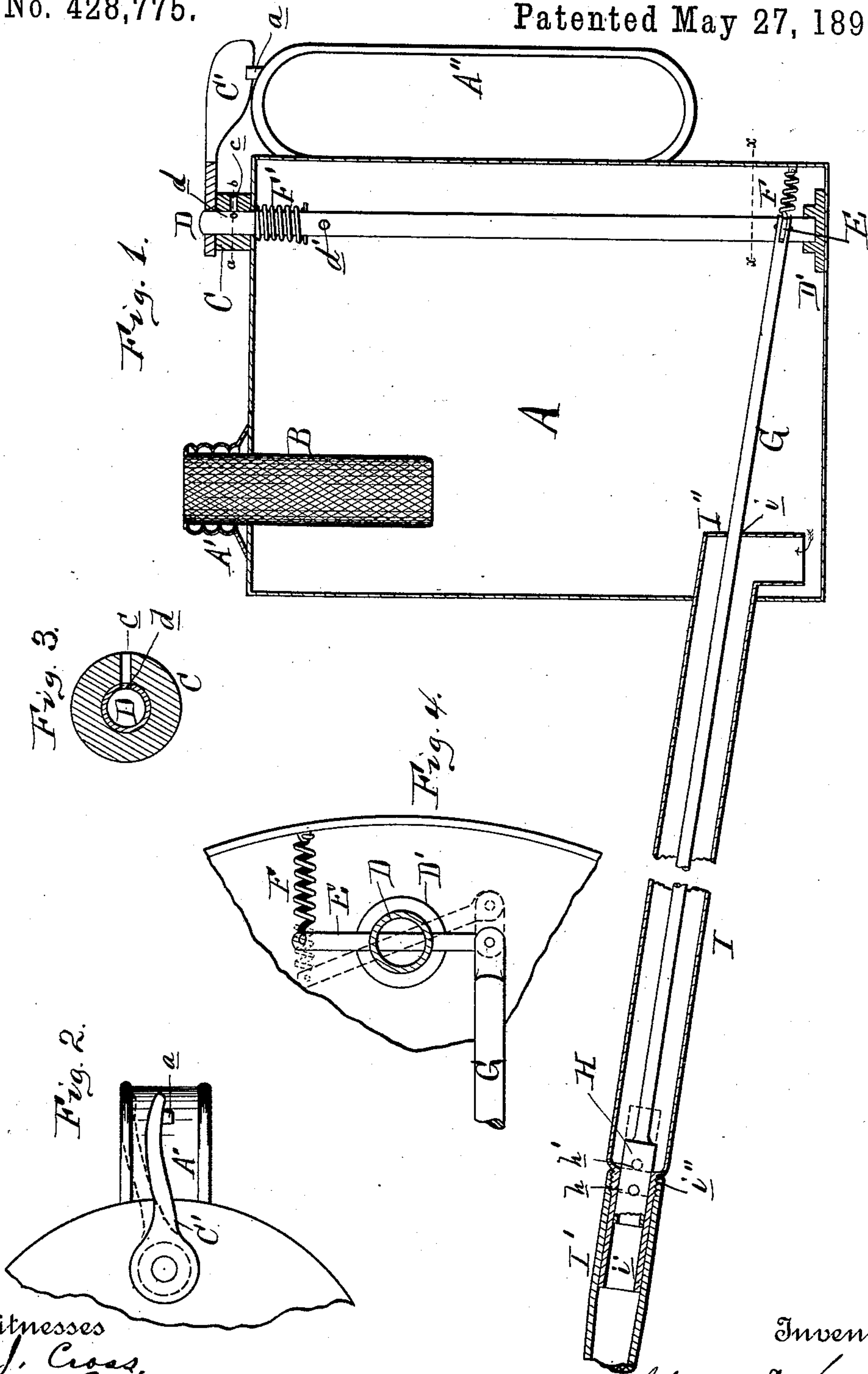


(No Model.)

C. E. HERMAN.  
OIL CAN.

No. 428,775.

Patented May 27, 1890.



Witnesses  
C. J. Cross.  
Jay Burns

Inventor  
Clifton E. Herman  
By His Attorney  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLIFTON EDGAR HERMAN, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

## OIL-CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 428,775, dated May 27, 1890.

Application filed March 26, 1890. Serial No. 345,362. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CLIFTON EDGAR HERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Oil-Cans, of which the following, with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in oil-cans used for lubricating machine journals and bearings.

The objects of the invention are improved means for opening and closing simultaneously the vent and spout, securing the flow of oil from the spout in small quantities, as required, and also providing the can with a suitable strainer.

The invention consists in the details of construction and combination of parts described and claimed herein.

