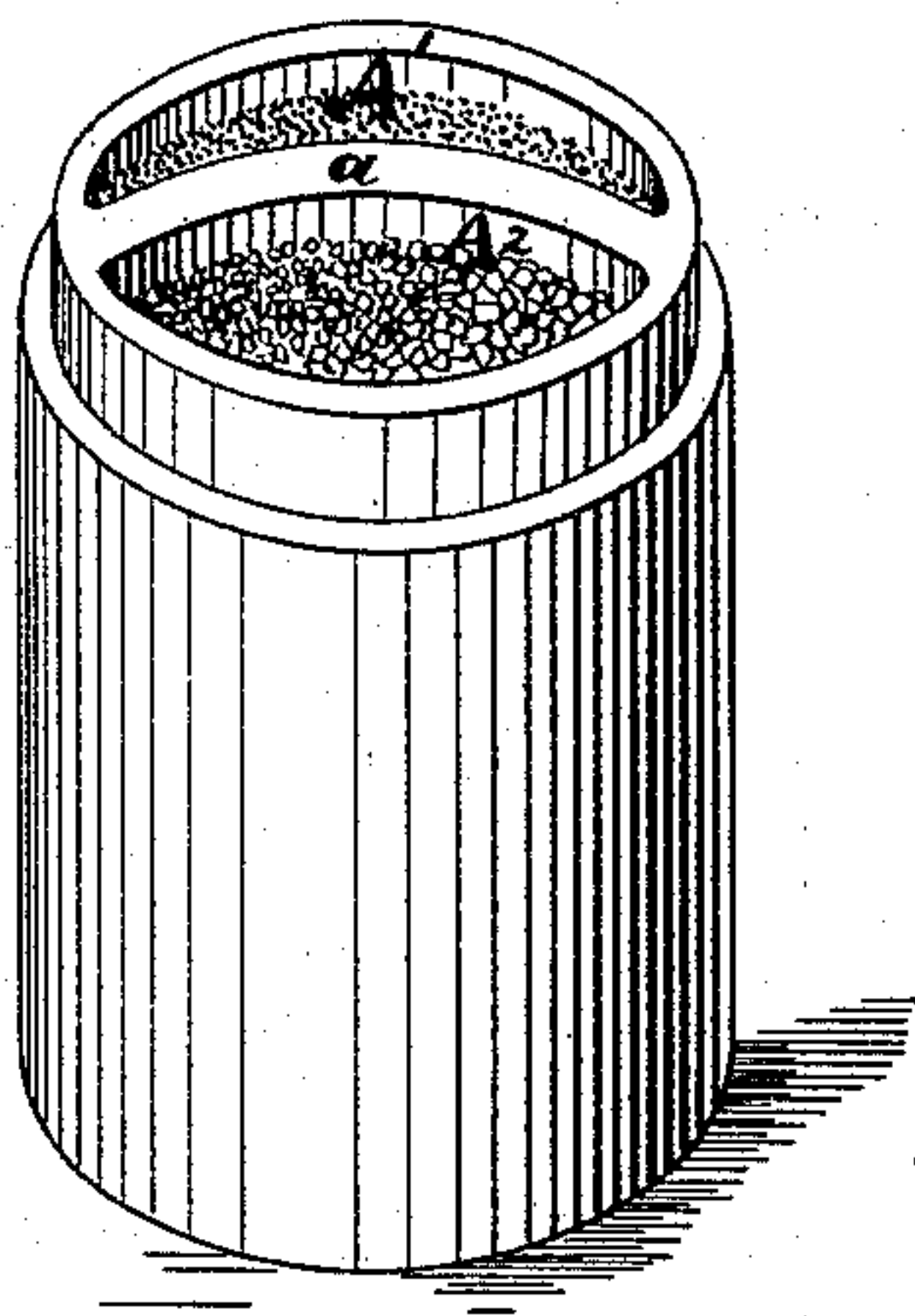


W. B. DEAN.  
Combined Pepper and Salt Caster.

