

(Model.)

B. F. COUCH.

FASTENER FOR SAP BUCKET COVERS.

No. 332,788.

Patented Dec. 22, 1885.

Fig. 1

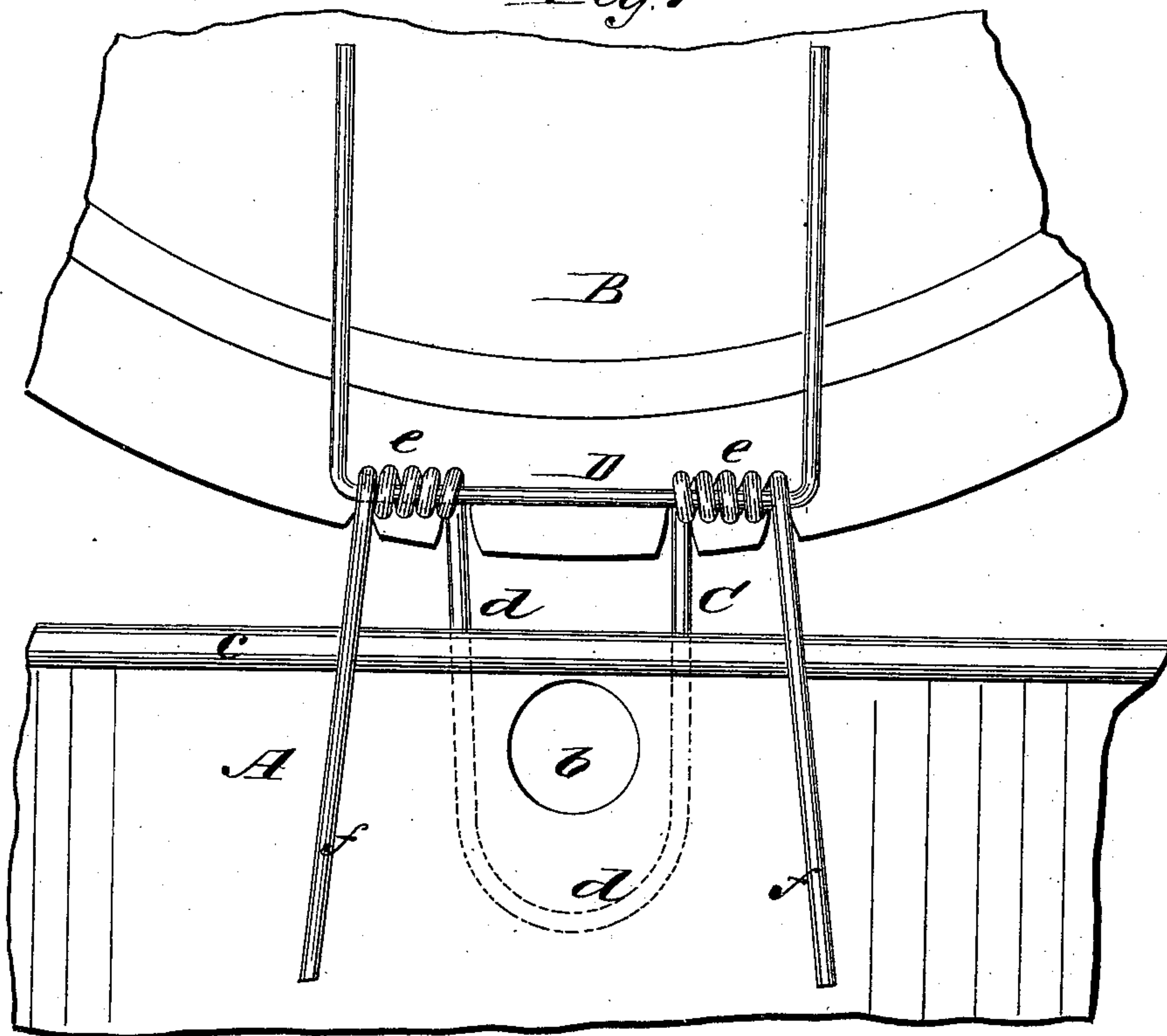
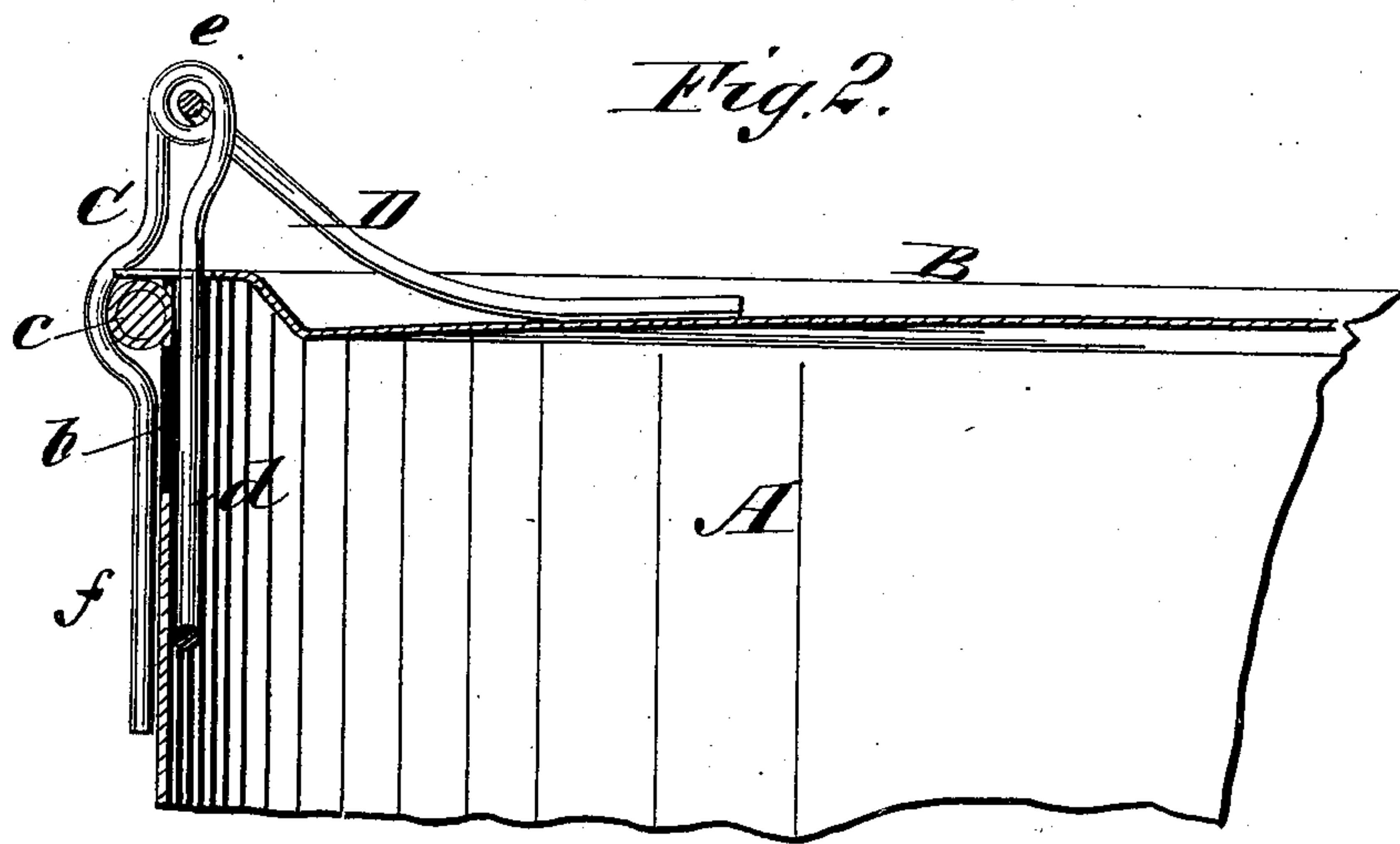


Fig. 2



WITNESSES:

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FASTENER FOR SAP-BUCKET COVERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 332,788, dated December 22, 1885.

