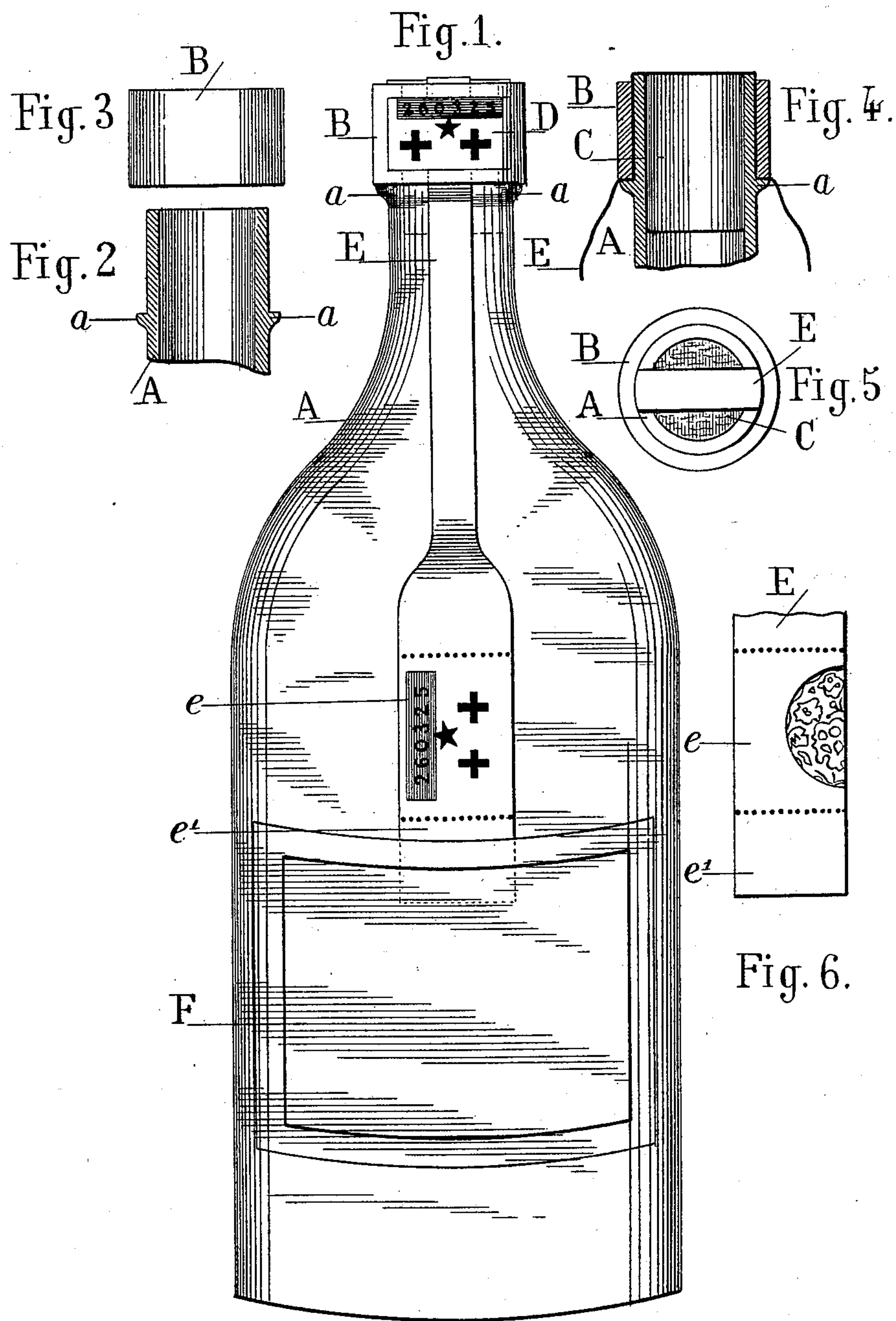


(No Model.)

A. & L. BRALY.
MEANS FOR PREVENTING FRAUDULENT REFILLING OF BOTTLES, &c.
No. 589,406. Patented Sept. 7, 1897.



Witnesses:
Thomas M. Smith.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDRÉ BRALY AND LOUIS BRALY, OF PARIS, FRANCE.

