

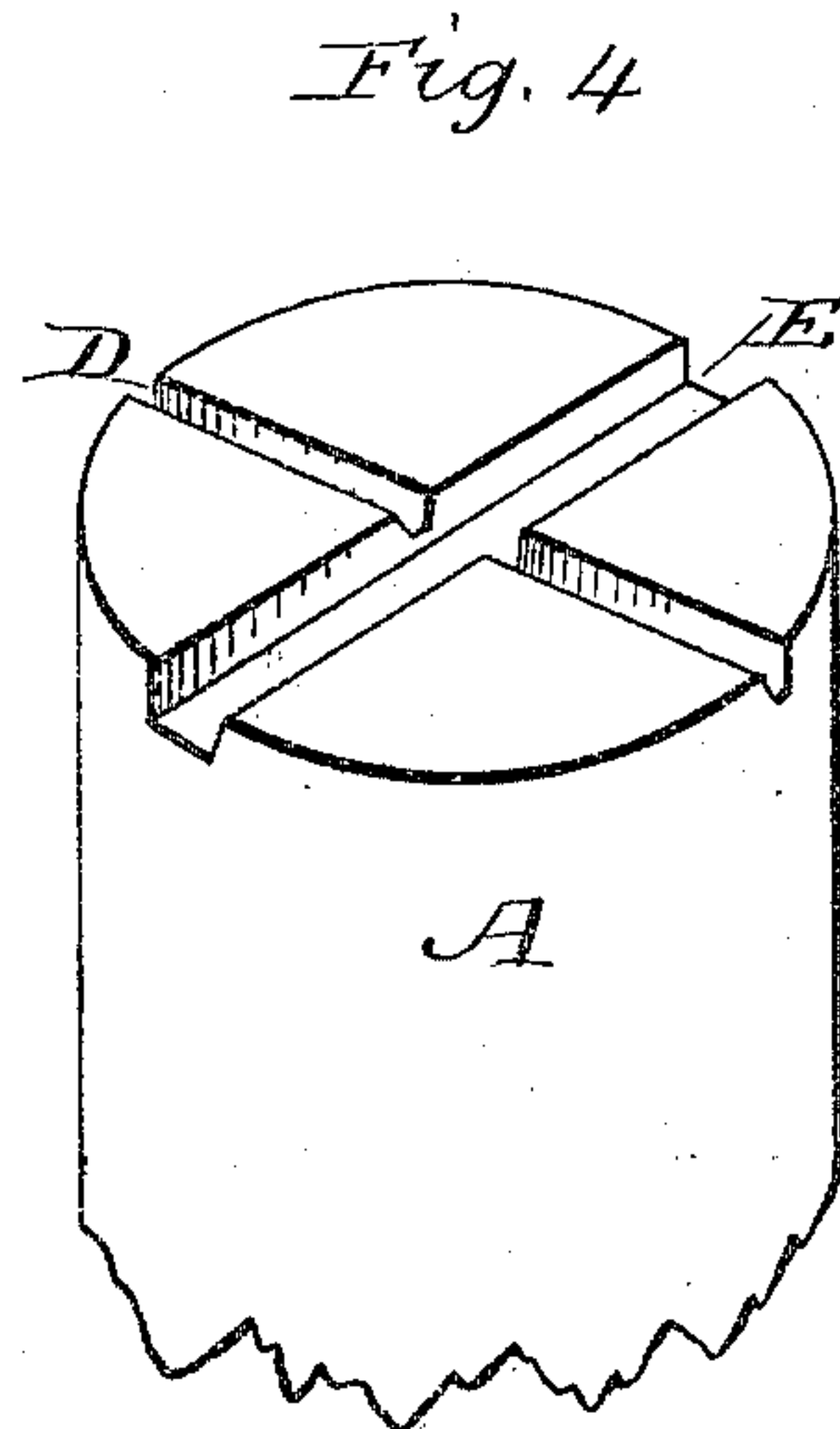
