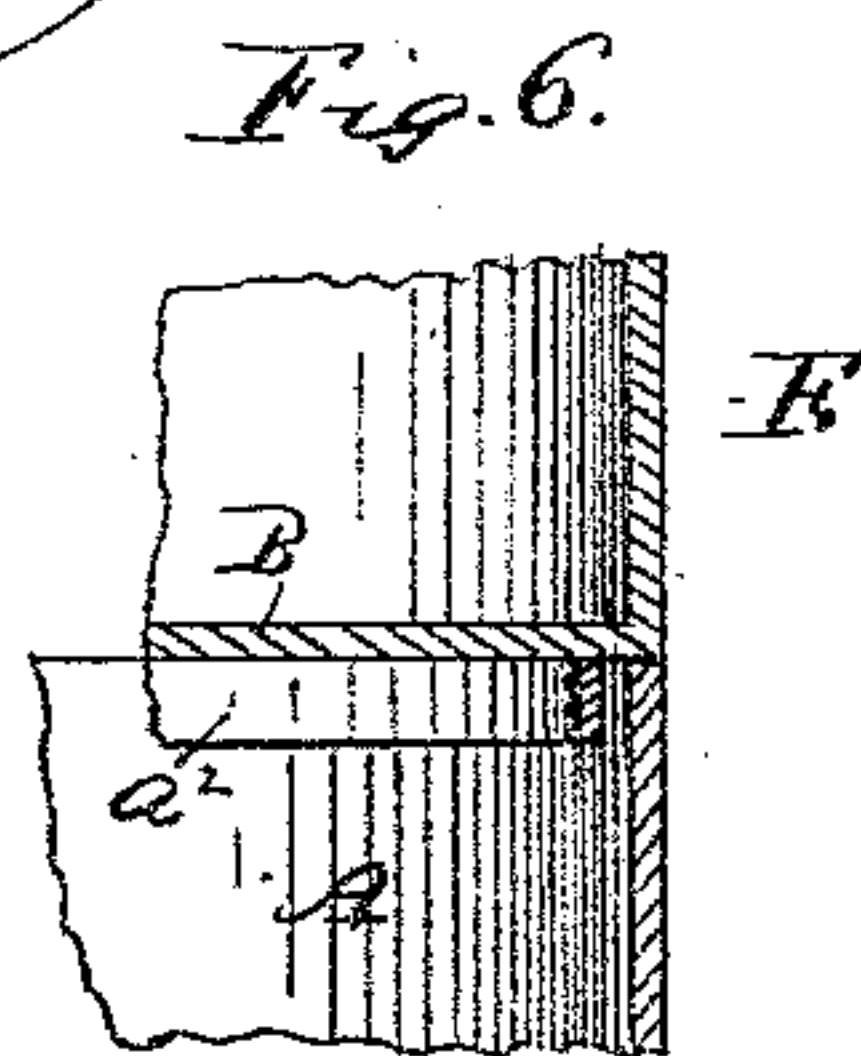


Patented Feb. 1, 1887.



C. A. Snowdon

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN ROBINSON, OF COAL VALLEY, WEST VIRGINIA.

DINNER-PAIL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 356,852, dated February 1, 1887.

Application filed September 29, 1886. Serial No. 214,853. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ROBINSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coal Valley, in the county of Fayette and State of West Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Dinner-Pails, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in dinner-pails for workmen; and it consists in the peculiar construction and combination of devices that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a dinner-pail embodying my improvements, showing the parts in closed position. Fig. 2 is a similar view, the upper sections being thrown open. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is partly a top plan view and partly a horizontal section on the line $x x$ of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of a modification. Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional view to show the flange on the bottom of the sections.

A represents the lower section of the dinner-pail, which is cylindrical in shape, and is provided on its upper side with a removable cover, B. Near the lower end of the section A is a faucet, C, through which the contents of the section may be drawn.

