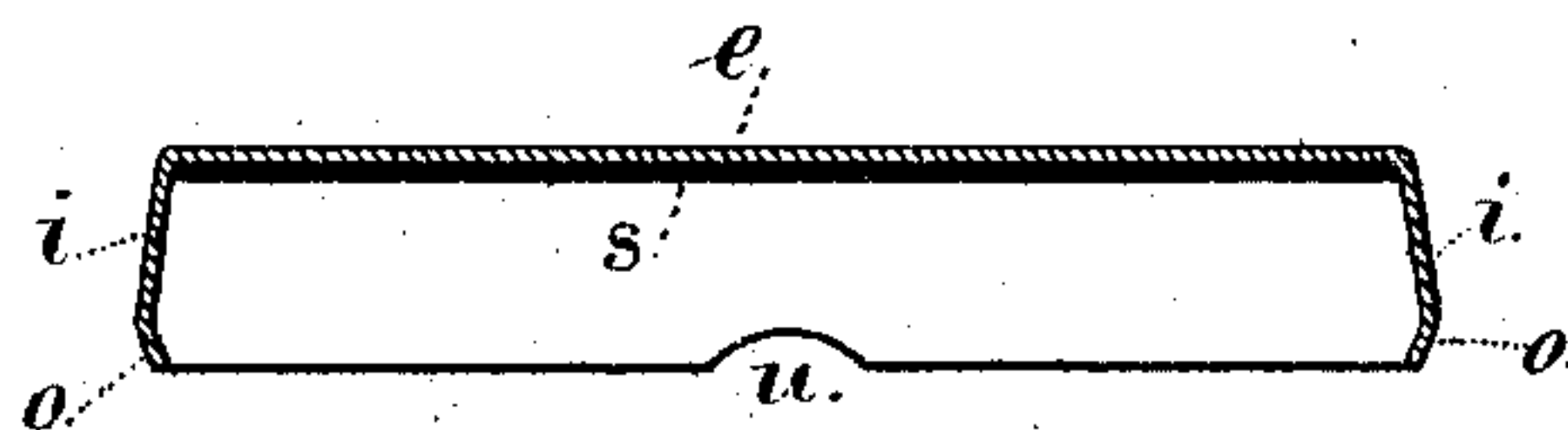
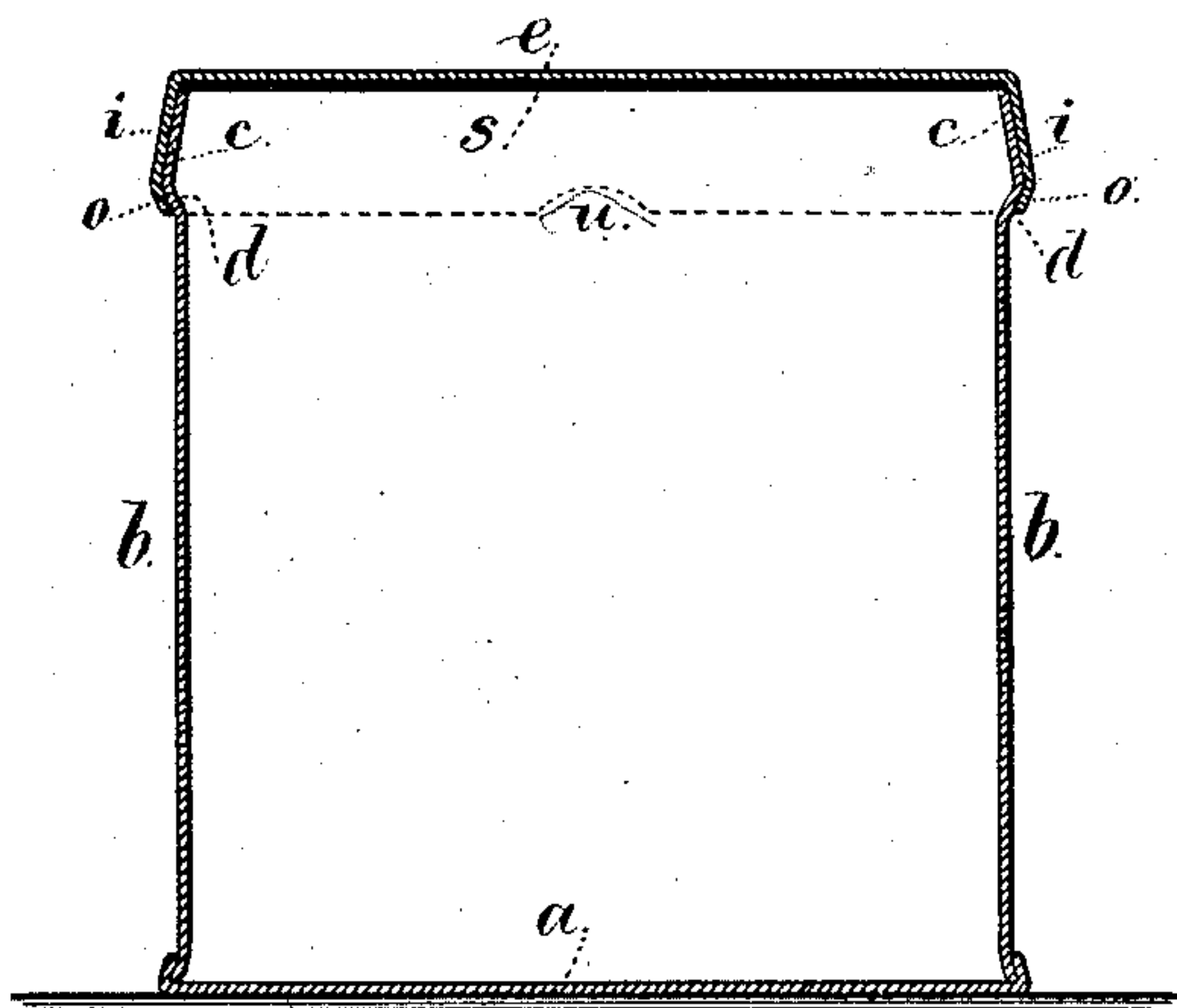


