(No Model.)

P. A. COLLER.

SKIMMING DEVICE FOR CREAMING CANS.

No. 323,297. Patented July 28, 1885.

FIG. 1.

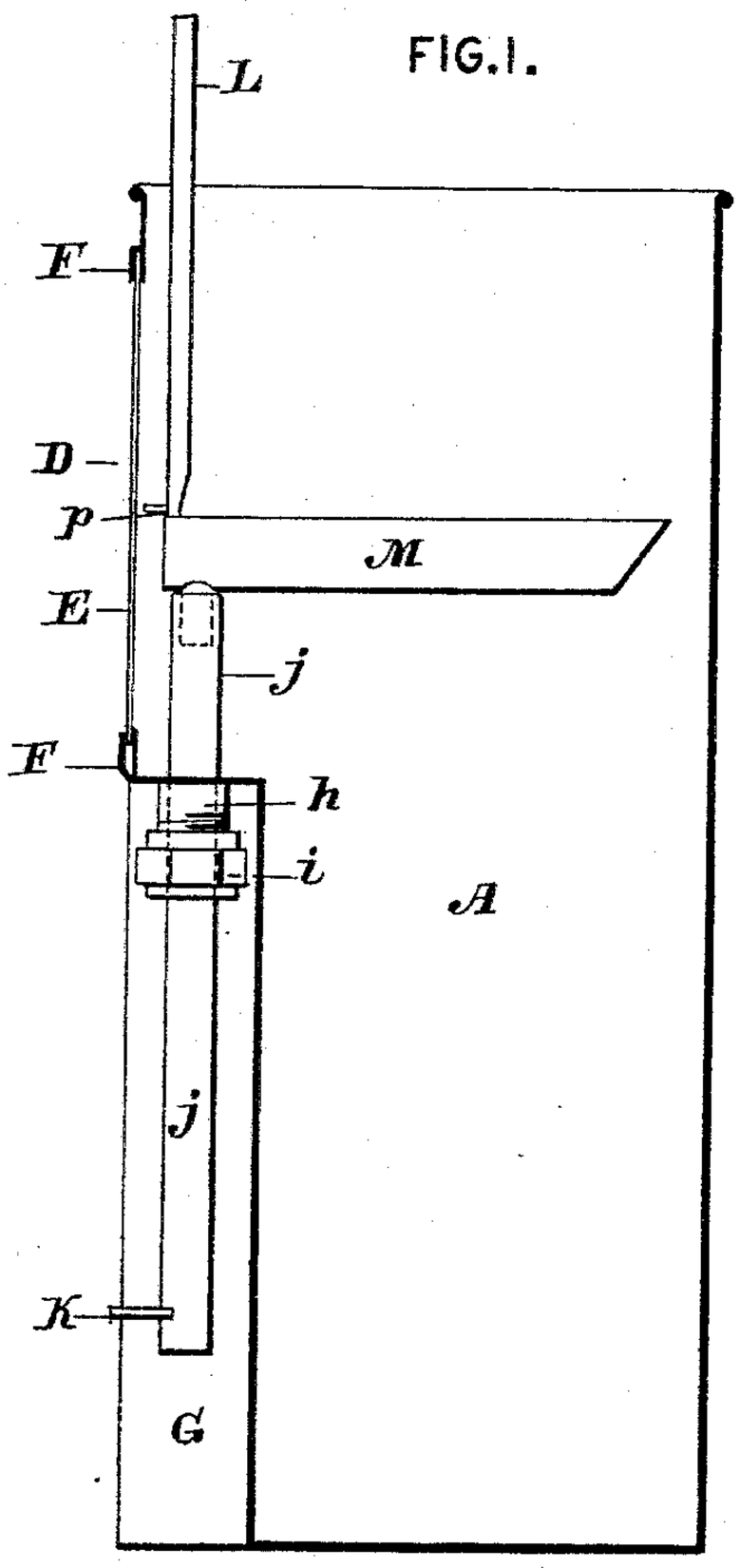


FIG. 2.

