No. 609,239. Patented Aug. 16, 1898.

# A. B. McNAIRY.

## CAN OR LIKE CLOSURE.

(Application filed Sept. 27, 1897.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

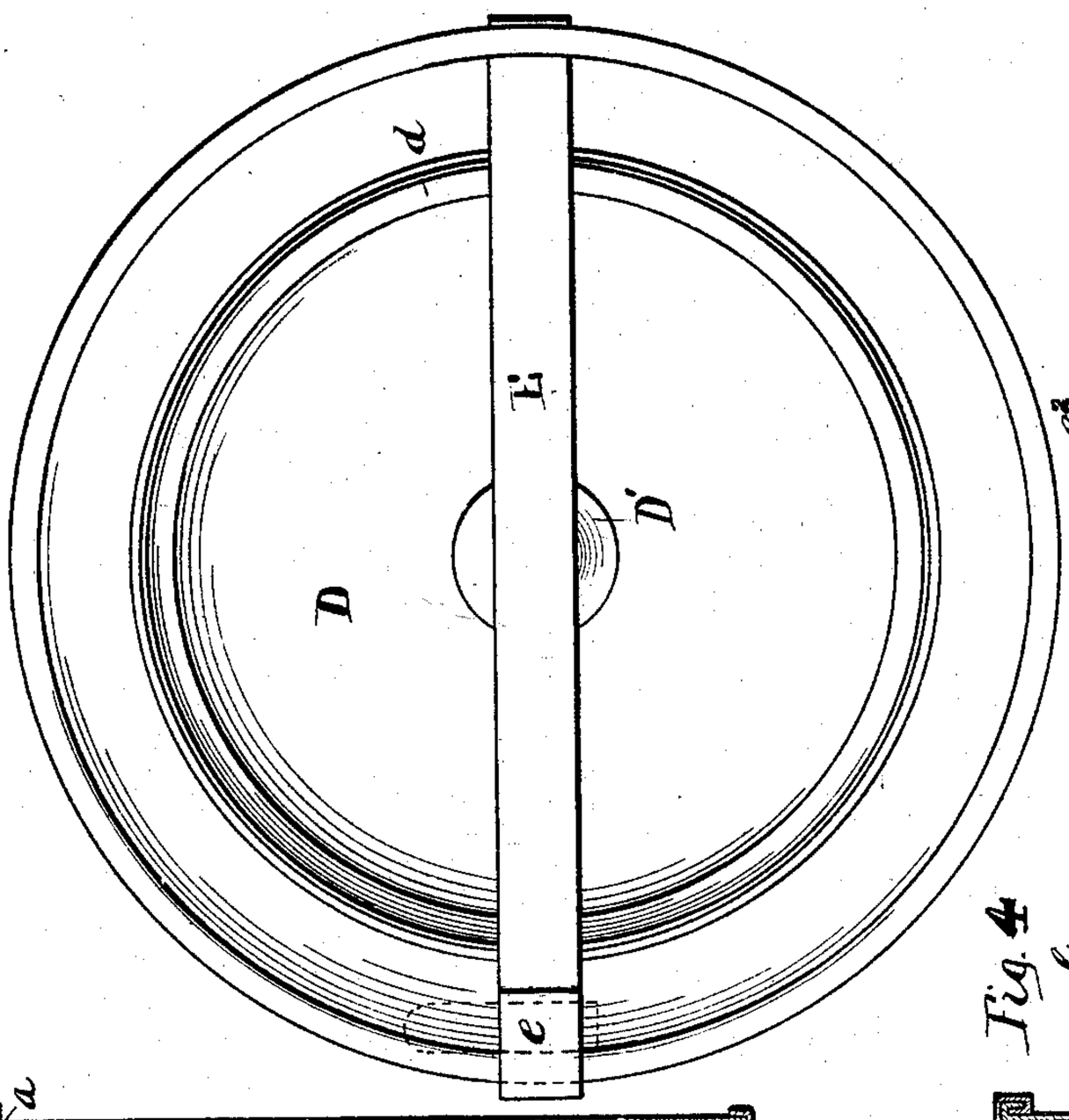



Fig. 2

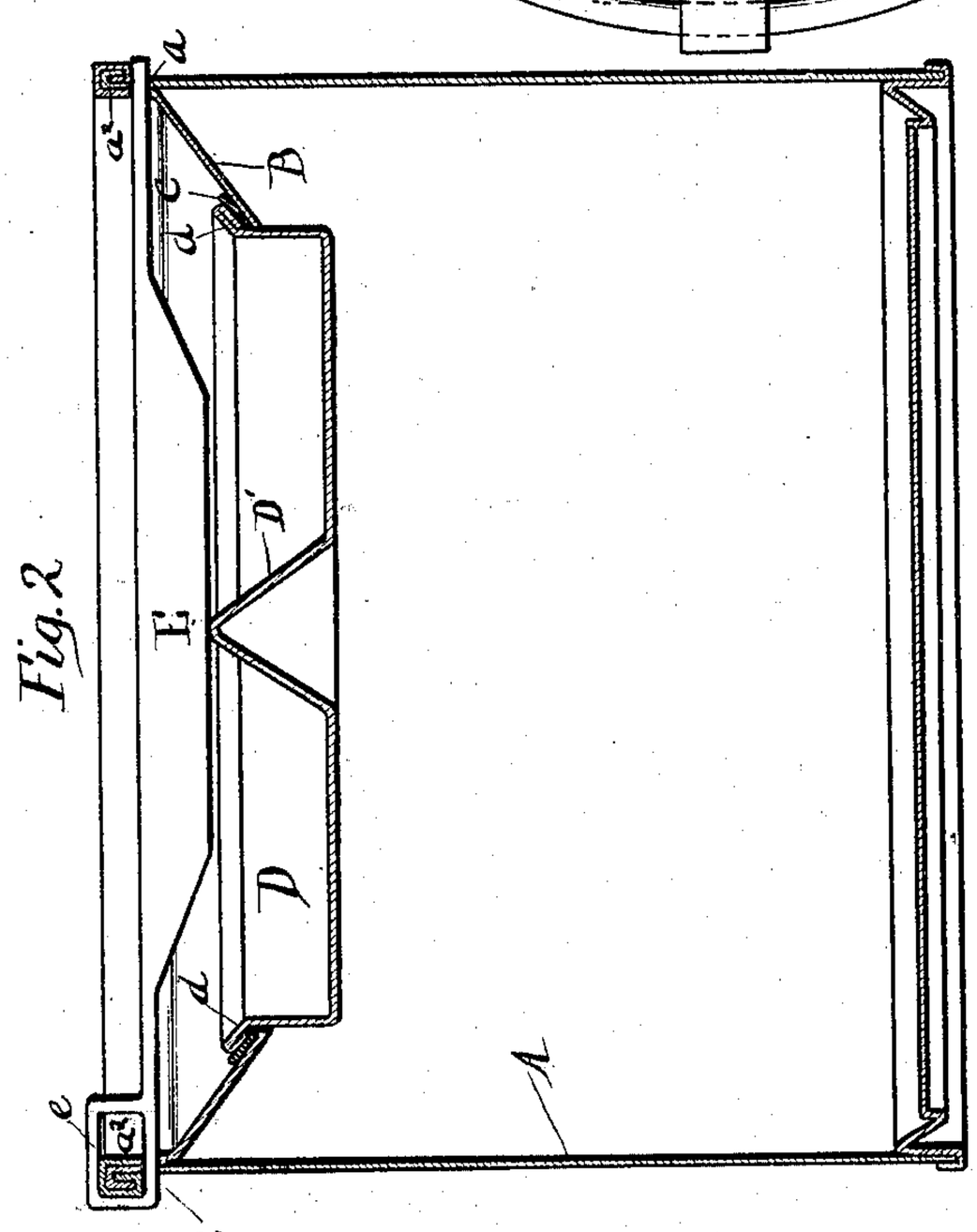



Fig. 4

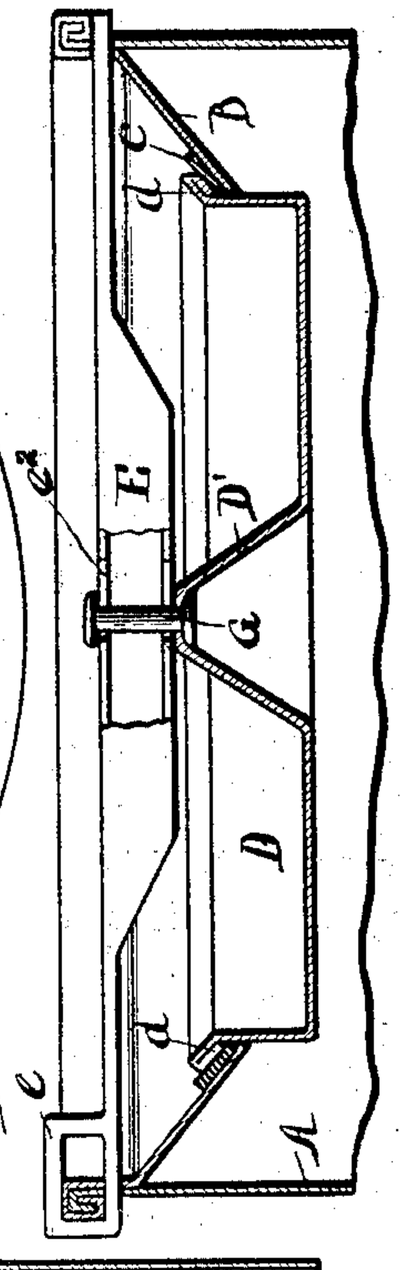
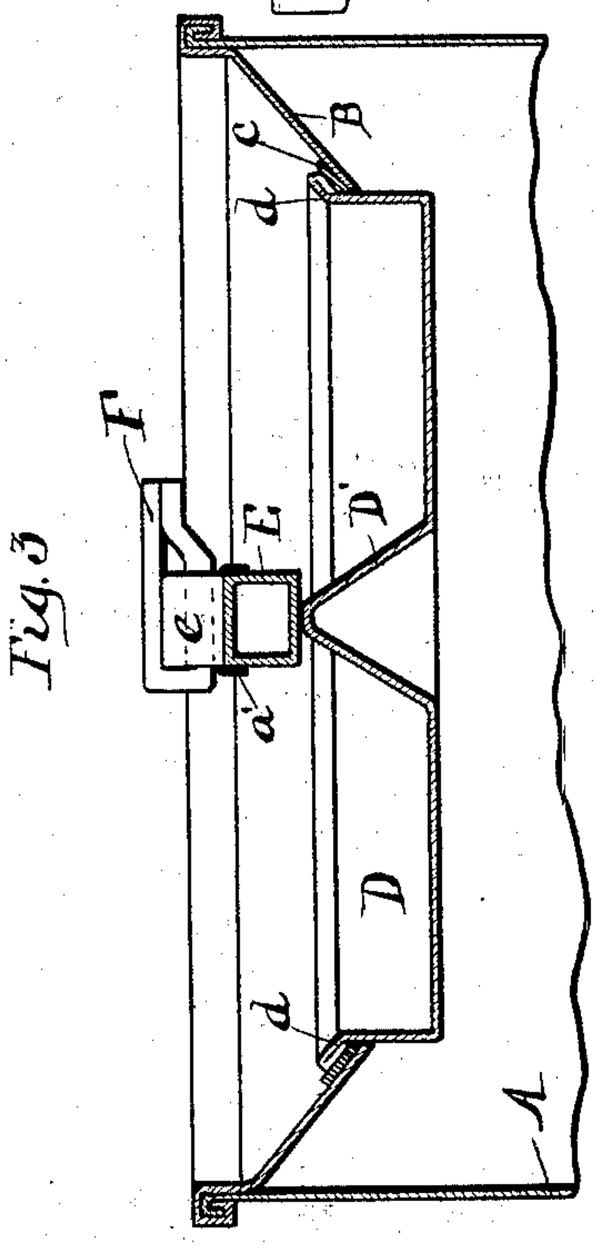



Fig. 3

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CAN OR LIKE CLOSURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 609,239, dated August 16, 1898.

Application filed September 27, 1897. Serial No. 653,082. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AMOS B. McNAIRY, a resident of the city of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cans or Like Closures, of which I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description sufficient to enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same.

The present invention, while susceptible of use in a variety of closures or packages, is more especially designed to provide improved means for tightly closing the covers of cans for paints or like material.

The purpose of the invention is to provide means for closing the covers of cans or like packages in such manner that while the cover is in place the contents of the can will be securely retained and preferably sealed, so that they cannot be tampered with before delivery to the consumer, and whereby when the contents are to be removed the cover can be readily withdrawn without the use of any supplemental instrument, such as a knife, can-opener, or the like.

The invention consists in the novel features of improvement hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a can embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a view in central vertical section through the can. Fig. 3 is a view in vertical cross-section through the upper portion of the can. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, but showing a modified form of the invention.

