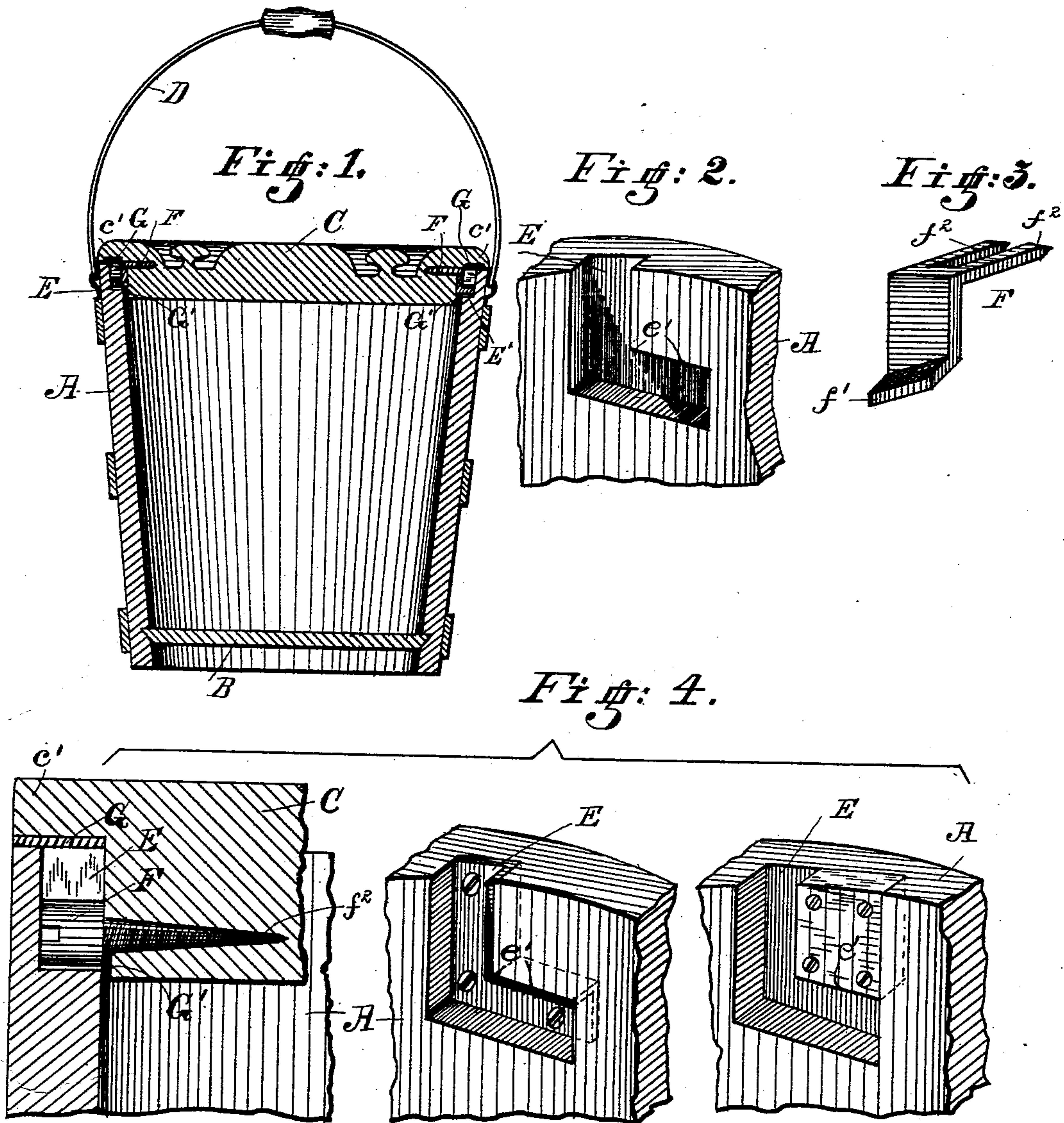


(No Model.)

J. C. REED.
CLOSURE FOR BUCKETS.

No. 396,601.

Patented Jan. 22, 1889.



Witnesses:
W. C. Whitney.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. REED, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
DAVID W. COFFIN, OF SAME PLACE.

CLOSURE FOR BUCKETS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 396,601, dated January 22, 1889.

Application filed May 2, 1888. Serial No. 272,586. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. REED, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Closures for Buckets; 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.

This invention relates to improvements in buckets, the object of the invention being to provide a bucket which shall be simple, cheap, and durable, and in which the cover may be quickly secured in place and the bucket rendered practically air-tight.