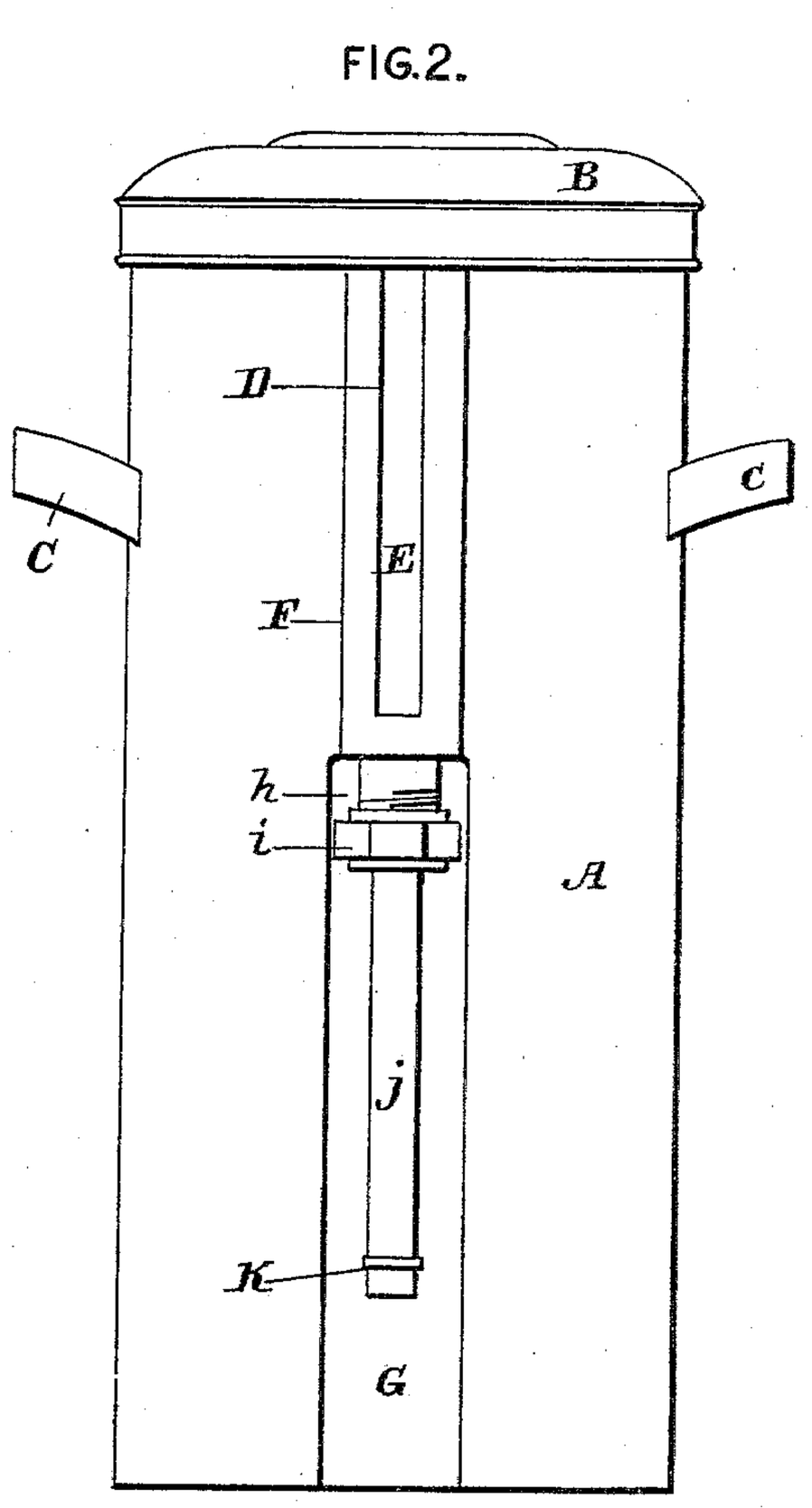


FIG. 3.

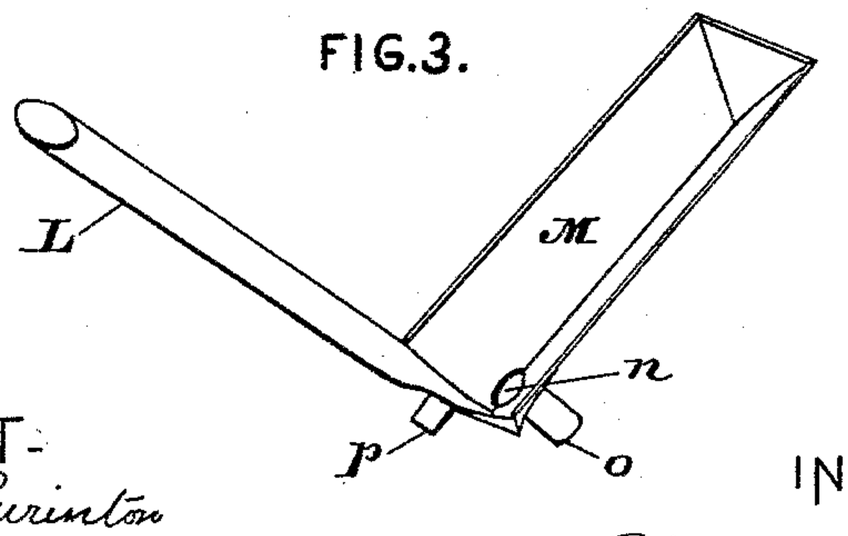
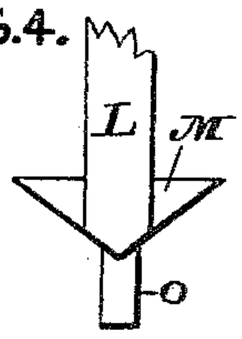


