

(No Model.)

S. E. VINCENT.  
BARREL COVER HOLDER.

No. 326,177.

Patented Sept. 15, 1885.

Fig. 1.

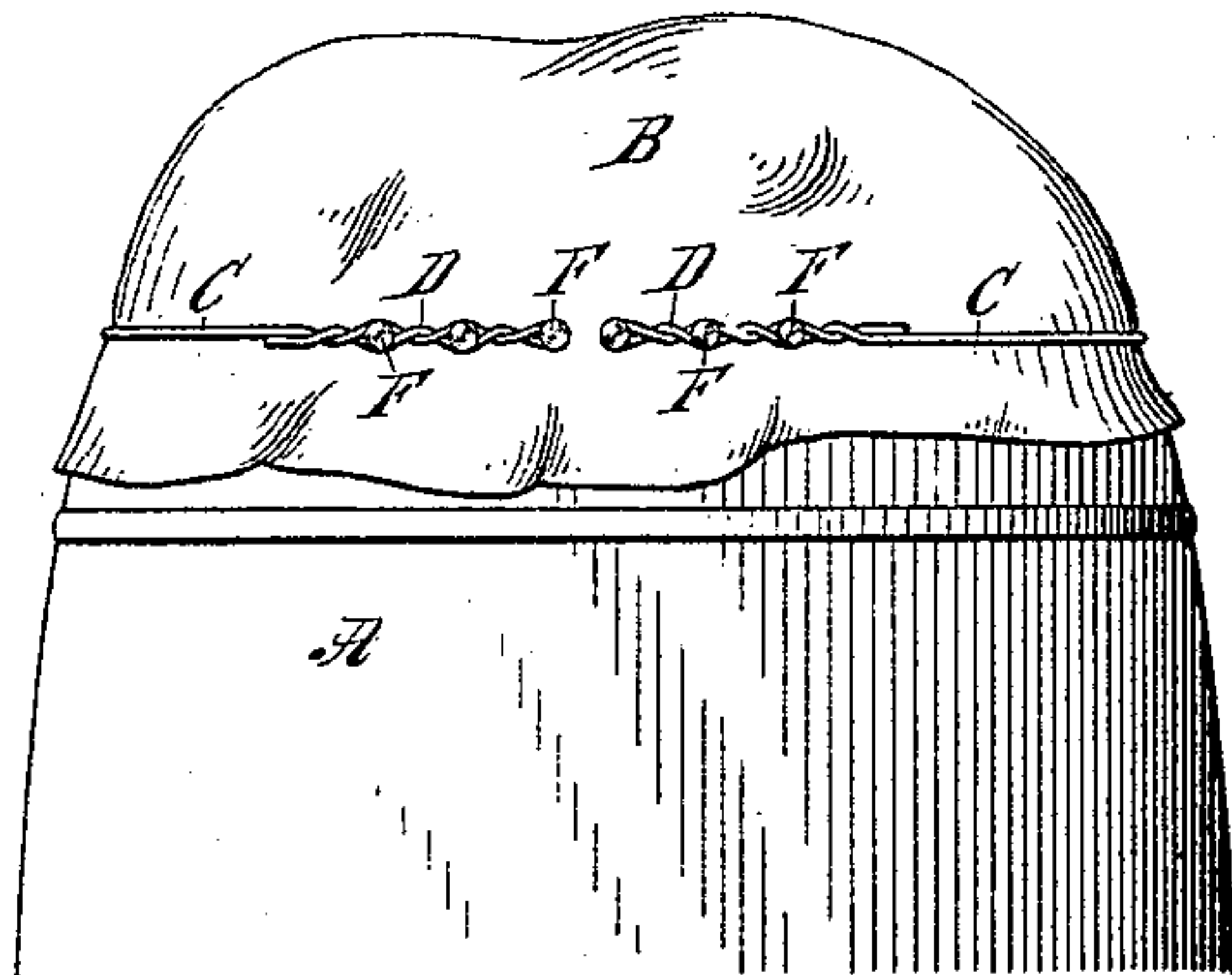


Fig. 5.

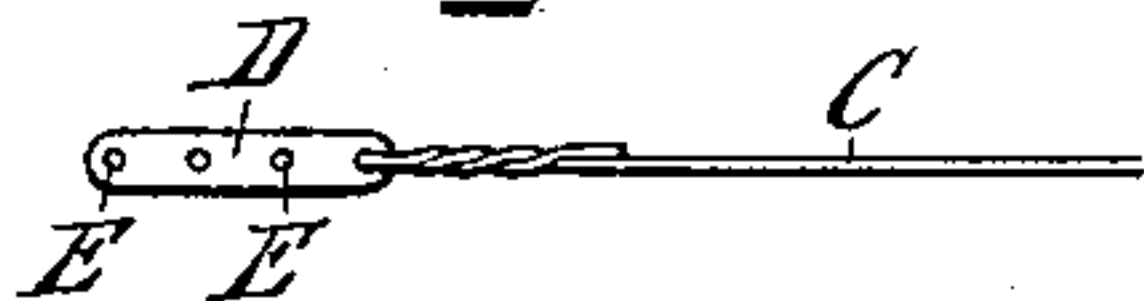


Fig. 3.



