

(No Model.)

M. ALSTON.

COVER HOLDER FOR JARS, MILK CANS, &c.

No. 300,935.

Patented June 24, 1884.

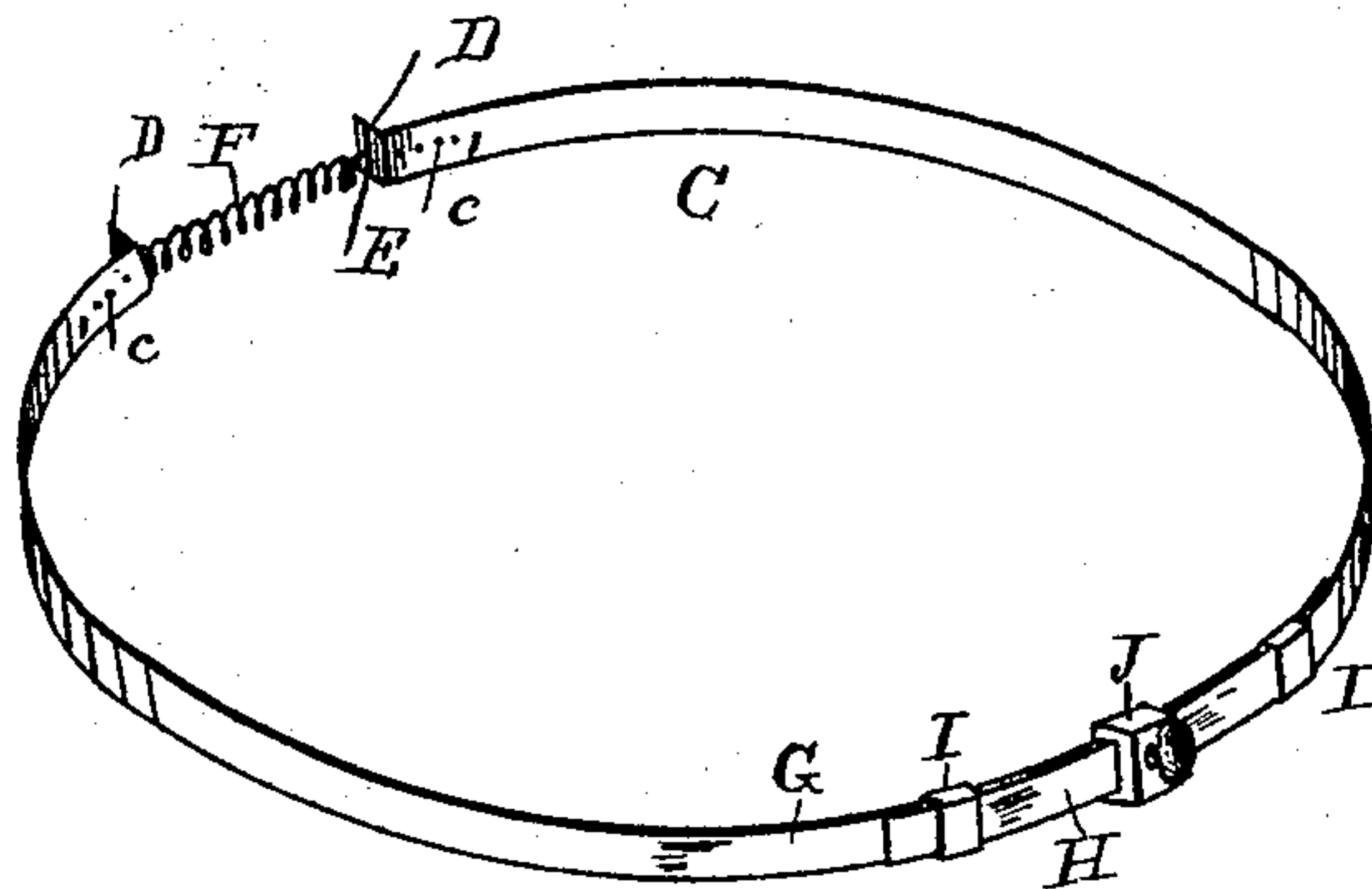


Fig. 1.