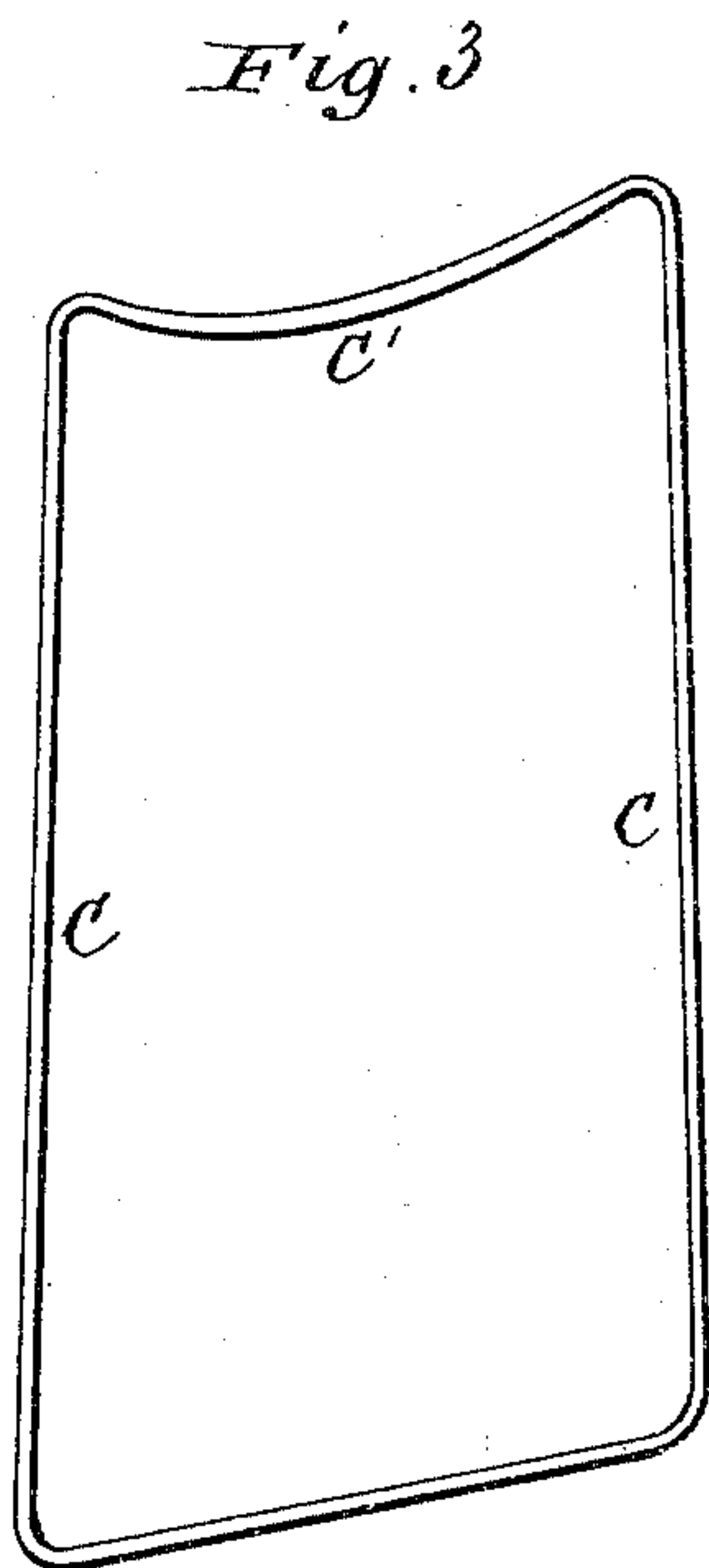
