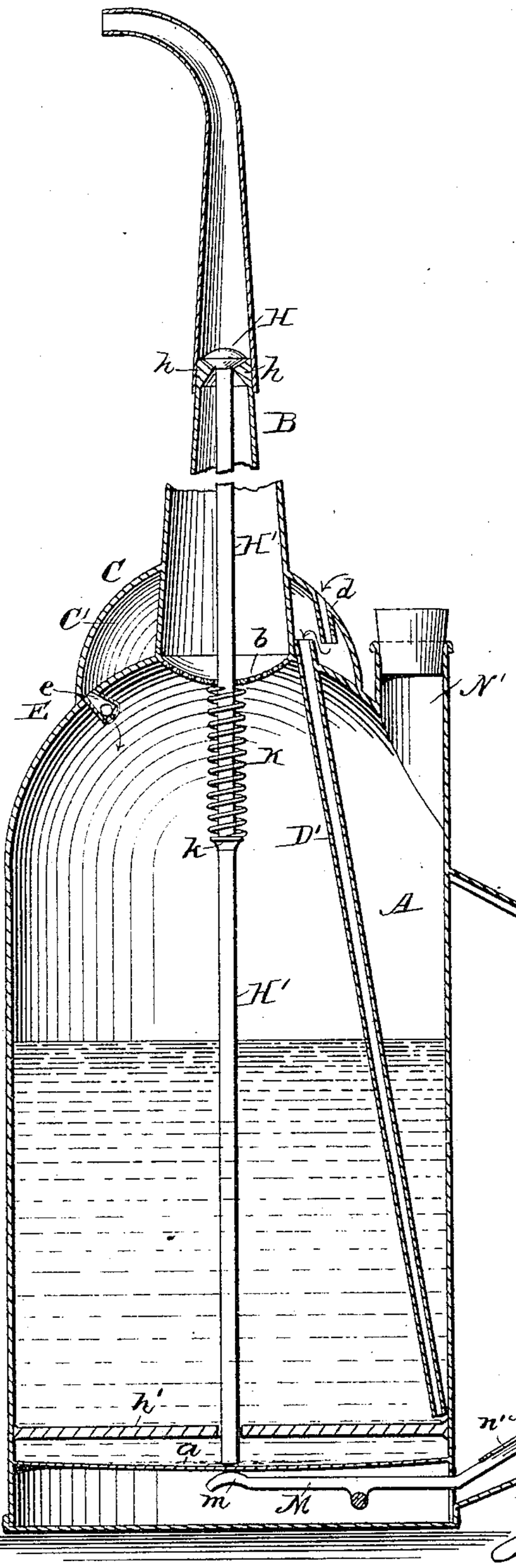
(No Model.)

J. H. SUTPHEN.

OIL CAN.

No. 379,738. Patented Mar. 20, 1888.



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JOHN H. SUTPHEN, OF HURON, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

OIL-CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 379,738, dated March 20, 1888.

Application filed August 9, 1887. Serial No. 246,517. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. SUTPHEN, of Huron, in the county of Beadle and Territory of Dakota, have invented a new and Improved Oil-Can, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in oil-cans, and has for its object to provide a can wherein thick or thin oil may be used in either cold or hot weather, and wherein the said can will have a perfect vent when in use and also when standing in a perpendicular position, and wherein, also, the flow of oil will be under perfect control of the operator, and, further, wherein the construction will be simple and durable.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, in which the figure of the drawing represents a central vertical section through the can.