In buckets of usual construction used in shipping goods—such as tobacco, fish, groceries, and other analogous substances—great difficulty has been experienced in securing the cover to the bucket, so as to exclude the entrance of air, which exclusion of air could only be accomplished in a very unsatisfactory degree, and in consequence a great percentage of the provisions shipped in such buckets have been spoiled or rendered unsalable by being impaired through exposure to admitted air. Therefore a bucket which shall be practically air and water tight is greatly desired.

My invention consists in the special construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts of the bucket, substantially as hereinafter described, and set forth in the claims.

Figure 1 represents in central vertical section a wooden bucket constructed in accordance with my invention and embodying my improvements; Fig. 2, a detail of the body of the bucket, showing the L-shaped groove therein; Fig. 3, a perspective view of the locking-plate, and Fig. 4 a sectional detail showing a modified form of locking device.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the bucket, B the bottom, C the cover, and D the bail or handle, all of which may be of any usual form.

Formed upon the inner side of the body of the bucket, at its upper edge, are two L-shaped locking-grooves, E E', which grooves are cut into the body at opposite sides. The upper portion of the L-shaped grooves is par-

allel to the axis of the bucket, and extends from the upper edge a short distance, whence it diverges at an angle downward a short distance, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. Thus the lower portion of the L-shaped grooves, while approximately at right angles to the upper portion, is slightly inclined to form an inclined surface, e', against which the locking-plate F upon the cover of the bucket contacts to force the cover down tightly in place, as hereinafter explained. The L-shaped grooves are formed in opposite inner faces of the bucket-body, with their lower inclined portions turned in opposite directions.

The cover C will preferably be peripherally flanged, as shown at c' in the drawings, and will have secured to two opposite sides, just below the flange, a locking-plate, F, or fastening. This plate will be let into the cover so as to come flush with the peripheral face, and will have an outwardly-projecting flange, f', at its lower edge, which flange is inclined in the direction of the width, to correspond to the incline of the lower portion of the L-shaped slot in the body of the bucket, as shown in Fig. 3. This plate, which will preferably be of cast metal, will have formed thereon a barb or prong, f², which will be driven into the cover of the bucket to secure the plate in place. The widths of the plates F will be a fraction less than the widths of the L-slots in the body A, so that the plates may be readily entered in the slots until the flanges f' come a little below the inclined faces e', formed by the lower end of the L-shaped slots, when the cover may be turned, as on a pivot, bringing the flanges f' tightly in contact with the inclined faces e', and bringing the cover with its flange tightly down upon the upper edge of the bucket-body.

Interposed between the flange c' of the cover C and the upper edge of the body of the bucket is a flexible gasket or packing, G, which will preferably be secured to the under side of the flange c' of the cover, and extend entirely around the same, thus insuring an air-tight joint between the cover and body when the cover is secured in place ready for shipment.

In practice a flexible gasket, G', will also be interposed between the periphery of the

cover C and the inner face of the body to create an air-tight fit at this point. This gasket or flexible packing may be constructed from any suitable material—such as rubber, 5 leather, glue, or like flexible compounds or materials—it being preferable to have a packing which is impervious to moisture and insoluble.

10 Instead of making the fastening F in the shape of a plate with an inclined flange, f'' , it could be made cylindrical with a sharpened point to be driven into the wood cover, and instead of cutting an L-shaped groove in the body A, as shown in Fig. 2, a plate might be 15 set into and secured to the body, having an inclined face or groove, which would materially add to the strength.

By my construction of bucket it will be noticed that the upper face is unobstructed 20 by fastenings of any kind, which is very advantageous in shipping, and that an air-tight joint is formed between the cover and body, which precludes the possibility of atmospheric decomposition of the contents of the bucket; 25 and it also prevents the escape of the flavor or essence of the contents—as when candy, tobacco, fruits, or other flavored merchandise is contained therein—which is a great desideratum.

30 Another great advantage of my invention is that the locking devices are located and are operated upon the inner side of the bucket

and are not exposed to view, and persons unfamiliar with the arrangement would have some difficulty in gaining access thereto. 35

I claim—

1. In a bucket, the combination of the body A, having the inclined-faced grooves E E' formed therein at the opposite inner faces thereof, the lower or inclined portions of 40 which are turned in opposite directions to each other, the cover C, and the locking-plates F, having the prongs f^2 extended into the periphery of the cover and having each a projecting portion to engage the inclined face of 45 the grooves to hold the cover in close contact with the body, substantially as shown, and for the purpose described.

2. In combination, the body A, having the L-shaped grooves E E' formed in its inner 50 face, with the lower ends inclined downward, the cover C, and the Z-shaped locking-plates F, having the barbs or points f^2 extended into the periphery of the said cover, and having the lower outwardly-inclined projection, f'' , to 55 enter said inclined grooves in the body A, substantially as shown, and for the purpose described.

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

JOHN C. REED.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH A. MINTURN,
N. E. C. WHITNEY.