D represents a heating-tube, which extends vertically through the lower section, A, and has its lower end extending outwardly from one side of the said section, near the bottom thereof, and the upper portion of the tube projects above the lower section, A, for a considerable distance. Above the lower section are located two semi-cylindrical sections, E and F, which are united together at one side by a pivotal rod, G. The lower portion of the said rod is rigidly secured to one side of the lower section, A, so that the sections E and F are free to be swung toward or from each other over the lower section, A, but will not become accidentally detached therefrom. The said sections E and F are provided on their inner sides with semicircular recesses H, which are adapted to receive the upper portion of the heating-pipe D when the said sections are closed together against the said pipe and over the lower section, A. Each semi-cylindrical section is divided into compartments, in a

manner to be hereinafter described, and on the upper side of the section E is secured a box, I, adapted to hold matches or similar articles.

Directly opposite the pivotal rod G is a vertical rod, K, which extends from the upper side of the lower section, A, and in the upper ends of the said rod K and the pivotal rod G are made eyes, which are adapted to receive the lower ends of the bent-wire bail L, having the wooden handle M. The free sides of the hinged sections E and F are provided with a clasp, N, by means of which they may be secured together when they are closed over the top of the lower section.

The tea or coffee is placed in the lower section, A, and the food is placed in the compartments of the hinged sections E and F. In order to warm the tea or coffee and the food it is only necessary to light a small lamp, O, of the construction here shown, and provided with a spout, P, and insert the spout of the lamp in the lower end of the tube D. This causes the heat and products of combustion to pass upwardly through the tube, and as the latter passes through the lower section, A, and between the hinged sections, it will be readily understood that the articles contained in the compartments of the pail will be very soon heated.

Each semi-cylindrical section E and F is divided into a series of horizontal compartments, $e f$, by means of horizontal shelves or partitions $e' f'$. The inner sides of the said sections are formed by hinged doors $e^2 f^2$, having the semicircular recesses H, previously described. By throwing these sides or doors open after the sections are swung outwardly access may be readily obtained to the compartments in the said sections.

Each of the sections E F is provided on the lower side with a semicircular flange, a^2 , which conforms to the outline of the sections and is set some distance in from the outer edge thereof. The hinges of the sections have limited vertical play on the rod G. When the sections E F are closed, the flange a^2 fits inside the part A, while the lower edge of the sections rests on the top of the part A. When it is desired to obtain access to the compartments of the sections, the latter are moved vertically on the

rod G until the flange a^2 clears the top of part A, and then the sections may be swung outwardly. These flanges a^2 thus prevent the sections from swinging outwardly until said sections are raised to cause the flanges to clear the part or section A.

In lieu of having the pipe D arranged as shown in Fig. 3, I may extend it vertically through the sections, and provide a lamp at the lower end of the pipe below section A, as shown in Fig. 5.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a dinner-pail, the combination of the lower section, A, and the sections E and F, hinged together above the section A and adapted to close over the same, and the heating-tube D, extending through the lower section, A, and between the hinged sections E and F, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in a dinner-pail, of the lower section, A, the sections E and F, hinged together on the upper side of the section A and adapted to close over the same, the rod G, projecting from one side of the lower section, A, and on which the sections E and F are hinged, the rod K, opposite the rod G, and the

bail connected to the said rods, substantially as described.

3. In a dinner-pail, the combination of the lower section, A, the hinged sections E and F, above the section A and adapted to close over the same, the heating-tube extending above the section A, and the doors $e^2 f^2$ for the inner sides of the hinged sections, and having the recesses H to receive the heating-tube when the hinged sections are closed, substantially as described.

4. In a dinner-pail, the combination of the lower section, A, with the hinged sections E and F above the same, and separate doors $e^2 f^2$ on the inner sides of the hinged sections.

5. In a dinner-pail, the combination of the lower section, A, with the upper sections, E and F, having the flanges a^2 on their lower sides, to catch on the inner side of section A, as set forth.

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

JOHN ROBINSON.

Witnesses:

S. S. ROWAN,
CHARLES RIGG.