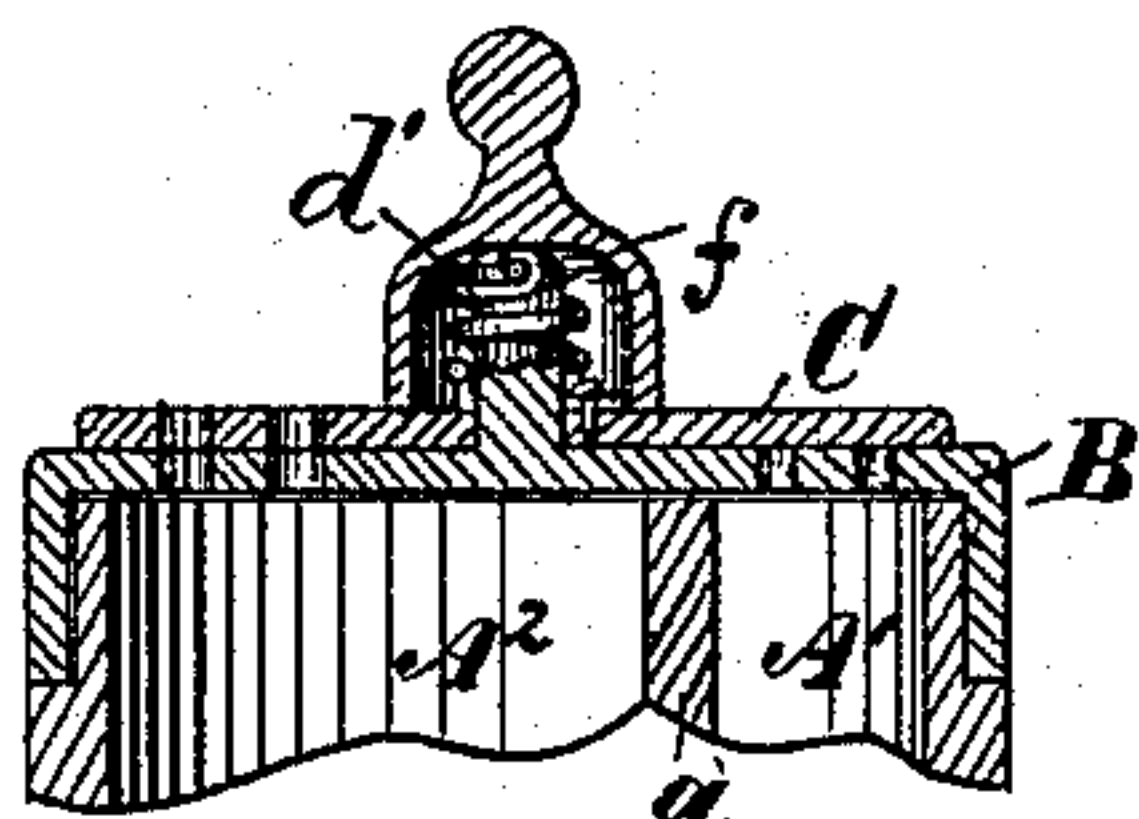
No. 215,441.

Patented May 20, 1879.