Fig. 1.



Witnesses,

Charles H. Smith  
Harold Lerell

Inventors.

Mathias L. Geary.  
William J. Ward.

for Lemuel W. Lerell  
att'y.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATHIAS L. GEARY AND WILLIAM J. WARD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CANS FOR PAINT, PRESERVES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **157,811**, dated December 15, 1874; application filed September 26, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, MATHIAS L. GEARY and WILLIAM J. WARD, of the city and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Cans for Paints, Preserves, &c., of which the following is a specification:

Cans have been made with a beveled or conical upper end, and in some instances a reverse bevel has been applied below the conical end, and a cap or cover has been placed upon the conical end, and spring-fingers have extended below the reverse bevel; but such fingers are liable to become bent and inoperative.

Our improvement consists in a can made with a reverse bevel around the edge of the cover, with a notch in reverse bevel, in combination with the conical end and reverse bevel on the can, so that when the cover is applied to the can its rim passes over the conical end, and as it is pressed firmly to place the rim is expanded by the cone sufficiently for the reverse bevel at its edge to pass over the largest portion of the conical end of the can, and contract around the reverse bevel, thereby holding the cover firmly into place, and pressing an elastic disk within the cover closely into contact with the edge of the can, insuring an air-tight joint. When the can is to be opened, a knife or similar instrument run in between the reverse bevels and around the rim of the can bends the metal back sufficiently to allow of the cover being taken off, and thereafter being used as an ordinary cover to the box or can. To facilitate this operation the notched rim allows for the insertion of the point of the knife.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents the can complete by a section, and Fig. 2 is a separate section of the cover.

The can is made with the bottom *a* and sides *b*, of any desired size or material, and the upper end is made conical, as at *c*, with a reverse bevel, *d*, at its base.

The cover is made with the top *e* and rim *i*, around which is the inward or reverse bevel

*o*, and the diameter of this is less than the diameter of the can at the junction of the conical portion *c* and reverse bevel *d*, so that when the cover is pushed down to place, the reverse bevel *o* of the rim will be expanded sufficiently to pass the base of the conical portion *c*, and contract around the reverse bevel *d*, holding the cover firmly to its place; and when the elastic disk or washer *s* is used between the cover and the edge of the can, the same is compressed by the cover being forced down to place as aforesaid.

The reverse bevel *o* is removed for a short space, as at *u*, to facilitate the insertion of a knife-point, to open the can by passing it around between *o* and *d*, to bend back the reverse bevel *o*.

The can made in this manner is very simple and effective, and does not require to be soldered, and can be used very conveniently, or again closed with moderate tightness after having been opened.

We are aware that cans have been made with two rounded ribs near the upper end, and that the edge of the cover has been sprung into the groove between these ribs; but there is difficulty in forcing on the cover. We avoid this difficulty by the conical end *c* of the can, and the reverse bevels *o* and *d* cause the cover to press against the elastic disk or washer *s*, and the notch at *u* in the rim facilitates the opening of the can.

We claim as our invention—

The cover made with the reverse bevel *o* at the edge of the rim *i*, and notched as at *u*, in combination with the can having the reverse bevel *d*, and conical portion *c* near the upper end, substantially as set forth.

Signed by us this 23d day of September, 1874.

MATHIAS L. GEARY.

W. J. WARD.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,  
CHAS. H. SMITH.