Fig. 2.

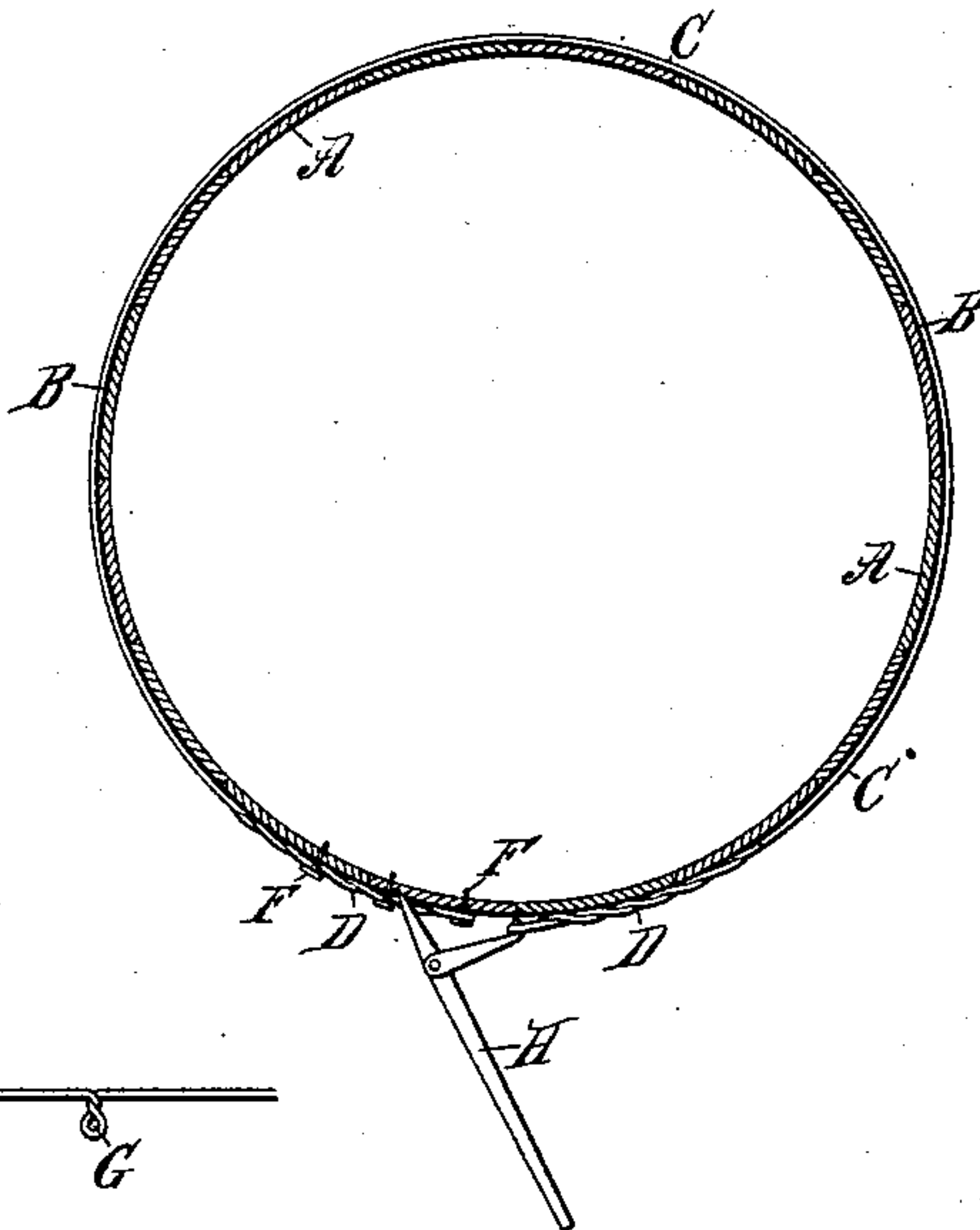
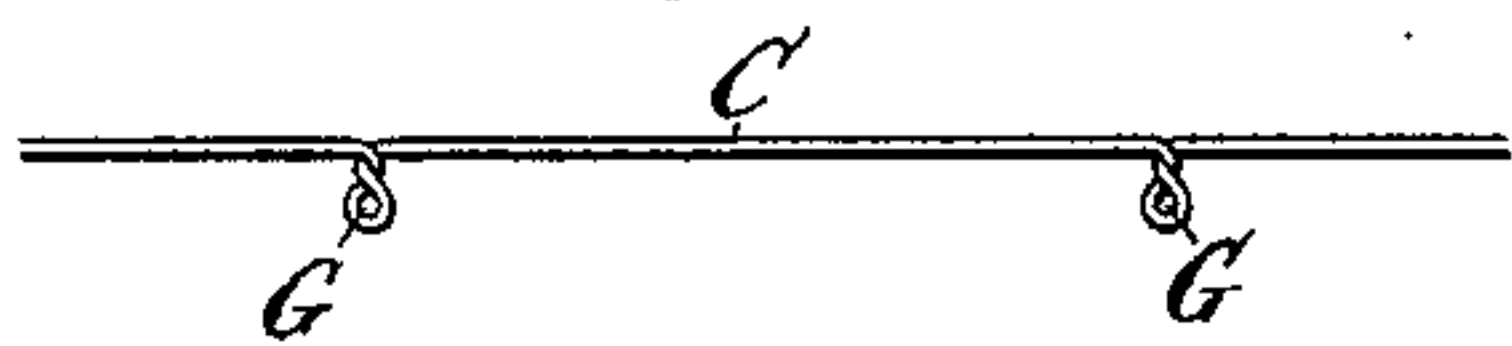


