

No. 629,977.

Patented Aug. 1, 1899.

W. H. BARBER.  
VARNISH CAN.

(Application filed Dec. 15, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

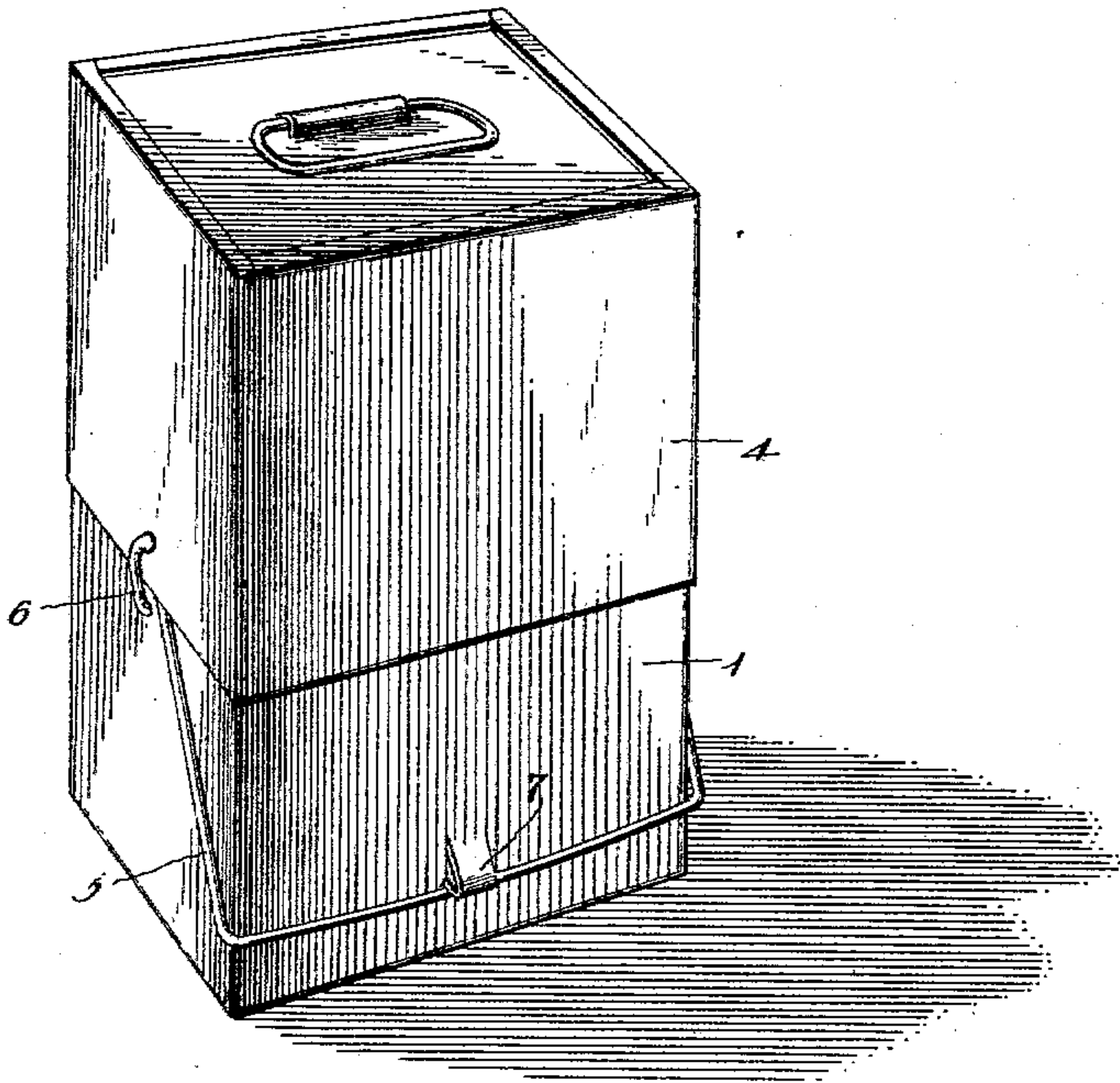


Fig. 2.