In carrying out the invention a can, A, of any desired shape, having a conical top, is provided with a false spring-bottom, *a*, a distance above the bottom proper, and at the intersection of the spout B with the body, upon the inner side, a strainer or filter, *b*, is attached, preferably made of wire-cloth, concavo-convex in shape, adapted to cap the inner end of said spout. The upper portion of the can, around the base of the spout, is provided with a semi-spherical attached casing, C, soldered or otherwise secured to the outer surface of the spout and upper outer portion of the body, whereby a chamber, C′, is produced. In the casing C, a distance from the spout and upon the side of the can to which the handle D is attached, a vent-tube, *d*, is inserted, adapted to admit air to said chamber C′, and in the top of the can, from a point immediately alongside of the spout, upon the handle side, and within the chamber C′, a vent-tube, D′, is projected downward, at an inclination outward, within the can to a point near the spring-bottom *a*, which vent D′ is larger at the top than bottom to admit an unobstructed supply of air. Thus the air entering the vent-tube *d* and passing into the chamber C′ also passes into the body of the can, as indicated by arrows.

In the top of the can, within the chamber C′, at the side opposite to that wherein the vent-tubes are located, a valve, E, is provided, consisting of an aperture, *e*, in the body, near the intersection of the casing, below which aperture within the body a cage is suspended containing a ball adapted, when the body is inclined in use, to close the aforesaid aperture *a*, and when the can is perpendicularly situated to uncover the said aperture and admit air in the can.

Within the upper portion of the spout B a valve, H, is seated upon an annular projection, *h*, and having attached to its under face a rod, H′, which rod is projected downward through the strainer *b* into the body, terminating in substantial contact with the spring-bottom *a*, and being guided and held in a vertical position by a spider, *h′*, or similar device.

Below the filter *b* the valve-rod is provided with a peripheral shoulder, *k*, against which one end of a spring, K, coiled around the rod is made to bear, the other end having a bearing against the said filter, whereby the valve H is normally held downward to its seat.

As a means of actuating the valve-rod, a lever, M, is fulcrumed in the space intervening the spring-bottom and bottom proper. This lever is provided with an inner curved end, *m*, adapted to engage the spring-bottom beneath the valve-rod. The outer end of the lever M is projected through the side of the can within the handle D to a pivotal connection with a bar, N, passing up through the said handle, and provided above the same with a thumb-plate, *n*.

In operation, the handle being grasped with the hand and the body of the can inclined, the amount of oil to be delivered from the nozzle is regulated by pressure upon the thumb-plate, which causes the lever M to spring the false bottom inward and raise the valve-rod against the spring K, whereby the valve H is opened. Any oil escaping through the vent-tube D′ will be received in the chamber C′, and when the can is restored to its vertical position the valve E will open and allow the oil in the chamber C′ to return into the can.

It will be observed that the oil delivered from the can is under the complete control of the operator, and that the oil delivered is cleansed of grit and other impurities through the medium of the filter, and also that the can is supplied with air when not in use.

The can may be filled through a suitable mouth, N′, adapted to be hermetically sealed.

A finger-plate, *n′*, may be placed upon the lever M, between the body of the can and the handle, to facilitate the manipulation of the valve-rod H′ when the button *n* cannot conveniently be used.

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

1. The combination, with an oil-can provided with a false spring-bottom and a handle attached at one side, of a valve located in the spout, a spring-actuated rod attached to said valve having a bearing upon the spring-bottom, a lever fulcrumed beneath the said spring-bottom adapted to engage the same, and a connecting-rod pivotally attached to the said lever sliding in the said handle and provided with a thumb-plate at the upper end, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with an oil-can provided with a false spring-bottom, a spout having a filter at the base, and a vent-tube projecting from the top of the can within the same at an inclination outward, said vent-tube being larger at the top than at the bottom, of a valve located in said spout, a spring-actuated rod attached to said valve having a bearing upon the spring-bottom, and means for flexing the said spring-bottom from the handle, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

3. The combination, with an oil-can provided with a false spring-bottom, a spout having a filter at the base, a vent-tube larger at the top than at the bottom projecting from the top of the can within the same, a hemispherical casing attached to the upper surface of the can and surrounding the spout provided with a short vent-tube, and a ball-valve located in the can within said casing and opposite the vent-tube, of a valve located in the spout, a spring-actuated rod attached to said valve having a bearing upon the spring-bottom, and means for flexing said spring-bottom and raising the valve-rod from the handle, substantially as set forth.

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