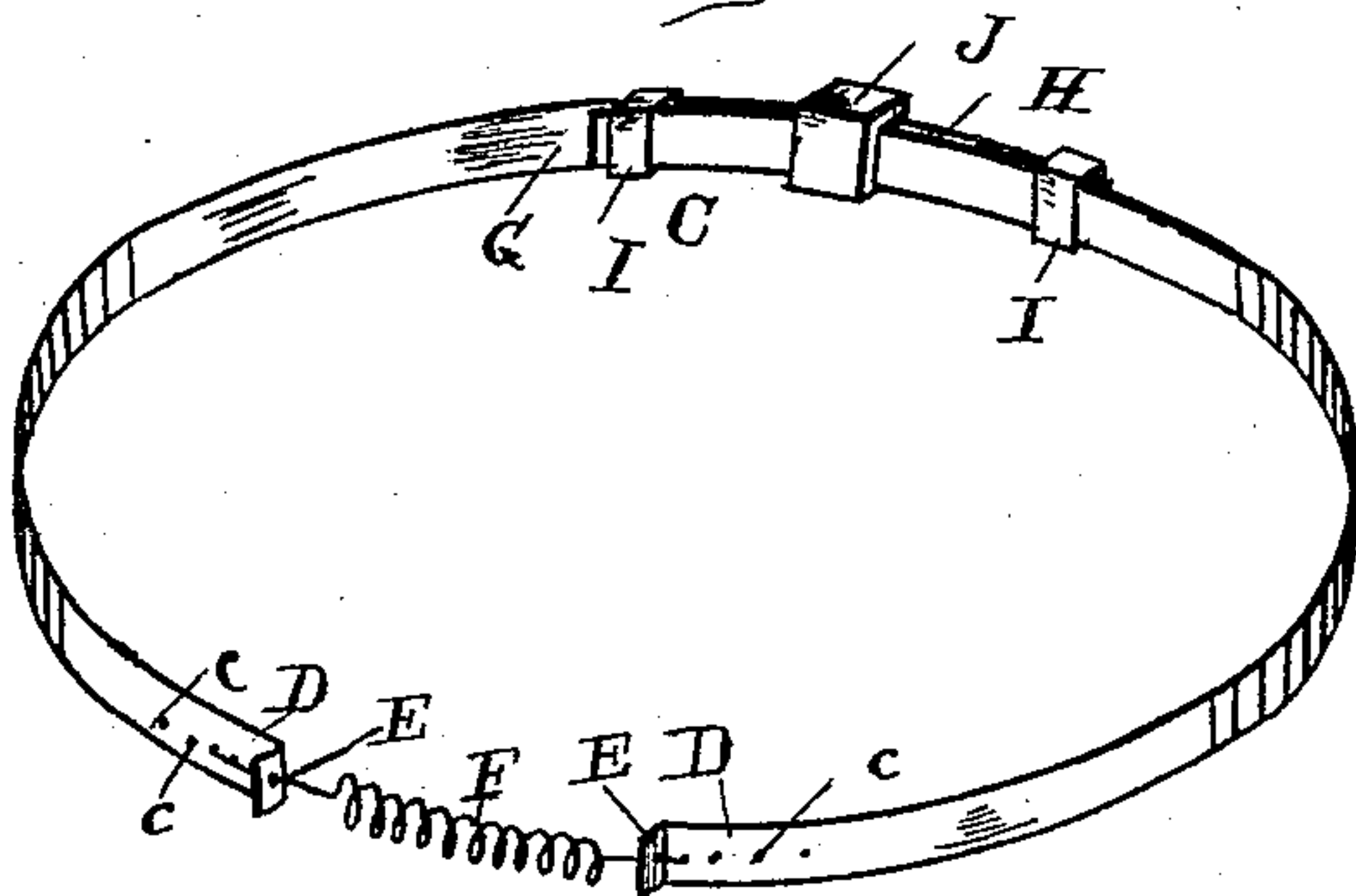
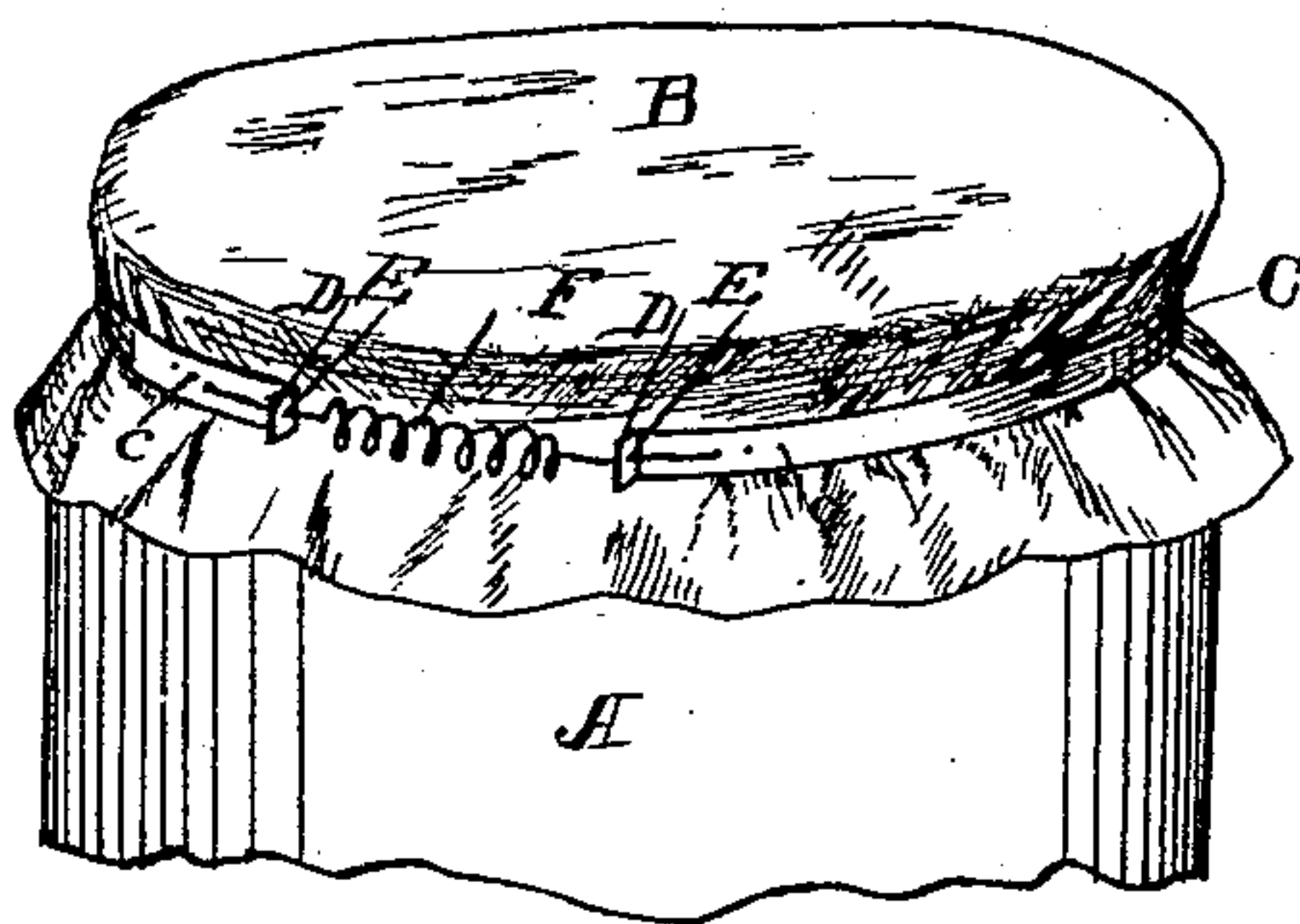