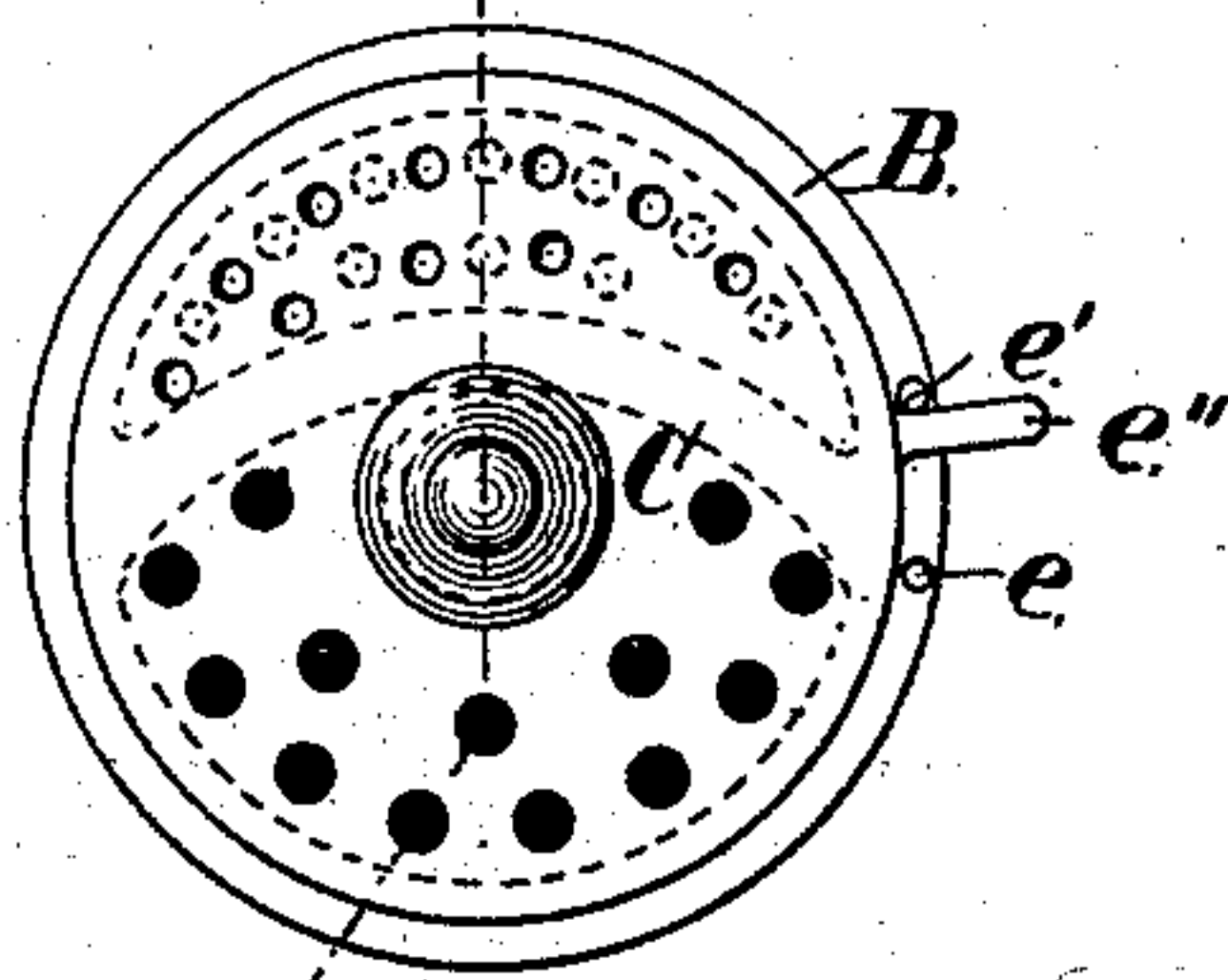
*Fig. 1.*



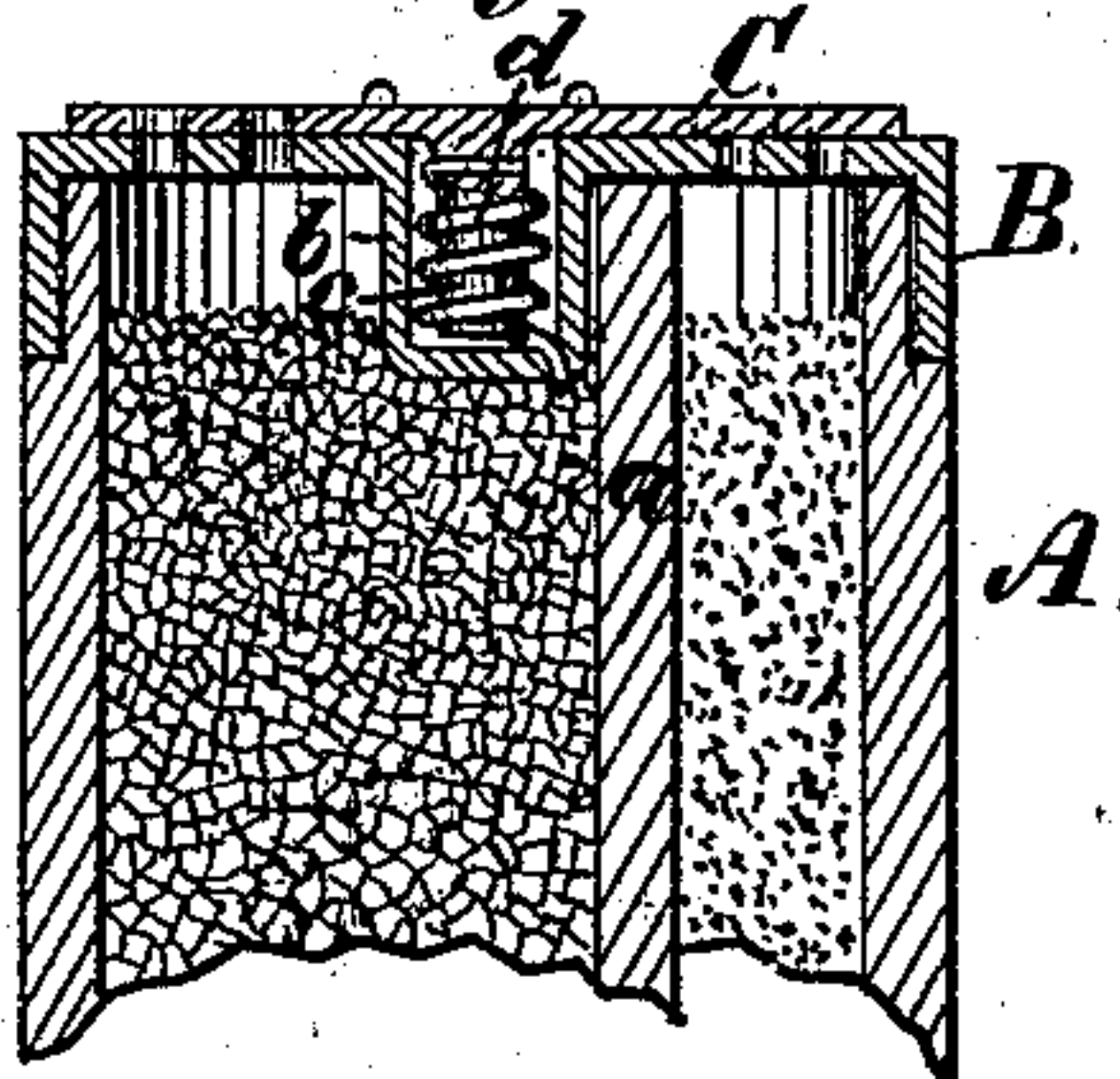
*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Witnesses:*  
*Henry Eichling*  
*B. S. Clark*

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*William B. Dean*  
*By J. M. Hitch*  
*his atty.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM B. DEAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED PEPPER AND SALT CASTER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,441**, dated May 20, 1879; application filed March 12, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. DEAN, of the city of New York, county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Combined Pepper and Salt Caster, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of the same.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the body of my improved caster with the cover removed. Fig. 2 is a top view of the cover. Fig. 3 is a central vertical section of the caster with the cover in place; and Fig. 4 is a similar view of the upper portion of the same, showing a modification of the saving attachment to the cover.

My invention relates to a caster intended to hold both salt and pepper, and from which either pepper or salt may be cast or shaken at pleasure without casting the other; and consists, first, of a single vessel of suitable size and form to serve as a pepper-caster for table use, with a longitudinal or vertical partition that divides the vessel into two separate compartments, one designed for pepper and the other for salt, the upper open end being provided with a cover having two series of perforations, one over each compartment, and a movable register-plate having corresponding perforations, but so arranged relatively to those in the cover that when the said plate is set to open the perforations over one compartment those over the other are closed by it; second, in the combination, with said cover and plate, of a spring and stops whereby the movement of the plate is controlled, so as to keep the perforations open over the salt-compartment, except when force is applied to turn the plate to open the perforations for pepper and close them for salt; and, third, in the combination, with the said cover, plate, and spring, of a finger-piece, whereby the said plate may be conveniently turned or moved on the cover against the stress of the spring.