Application filed February 24, 1885. Serial No. 156,922. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BURT F. COUCH, of Garrettsville, in the county of Portage and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Fastener for Sap-Bucket Covers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention, although applicable to other buckets or vessels, is more especially designed to be used on sap-buckets, and it will here be described more particularly with reference to such use.

The invention consists in a detachable fastener of novel construction for the cover of the bucket or vessel, substantially as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of the upper portion of a sap-bucket in part, with the cover in part secured to the bucket by my improved fastener, the cover being shown as raised; and Fig. 2 is a vertical section showing the cover closed.

A is the bucket, which may either be made of wood or metal, but is here supposed to be made of metal, as usual, with the customary hole, *b*, in its side near its top, immediately under its wired edge *c* for the spout, which is driven into the tapped tree, and on which the bucket hangs to pass through. B is the cover, which may be made of tin or other metal or material, and either be flat or shaped so as to prevent rain and snow from gathering and freezing on it. The fastener is composed of two main pieces—that is to say, a clasp-piece, C, and a loop-piece, D—both of which may be made of spring-wire or other material, suitably coated or not, and which combined constitute a detachable hinge constructed to rise or project above the edge of the bucket. The clasp portion C of this hinge-fastening is constructed to form a central downwardly-extending bow, *d*, which is slipped down the inside of the bucket and passes beneath the spout-aperture *b* in the bucket, and is further constructed at the upper end of the bowed part with coiled lateral extensions *ee*, consisting of any number of coils each, and terminating in

outside arms or legs, *ff*, that pass down the outside of the bucket. The clasp-piece C, thus constructed and applied, is pressed down to its place over the rim of the bucket, and firmly clasps the rim and remains, excepting when it is required to detach it, in a fixed position by its spring-grip on the bucket. The movable or working piece D of the hinge is in the form of a loop soldered or otherwise secured to the cover B, and freely passing, at its outer end, where it is bent upwardly as a hinge-pin, through the coiled eyes *ee*.

The whole hinge-fastening device is not restricted to any one side of the bucket, but applied to a sap-bucket, it should be arranged on the side next to the tree, but may be arranged on the side opposite the one from which the sap is poured, at the option of the user.

Other sap-buckets have had their covers so fitted as either they must be removed entirely to empty the bucket, or else the cover be unfastened before the bucket could be emptied; but by my improved hinge-fastening the tipping of the bucket and pressure of the sap on the cover of the bucket cause the cover to swing away from the bucket, out of the way of the stream of sap, which of course can be poured with equal facility from either side of the bucket. When the bucket is emptied and returned to an upright position, the cover, by its own weight, drops into its closing position on the bucket. If it is desired to turn the bucket upside down, to drain, the cover hangs below the bucket next to the tree, wholly out of the way, and when the bucket is reversed again the cover resumes its closing position. The wind cannot disturb the cover when fitted with this hinge-fastening, which, moreover, is neat, substantial, and durable, and very easily applied, also as readily detached when it is required to remove the cover from the bucket.

The joint of the hinge-fastening being elevated above the top of the bucket, it causes the drop-cover to wholly rise from the bucket, so that the stream of sap will not be choked or be caused to spatter.

Such removable hinge-fastening may be applied to covers and buckets or vessels of different kinds.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The within - described detachable hinge for sap and other buckets or vessels, the same consisting of a stationary clasp, C, having a central bowed portion, *d*, and coiled outer side extensions, *e e*, terminating in arms or legs *f*, and the loop or bail D, with its cross-bar passed freely through the coiled extensions *e*, and forming the hinge - pin, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
- 10 2. The combination, with the bucket A and its cover B, of the loop-piece D, secured to the cover and bent upward at its outer end, and the bucket - clasp C, having inner and outer downward clamping portions, *d f*, and outer upper opposite lateral extensions, *e*, arranged 15 to project above the edge of the bucket, and serving to receive the loop-piece D as a hinge-pin freely through them, substantially as specified.

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Witnesses:

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