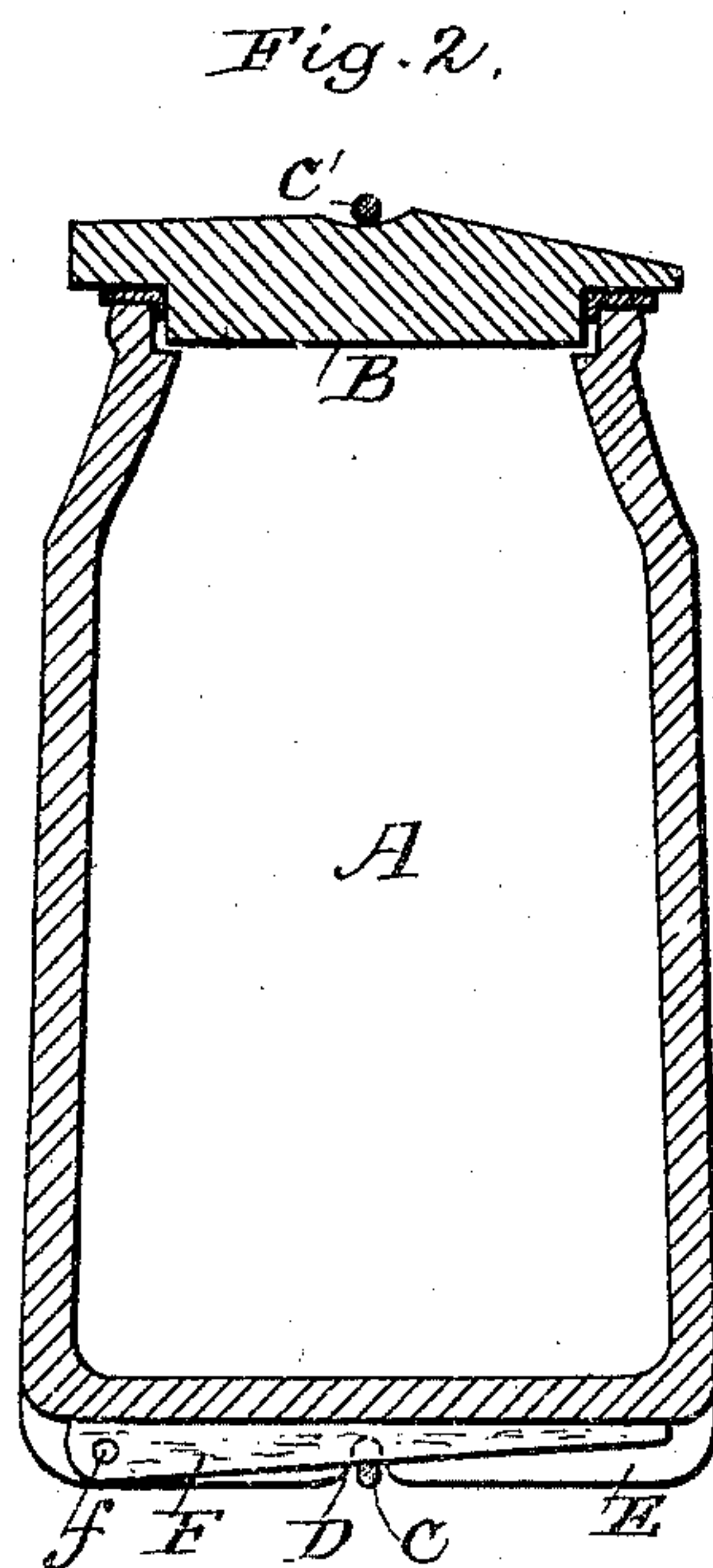