Figure 1 is a central vertical section of a can embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a broken sectional plan view of a portion of the top of the can. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the boss and inclosed pipe on the line *a b* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged broken section of Fig. 1 on the line *x x*.

The body of the can *A* may be of any suitable form or material. Suspended from the boss *A'* is a removable strainer *B*. A suitable screw-cap will close the opening through said boss to the strainer, said cap being removed when it is desired to fill the can. The strainer may be made of fine wire-cloth or any other material which will be suitable for a strainer.

On the top of the can near the handle *A''*, I place a hollow boss or a sleeve *C*, having a lateral hole *c* on one side. A vertical pipe *D* rests in a suitable bearing *D'* on the inside bottom of the can and extends up through the boss *C*, to the top of which pipe I secure a lever *C'*. The top end of the vertical pipe *D* should be closed, and there should be a hole *d* into it from one side, so placed that it may be turned in line with the hole *c* of the boss *C*. Inside the can another hole *d'* should be made in the vertical pipe *D*. A coil-spring *F'* is placed at the upper end of the vertical pipe inside the can, which spring co-operates with the spring *F*, hereinafter described.

Near the bottom of the can I secure a cross-

bar *E* to the pipe *D*, either by passing the bar through the pipe or otherwise. A spring *F* is attached at one end to one end of the cross-bar *E*, and the other end is attached to the body of the can. To the opposite end of the cross-bar *E* is attached the valve-rod *G*, which runs up into the spout *I* and operates the spout-valve *H*. The spout *I* has an elbow *I''* at its inner end within the can, the elbow reaching nearly to the bottom of the can. Through the elbow *I''* is a hole *i*, through which passes the valve-rod *G*. I prefer to provide the spout with supplemental sections *I'*, so that a single can may be used with a long or a short spout. The nozzle *i'* of the spout has a lead before it reaches the screw-thread *i''*, so that in slipping the supplemental section *I'* over it the female thread of the section will always squarely meet the male thread of the nozzle.

The spout-valve *H* consists, simply, of a tube secured to the end of the valve-rod *G* and having its inner end closed. Two holes *h* and *h'* are made in one side of the valve. There may, however, be only one such hole, or more than two. The valve *H* should make a smooth snug fit in the outer end of the spout. I do not taper the valve, but make it of equal diameter through its whole length.

A lug *a*, to prevent the lever *C'* from being thrown too far around by the springs *F* and *F'*, is placed on top of the handle *A''*.

The operation of my improved can will be understood from the description and drawings. The can is filled by pouring the oil through the strainer *B*, which will remove foreign matter from the oil. When the strainer becomes dirty, it may be removed and cleaned. In applying oil to a machine part the nozzle is placed to the part to be oiled, the can being held in the usual way. The operator then presses the lever *C'* with his thumb, which turns the vertical pipe *D* and brings the hole *d* opposite the hole *c*. When so turned, a vent is provided, the air passing into the can through the holes *c* and *d*, into the pipe *D*, thence through the hole *d'*, and into the can. At the same time the cross-bar *E* is swung, which pulls back the valve-rod *G* and opens the valve *H*. The valve may be thrown back far enough to bring only the one hole *h* out of the nozzle



to allow the escape of oil, or it may be thrown back far enough to allow oil to escape through both holes *h* and *h'*. When the lever *C'* is released, the springs *F* and *F'* will turn the pipe *D* to its original position and close the nozzle-valve and the vent.

Modifications in details of construction and arrangement may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention—such, for instance, as dispensing with one of the springs or placing them in different positions, in which case the bar *E* would project from one side only of the vertical pipe—and changes may be made in the form of the valve and also of the removable strainer. I have, however, shown and described the preferred construction and arrangement.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination, with the body and spout of an oil-can, of a boss having a vent, a vertical pipe having holes adapted to make connection with said vent of the boss and allow air to pass into the can-body, a valve in the can-spout, a suitable intermediate connection between said valve and vertical pipe, a lever fixed to the top of the vertical pipe, and a spring adapted to turn the vertical pipe and

close said vent and valve, substantially as described.

2. In an oil-can, a vent and means for opening and closing the same, consisting of a hollow boss having a lateral hole, a vertical pipe closed at its upper end and having holes adapted to make connection with the lateral hole of the boss and allow a passage of air into the can-body, a lever fixed to the vertical pipe, and a spring which normally holds the valve and vent closed, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination, in an oil-can, of a valve consisting of a thimble closed at its inner end and having one or more holes in its face, a vertical pipe having a lever fixed at its top and an arm at its bottom, and a rod connecting said valve and the arm of the vertical pipe, substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 4th day of March, 1890.

CLIFTON EDGAR HERMAN.

Witnesses:

H. S. SPRAGUE,  
C. J. CROSS.