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BARREL-COVER HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 326,177, dated September 15, 1885.

Application filed July 6, 1885. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SAMUEL E. VINCENT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barrel-Cover Holders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple, strong, and inexpensive device for securing canvas and other covers upon barrels, and especially to provide a device that may be used a great number of times, and that may be readily loosened to permit lifting of the cover for inspection of the contents and then tightened up again without injury to the barrel, the cover, or the holder.

It is of course well understood that flour, sugar, and other barrels are used in large numbers for the transportation of fruit, vegetables, oysters, &c. If the barrels are headed up, considerable room is lost; and, furthermore, more often than not, the upper heads are broken or lost before the barrels pass into the hands of the second users, thus rendering a new head or else a cover indispensable. In the shipment of fruit, vegetables, oysters, &c., the usual practice is to fill the barrels as full as possible—that is, to round over the tops, and then place covers over them made of canvas, burlap, or similar material. These covers are ordinarily held in place by nails or tacks, or else by driving off one or more of the hoops, placing them on again outside of the cover, and then securing with nails, the latter plan being the one usually adopted. The objections to the methods of fastening the covers now in use are, first, the trouble and loss of time; second, the injury to the cover and hoops; and, third, the fact that owing to the loss of time in unfastening and refastening the cover when it is desired to examine the contents of the barrel the only practical way of doing so has been to cut a hole in the cover, which of course ruins it for further use until it is sewed up.

In order to obviate the above objections, and to produce a cover-holder which will not

injure the barrel but will aid in strengthening the same should the hoops have become lost, I have devised the novel construction which I will now describe, referring by letters to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a portion of a barrel, showing my novel cover-holder in use; Fig. 2, a cross-section of a barrel, illustrating the manner of its attachment; Fig. 3, a detail view of one end of the holder, showing the manner in which the head and eyes are formed; Fig. 4, a detail view of a portion of the holder between the heads, showing eyes for nails, which may or may not be used, to prevent the holder from working up, and Fig. 5 a detail view illustrating a modified form of head.

A indicates a barrel; B, a cover of canvas, burlap, or other suitable material.

My improved holder consists of a band, C, preferably made of wire, and provided at each end with a head, D, having eyes E. The heads of the band are preferably made integral therewith, and are formed by bending the wire backward upon itself, and then twisting it, the eyes being formed at the same time between the strands of wire, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. If preferred, however, the heads may be made of separate pieces of metal, the eyes formed therein by punching; or the heads with the eyes therein may be cast or struck up complete, as indicated in Fig. 5.

The operation of attachment is as follows: The cover having been placed over the barrel one end of the holder is secured to the barrel or hoops by nails F, as shown. The holder is then settled in position around the cover, tightened up in any suitable manner, and the other end nailed also, three nails at each end being ordinarily quite sufficient.

In use I preferably place the holder either just below one of the hoops or between two hoops, in order to prevent the band from slipping up. In order to do away with any possibility of the holder slipping out of place, however, I preferably form one or more eyes, G, in the band between the heads, through which nails may be passed, thus retaining the holder in place, even if there are no hoops upon the barrel.

When it is desired to inspect the contents



of the barrel, one end only of the holder requires to be loosened, which leaves the cover free to be lifted.

If desired, the cover may be replaced, and the loose end of the holder secured again with hardly a moment's delay.

I have found in practice that these holders can be used an almost unlimited number of times.

H represents a device, similar in construction to an ordinary "cant-hook," which I frequently use to tighten the holders about barrels. It consists simply of a lever having a hook loosely pivoted thereto. The hook engages the loose end of the holder, which it tightens on the principle of a lever of the second class. Any other suitable tightening device may be used, if preferred. In fact, when the barrels are firm and strong, I frequently tighten the holders by hand.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A band for holding barrel-covers, &c., consisting of a single strand of wire having its ends doubled back upon itself and twisted, 25 the doubled portion being provided at suitable intervals with eyes for nails.

2. A band for holding barrel-covers, &c., consisting of a single strand of wire having its ends doubled back upon itself and twisted, 30 the doubled portion being provided at suitable intervals with eyes E for nails, and the band itself provided with one or more eyes, G, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 35 in presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL E. VINCENT.

Witnesses:

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