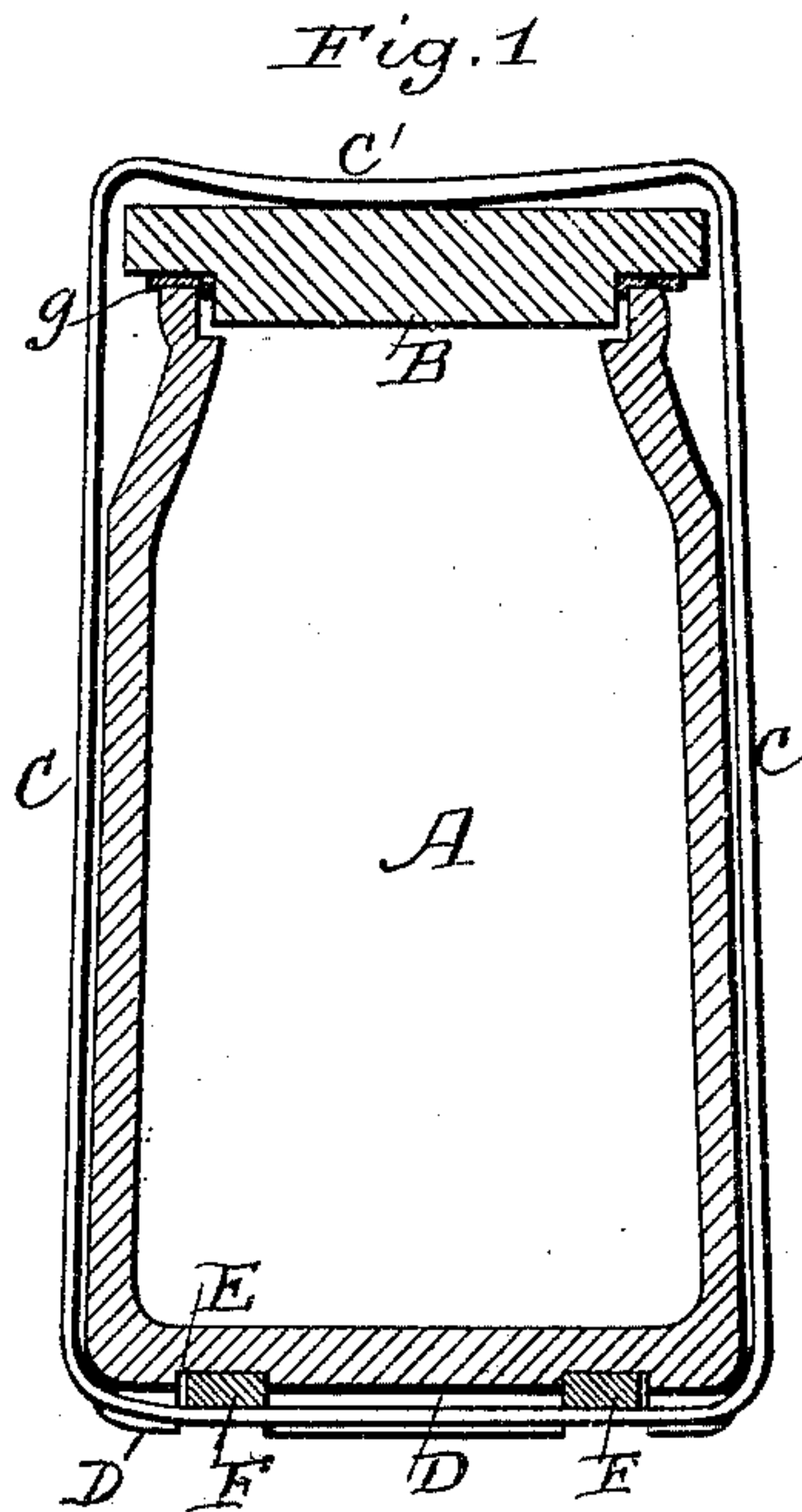
(No Model.)