The body A of the can or closure to which my invention is applied may be of any suitable shape, construction, or material. In the drawings the invention is shown as embodied in a tin can of the type commonly employed for paints, oils, or like materials. The can-body A is shown as provided with a depressed annular top B, that may be connected to the upper edge of the body A in any familiar or suitable manner, as by double-seaming, wiring, or the like. Preferably the top B is provided adjacent its inner edge with a gasket C, of rubber or like material, and upon this gasket will rest the outwardly-turned edge *d* of the cover D. Across the cover D extends the locking-bar E, the ends of this bar passing through suitable slots or openings *a* and *a'*, provided at the upper edge of the can-body A. In the preferred form of the invention the bar E is formed at one end with a loop *e*, adapted to encircle the seamed or similarly-reinforced upper edge of the can-body, this loop *e* being of such size as to permit the locking-bar E to be shifted lengthwise in order that the free end of the bar E may be slipped into and removed from the opening or eye *a* at the opposite side of the can. The enlarged loop *e* serves also as a convenient means for attachment of a seal F, whereby after the can has been closed and the seal placed through the loop all danger of the contents of the can being surreptitiously tampered with is avoided. Between the locking-bar E and the center of the can-cover D is interposed a centrally-projecting part or bearing, by means of which when the locking-bar is depressed the downward pressure will be transmitted uniformly to the entire peripheral flange of the cover, causing the same to bind securely against the gasket C, that rests upon the top B. Preferably this central projecting part is formed integral with the cover D and consists of a conical elevation D', stamped up from the center of the cover D, although it might be formed in other suitable ways. The point of the conical elevation D' rests against the under side of the locking-bar E, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawings. The body of the locking-bar E is preferably formed of sheet metal, the central portion of the bar being vertically thicker than the end.

From the foregoing description the operation of my invention will be seen to be as follows: When the can-body A has been filled, the cover D will be placed in position with its flanged edge resting upon the gasket C. The locking-bar D will then be turned over and down to an approximately horizontal position, the seamed edge $a^2$ of the can-body at such time being within the inner portion of the loop *e*, so as to permit the free end of the bar E to be brought opposite the eye or opening *a* at the opposite side of the can. As the bar E is forced downward by the pressure of the hand it will bear upon the apex of the cone D', thereby causing the edge of the cover D to bear uniformly at all points against the gas-

ket C and thus tightly close the mouth of the can. The elasticity of the material of which the bar E, the cover D, and the top B are formed will permit of the depression of the bar E a slight distance after the bar has contacted with the apex of the cone D′, and when the bar E has been depressed sufficiently to bring its free end opposite the hole or eye *a* the bar will be moved longitudinally until its free end has passed into the hole *a*, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. A seal F, of lead, tin, or other suitable material, will then be passed through the loop *e*, and inasmuch as the bar E cannot be shifted to release its free end from the hole *a* until the seal is removed from the loop *e* it follows that the opening of the can cannot be accomplished without destroying the seal, and hence all danger of surreptitious tampering with the contents of the can before it reaches the consumer is effectively guarded against. When, however, the seal F is removed, the bar E can be slipped lengthwise until its free end passes from out the hole *a*, after which the bar can be turned backward, so as to permit the cover D to be removed.

If desired, a bolt or rivet G (see Fig. 4 of the drawings) may pass through the top of the cone D′ and through a slot $e^2$, formed in the bar E, so that when the bar E is turned over in the operation of opening the can the cover D will be raised by the act of lifting the bar E.

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

1. A can or like closure comprising a body provided with openings at opposite points of its top edge, a locking-bar, the ends whereof project through said openings, said locking-bar being bodily shiftable lengthwise and being pivotally connected at one of said openings, and a cover provided with a raised central part beneath said locking-bar whereby when said locking-bar is turned downward the cover will be forced securely to its seat and whereby when the locking-bar is shifted bodily in the direction of its length the cover may be locked or unlocked.

2. A can or like closure comprising a body provided with openings at opposite points at the top edge, a locking-bar passing through said openings and bodily shiftable in the direction of its length, said bar being provided at one end with a hinged loop, a cover and a raised central part intermediate the locking-bar and the cover, and a seal in the loop of said locking-bar to prevent its being bodily shifted in longitudinal direction.

3. A can or like closure comprising a body provided with openings at opposite points of the top edge, a longitudinally-movable locking-bar provided with a hinge-loop at one end to permit the bar to swing vertically and to slide bodily in the direction of its length and having its opposite end arranged to enter a corresponding opening at the top edge of the can, a cover beneath said locking-bar and a centrally-raised part intermediate said locking-bar and said cover.

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