FIG. 4.



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SKIMMING DEVICE FOR CREAMING-CANS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 323,297, dated July 28, 1885.

Application filed January 28, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIP A. COLLER, residing in New Gloucester, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skimming Devices for Creaming-Cans; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain novel and useful improvements in creamery apparatus, by the use of which the cream can be skimmed or drawn from the surface of milk contained within a can; and it consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of mechanical parts to be hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 is a sectional view of a can with my skimming apparatus in place. Fig. 2 is an elevation of a milk-can. Figs. 3 and 4 are details of the skimming device.

In the several figures of the drawings the same reference-letters indicate corresponding parts.

In the annexed drawings, A represents a tubular or cylindrical milk-can, having a cover, B, and handles C C at the sides. A narrow longitudinal slot, D, is cut in the circumference of the can. Said slot begins at or near the top of the can and extends downwardly nearly half the depth of the can. This slot is covered in or closed by a narrow glass panel, E, held in place by a suitable protecting-rim, F, which fits closely and nicely about the panel of glass, and forms a liquid-tight joint.

In the lower half of the can, and in the continued line of the slot D, is a narrow semicircular groove or channel, G. At the top of the channel G, and secured to the can proper, is seen a short tube, *h*, screw-threaded on its periphery to receive a packing-nut, *i*. A long pipe, *j*, extends through the bore of the pipe or tube *h*. The connection between the tube *h* and pipe *j* is rendered liquid-tight by means of suitable packing and the packing-nut *i*. The pipe *j*, although packed liquid-tight, is capable of being freely moved longitudinally through the tube *h*.

K, at the lower end of the pipe *j*, is an offset, which acts as a convenient handle to be grasped by the fingers when it is necessary to change the position of the pipe.

When in its proper position, that part of the pipe *j* which extends outside the can A is intended to be inclosed in the groove or channel G, where it is thoroughly protected from all danger of being struck, bent, or thrown out of position.

In detail Figs. 3 and 4 is shown what I have denominated a "skimming-spoon." This device has a long handle, L, rising from the end of a V-shaped trough, M. The trough M is closed at both ends, the outer closed end being a beveled surface, the other end circular. At the end to which the handle is attached the apex of the V-trough M is pierced by an opening, *n*, about which, on the under side, is soldered a short tube, *o*. *p* is an index or pointer.

The operation is as follows: The can being filled with milk which has stood a sufficient length of time to permit an accumulation of cream, which fact can be ascertained by an inspection of the surface of the milk through the glass panel E, the operation of skimming takes place. The cover B is removed. The operator takes the skimming-spoon by the handle L, inserts the tube *o* into the bore of the pipe *j*, which projects above the surface of the contained milk. Then by exerting direct downward pressure the pipe *j* is pushed longitudinally down through the tube *h*. When the film of cream is reached, and the trough to its top is immersed in the liquid, the pressure is relaxed and the cream flows in over the edges of the trough M, through the opening *n* and tube *o*, into the pipe *j*, and thence into a proper receiving-vessel placed under the end of the pipe to catch the stream of skimmed cream. The skimmer is sunk into the liquid till the index or pointer *p* touches the lowest point of the cream-line shown on the glass panel E. The skimmer is then vibrated horizontally from side to side to gather all floating particles of cream. It

is then withdrawn and the operator takes it to the next can, where the above-described operation is repeated.

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

1. A skimming-spoon for a creaming device, consisting of a V-shaped trough provided with a handle, a pointer on the handle, and an outlet-tube, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the can A, the vertically-movable pipe *j*, the packing-nut *i*, the removable skimming-trough M, its outlet-tube, and handle, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses:

PHILIP A. COLLER.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. MOTLEY,

HERBERT G. BRIGGS.