J. GILBERDS.

FRUIT JAR.

No. 271,328.

Patented Jan. 30, 1883.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES GILBERDS, OF JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK.

FRUIT-JAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,328, dated January 30, 1883.

Application filed July 13, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES GILBERDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jamestown, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Jars, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in self-sealing jars in which a spring-stirrup is used to retain the cover upon the top edge of the jar; and the objects of my improvements are, first, to provide a wire spring-stirrup adapted to pass under the bottom of the jar and up the sides thereof and over the cover in place on the top of the jar, sealing the cover to the jar air-tight by the impact of the spring of the stirrup on the top of the cover, and by means of the usual rubber packing-ring or other suitable device in the joint or point of contact of the cover with the top of the jar; second, to regulate the pressure of the cover to the jar by the additional use, when necessary to overcome great pressure from the fermentation of beer, yeast, or other article confined within, of a wedge operated between the stirrup and bottom of the jar. I accomplish these objects by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a vertical section of the jar and its cover. Fig. 2 is also a vertical section taken at an angle of ninety degrees to Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the wire spring-stirrup. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the bottom of the jar.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the jar, made of suitable form and material. B represents the cover, and C the wire spring-stirrup. In the bottom of the jar there is a groove, D, for the reception of the wire spring-stirrup. The top of the cover is either convex or beveled on one side, as shown in Fig. 2, to allow the top of the stirrup to be easily received thereon and forced from the edge of the cover up this incline to the highest point of the cover. A slight depression may be made in the apex of the cover to receive and safely retain the top of the stirrup after it has reached its highest point; or the bevel on the side of the cover may not be carried quite up to the center of the cover, leaving a flat apex on which the stirrup will rest. The stirrup may be made and its length determined as follows: A spring-

wire is taken and formed over the top and down the sides and over the bottom of a block of approximately the same size and form as the jar to be sealed, and cut off at the proper length to when united completely encircle the jar and cover. The ends are then firmly united together by soldering, welding, or other means. The top of the stirrup is then bent down on a curve from the side of one upright to the other upright or side portion thereof until it assumes the shape shown in Fig. 3, producing a permanent spring, C', of the top of the stirrup.

To make up for any slight inequalities in the size of the jar, or to increase the pressure of the stirrup upon the cover, there is formed in the bottom of the jar one or more grooves, E, at an angle of ninety degrees to the groove D, which receives the stirrup, and within the groove E a wedge, F, is inserted between the jar and the stirrup, and the latter may, by the means of the wedge, be submitted to any desired degree of tension without interfering with the stability of the jar. There is a hole, f, made in the wedge to receive a string, by means of which the wedge may be attached to the stirrup.

In sealing preserving cans or jars, after having placed the packing g between the jar and its cover, the stirrup is made to engage in the bottom groove, D, and its top portion is forced up the incline or bevel of the cover, the downward curve of the stirrup at that point forming a spring, which by its resistance holds the cover tightly to the top of the jar, and, compressing the packing-ring, seals the jar air-tight.

I am aware of patented jars in which spring-balls attached to ears or recesses in the sides of the jar are used, and also that rigid stirrups passing around the whole jar and attached to yokes operated by wedges or thumb-screws are used. My invention overcomes the practical objections in each of these inventions, and is an improvement thereon. My invention differs from and is an improvement of the class represented by Patent No. 241,095. In that class of inventions, while a long stirrup is used passing under the bottom of the jar, it is not a spring-stirrup, and therefore not self-acting in taking up the contraction in the package consequent on cooling, and cannot accommodate itself thereto. The sealing is positive by means

of the thumb-screw. Fruits are preserved by being put into the jar and the jar and contents raised to a high temperature before sealing. The result is that after contraction has taken place the jars must all be again manipulated and the pressure tightened by thumb-screw or wedge, as the case may be, while my invention of the spring-stirrup is self-acting to overcome the results of these changes of temperature.

10 I am also aware that the covers of jars have been fastened by means of a wire or a cord, which is made to pass under the bottom of the jar and over the top of a narrow beveled ridge forming a part of the cover, and that with
15 other jars and in place of this ridge a tightening-key has been used in the form of a flat strip of wood capable of being passed flatwise between the wire band and the cover and then be turned upon its edge to tighten said wire;
20 but these fastenings differ from mine in the form of the upper part of the stirrup and in the absence of the continuous spring-pressure obtained therefrom.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of a jar having in the bottom thereof a groove, D, to receive a wire stirrup, and a groove, E, at right angles to the first groove, with a wedge, F, and a spring-wire stirrup formed with a downward bend, C', and adapted to surround the jar and its cover, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of a jar and its cover with a spring-wire stirrup passing under the bottom of the jar and over the cover, and formed with its upper section, C', bent or curved downward to produce a spring to bear on the jar-cover, substantially as and for the purpose described.

JAMES GILBERDS.

Witnesses:

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