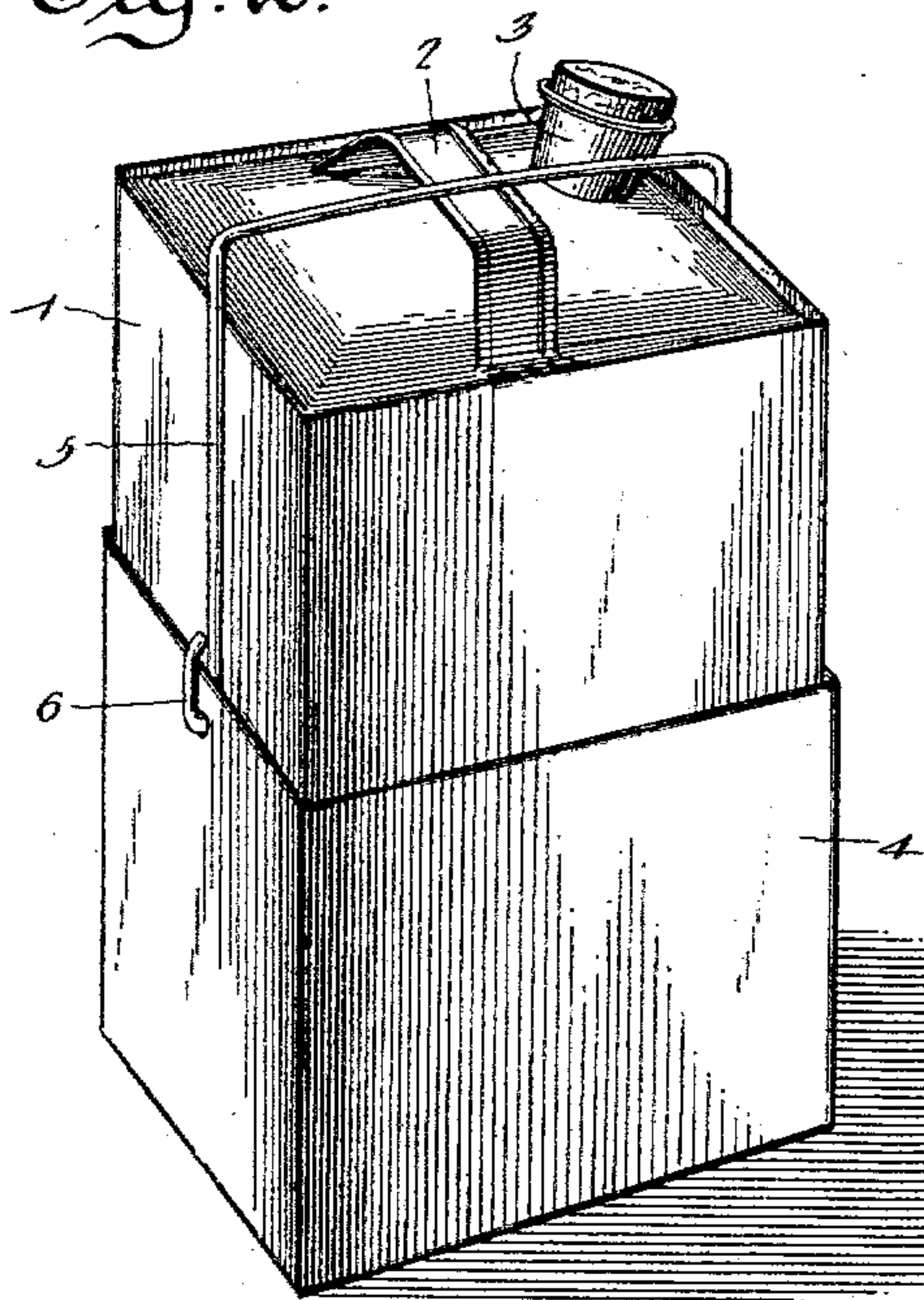
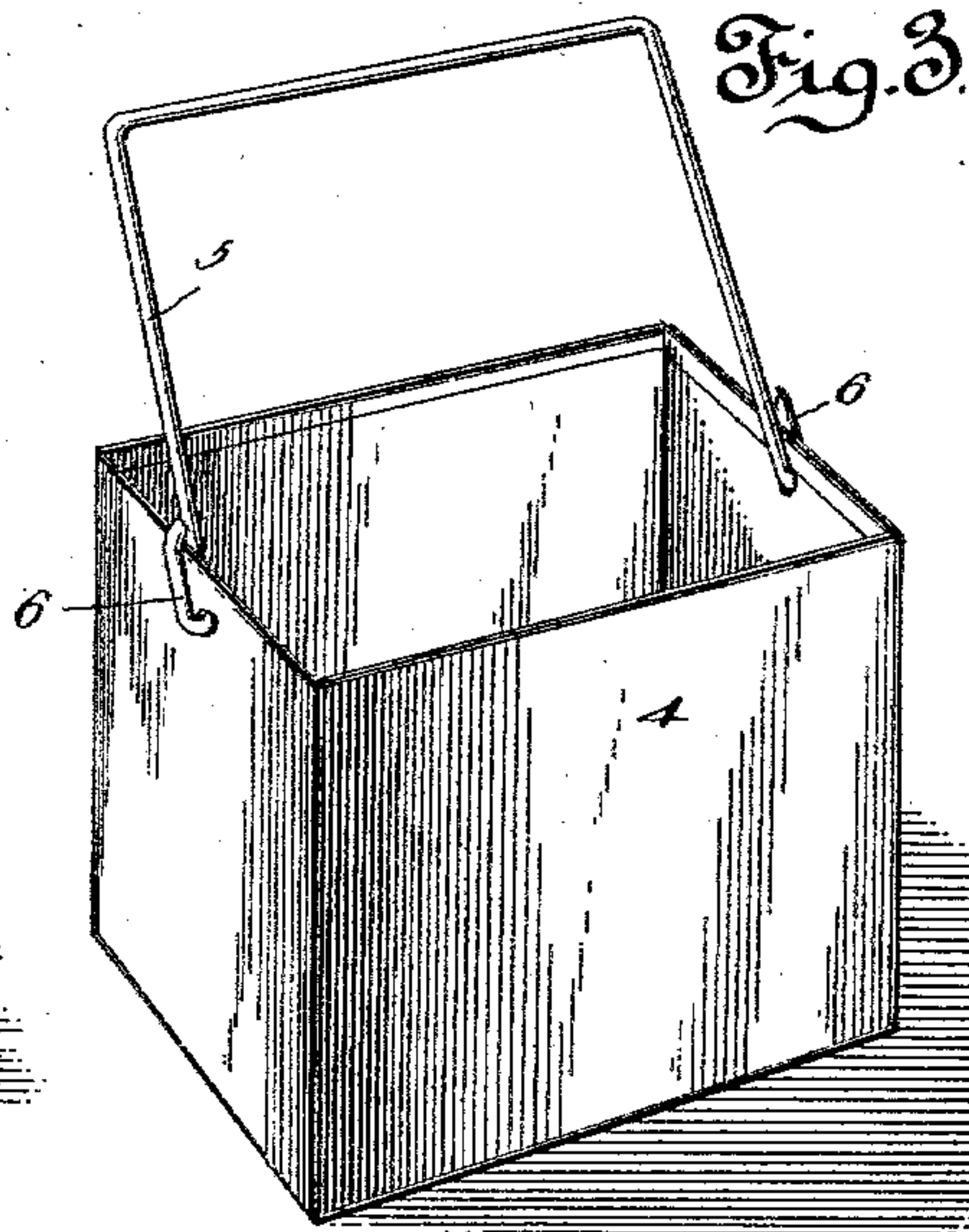