MEANS FOR PREVENTING FRAUDULENT REFILLING OF BOTTLES, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 589,406, dated September 7, 1897.

Application filed April 19, 1897. Serial No. 632,771. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANDRÉ BRALY and LOUIS BRALY, citizens of France, residing at Paris, France, have invented certain new and Improved Means for Preventing the Fraudulent Refilling of Bottles and other Containers and Verifying the Genuineness of their Contents; and we 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

We make use of ringless bottles having a flange or shoulder a few centimeters from the top of the neck, upon which rests a transparent ring of glass or other material provided with a label inside, upon which are appropriate signs the object of which will be hereinafter explained. A safety-band of paper or other material is inserted between the ring and the bottle, and one end of such band has a detachable portion which reaches down as far as the middle of the bottle and is placed under the label.

This invention is illustrated in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a bottle secured in accordance with our invention. Fig. 2 is an axial section of the neck of the bottle. Fig. 3 shows the ring. Fig. 4 is an axial section showing the several parts in their respective positions. Fig. 5 is a plan of the corked bottle. Fig. 6 shows the reverse side of the safety-band.

In the figures, A is the bottle.

a is the flange or shoulder upon which the ring B rests.

C is the cork.

D is a label gummed on the inside of the ring B. This label is provided with suitable signs and characters which are seen from the outside, the ring being transparent.

E is the safety-band. e is its detachable portion or label, which bears the same signs and characters as the label D.

F is the usual bottle-label.

It may be remarked that the detachable portion or label e of the band E is provided on the reverse side with suitable signs or characters

which are not the same as those upon its face, as is shown in Fig. 6 of the drawings.

In applying our invention we proceed in the following manner: The bottle A being filled with liquid is corked in such a manner that its cork C is flush with the top of the neck. The safety-band E is placed across the cork, as shown in Fig. 4. The ring B, which has previously been provided with its label, is then placed as above described. This ring is pushed down until it rests against the shoulder a and is kept fast to the bottle by means of a suitable cement. The band E is thus pinched between the ring and the bottle and covers the cork. The free end of the band, except the detachable portion e, is then pasted upon the bottle itself. The end e' of the band E is also pasted upon the bottle, and the label F is then put on in such a manner as to almost completely cover the portion e'.

It has already been stated that label D and the detachable portion or label e are provided with the same signs and characters, as shown in Fig. 1. Consequently the consumer in buying a bottle has an easy means of assuring himself that there has been no fraud and that the label D and the band E have been applied by the same person. Moreover, there is also a second means of verification at hand. It is only necessary to detach the label e, which, as has been stated, contains on its reverse side different signs and characters from those on the face side, and to send this label to the firm purporting to have placed them on the bottle. This firm of course preserves a duplicate of each band and can therefore easily verify the label sent to them.

Of course each band should bear a different number and stamp. Thus the labels D and e bear on their front side, as in Fig. 1, the number "260,325" and a star with two crosses, and the label e bears, for example, on its reverse side a portion of an impression of a stamp, the remainder of which is preserved by the firm of origin. These combinations may of course be varied indefinitely. As will readily be understood, this arrangement may be applied to all kinds of receivers. A bottle is shown as an example.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of our said invention

and in what manner the same is to be performed, we declare, without limiting ourselves to the details of execution, which may be varied, that what we claim is—

5 In a device of the character described, the combination of the container having a flange below its mouth or orifice, a transparent ring adapted to be supported on said flange, a stopper adapted to close the orifice or mouth
10 of the container, a safety-band passed over the upper face of the stopper and between the ring and the container, a distinctive label arranged on the inner periphery of the ring and between the ring and safety-strip, a duplicate

detachable label carried by the strip and af- 15
fixed to the container below the ring, said duplicate label having on its reverse side certain concealed identification marks or symbols, substantially as and for the purposes described. 20

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

ANDRÉ BRALY.
LOUIS BRALY.

Witnesses:

G. DE MESTRAL,
EDWARD P. MACLEAN.