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATHEW ALSTON, OF ADRIAN, ILLINOIS.

## COVER-HOLDER FOR JARS, MILK-CANS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,935, dated June 24, 1884.

Application filed December 6, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MATHEW ALSTON, of Adrian, in the county of Hancock and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cover-Holders for Jars, Milk-Cans, and other Vessels, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved cover-holder itself, looking at the spring from the inside of the hoop. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same, looking at the spring from the outside. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the holder attached to a jar.

The object of the present invention is to provide a cheap, simple, and efficient cover-holder for jars, cans, and other vessels having a cover to which such a holder is applicable; and it consists in a band or hoop formed in two parts, one end of each part of the hoop being turned outwardly and provided with openings to receive the ends of a spiral spring or coil, so that the hoop will be expansible, and the other end of each part of the hoop overlapping and sliding through keepers and spring secured by means of a set-screw. The hoop thus formed will be expansible, and can be placed over the top of a jar to hold the covering, all of which will now be set forth in detail.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the jar, and B the covering for the top of the jar, which is composed of cloth or suitable material.

C represents the ring or hoop, preferably made of metal and formed in two parts or sections. The ends D of each section are bent outwardly at right angles, as shown, and each provided with an opening, E, and one or more openings, *e*, are also formed through the body of the hoop near the ends. For the purpose of uniting these opposite ends and rendering the hoop expansible, I provide a coil-spring, F, the opposite ends of which are threaded through the outwardly-bent ends E of the hoops C, and through the openings *e* in the hoops near said ends, where they are securely fastened.

It is obvious that the tension of the hoop

can be increased or diminished by lengthening or shortening the spring F, which can be readily done by moving the ends of the spring back or forth in the holes *e*, as may be needed to accomplish the result. To further increase or decrease the size of the hoop where it is desired to use for large or small jars, I arrange the opposite ends G and H so that they overlap each other. Keepers I are provided at the end of each of these. Midway between these keepers I provide a sleeve, J, having a set-screw, K, to hold the ends in position.

To apply the device, I first place over the jar-top the pliable piece B, after which the hoop C is made somewhat smaller than the top of the jar by means of the set-screw K. The hoop is then placed around the neck of the jar, as shown in Fig. 3, so that said hoop holds the piece B tightly to and around the jar. By this arrangement the same holder is applicable to and may be used on jars or cans of various sizes for milk and other substances. It is simple, not liable to get out of order, and can be cheaply made.

What I claim as new is—

1. A cover-holder for jars, composed of the hoop C, the ends D of which are bent and perforated at E and at *e*, combined with a coiled spring, F, which is passed through said openings, and secured at pleasure in either opening *e*, whereby the tension of the hoop can be increased or diminished, as described.

2. The combination, in a cover-holder, of one hoop, C, made in two pieces, the ends of each having the angles D, and provided with openings E and *e*, and the coiled spring F, uniting the said ends, the other ends of said pieces overlapping each other and having keepers I, with set-screw K, all as set out and explained.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, this 23d day of October, 1883, in the presence of witnesses.

MATHEW ALSTON.

Witnesses:

ELIJAH HAINES,  
R. HAYDTEN.