A is the body of the caster, which, having the usual form and size of the common pepper-caster, I make preferably of glass, by molding the same, with the partitions herein-after described, in a suitable mold, which any skillful glass-worker will know how to do, the top or open end being molded to receive and

hold a suitable top or cover for a pepper-caster. It may, however, be made of other material. This is divided into two compartments,  $A^1 A^2$ , as seen in Figs. 1 and 3, by a longitudinal partition, *a*. It is preferably so arranged as to give somewhat more room for the salt than for the pepper, as shown.

B is the cover, which is preferably made of metal, to fit onto the top of the body A, and secured in place either by screw-threads, in the ordinary way, or otherwise, as may be desired.

The cover must, of course, be made to fit closely upon the upper edge of the partition *a*. If desired, a tight joint may be secured at this point by making a groove in the upper edge of the partition and laying in it a strip or thread of rubber or other packing. The cover has a series of perforations over each of said compartments.

C is a register-plate fitted onto the upper surface of the cover B, provided also with two series of perforations, corresponding severally with the series of perforations in the cover, but so placed that when those in the cover and plate over one compartment coincide those over the other do not, so that by shifting the cover either compartment may be opened, and at the same time that the other is closed, at pleasure.

The plate or disk C is preferably pivoted at the center to the cover B. This may be done in any suitable way. One method is shown in Fig. 3, in which *b* is a hollow projection or a closed tube extending downward from the center of the cover B, and *c* a rod or pin extending from the plate C into *b*.

*d* is a spiral spring on *c*, one end of which is fixed to *c* and the other to *b*, arranged to rotate the said plate on its pivot. *e* and *e'* are stop-pins fixed in the cover B, and *e''* is a finger-piece extending from the edge of the plate C between the said stop-pins. The stress of the spring tends to keep the finger-piece pressed against the pin *e'*, the latter being so placed that when the finger-piece is thus pressed against it the perforations over the salt-cellar (indicated by the black circles in Fig. 2) are open for the discharge of salt. Then by pressing the finger-piece around against the stop-pin *e* the plate C is turned, so as to close the perforations over



the salt-cellar and open those over the pepper-compartment, (indicated by the open circles in said Fig. 2.)

If preferred, the construction shown in Fig. 4 may be adopted, namely—a pin, *f*, projecting upward from the cover B through a hole in the center of the plate C, a spring, *d'*, being coiled around the said pin, with one end attached thereto and the other to the said plate.

In place of the pins *e e'* any other analogous stop device may be employed—such, for example, as a lug on the cover projecting into a slot in the plate, or a lug on the plate projecting into a slot in the cover. So, also, in place of having the register-plate rotate on a pivot, it may slide from side to side across the cover, the perforations being so arranged that when in one position one set of perforations will be open, and when slid into another the other set will be open and the former closed. In this case the spring must be arranged to press the register-plate against a stop into position to open one set of perforations, thus keeping such perforations always open, except when the plate is forcibly slid against the stress of the spring into position against a stop to close such perforations and open the other set. In this case the finger-piece, extending beyond the outer edge of the cover B, should be suitably formed and shaped for the convenient application of force by the finger or thumb in the direction of the direct sliding movement of the register-plate.

It is important that the plate C should be kept closely pressed against the cover B, and the spring *b* or *d'* is arranged to accomplish this end by having it coiled with the coils close

together. Then when one end is fastened to the cover the coils are spread somewhat in fastening the other end to the plate.

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

1. The combination, in a salt and pepper caster having two compartments with a single opening, of the perforated cover B and the perforated movable register-plate C, the perforations being so arranged therein relatively that when the said plate is set to open the perforations over either of the compartments it closes those over the other compartment, as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination, in a salt and pepper caster having more than one compartment with a single opening, of the perforated cover B, perforated register-plate C, spring *d*, and stops *e e'*, as and for the purpose described.

3. The combination, with the perforated cover B and register-plate C of a combined salt-cellar and pepper-caster, of a spring, *d*, arranged to control the movement of the said plate, as described, and a finger-piece, *e''*, connected with said plate, whereby the said plate may be conveniently moved, as described.

4. The combination, with the perforated cover B and register-plate C of a combined pepper-caster and salt-cellar, of the spring *d*, whereby the said plate is pressed into contact with the said cover, as described.

Witness my hand this 8th day of March, 1879.

WM. B. DEAN.

Witnesses:

B. S. CLARK,  
MILLARD F. CLIFTON.