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

*J. Frank Culverwell.*  
*[Signature]*

William H. Barber, Inventor.

By his Attorneys,

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. BARBER, OF ABILENE, KANSAS.

## VARNISH-CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 629,977, dated August 1, 1899.

Application filed December 15, 1898. Serial No. 699,345. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. BARBER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Abilene, in the county of Dickinson and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Varnish-Can, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to receptacles containing varnish, oil, or other analogous liquids; and the object in view is to provide in connection with this main receptacle or can an auxiliary receptacle or bucket adapted to occupy either of reversed positions with relation to the main receptacle or can, either to form a seat for the latter when in an upright position or a cap therefor to exclude dust and prevent evaporation of the contents of the main receptacle or to serve as a container for the liquid into which the painter's brush may be dipped, and, incidentally, to provide the auxiliary receptacle with common means for securing the same in either of its adjusted positions with relation to the can or receptacle proper and to serve as a handle when the auxiliary receptacle is used independently of the main receptacle.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device embodying my invention with the auxiliary receptacle arranged upon the main receptacle as a cap. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the auxiliary receptacle arranged upon the main receptacle as a seat or holder. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the auxiliary reservoir detached.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a main receptacle or can similar to those used in the ordinary practice for containing varnish, oils, and similar liquids, the same being provided with the usual handle 2 and outlet-nozzle 3, and 4 represents the auxiliary receptacle or bucket of an interior diameter adapted to receive either end of the main receptacle, whereby it may be fitted upon the upper end of the main receptacle to form a cap, as indicated in Fig. 1, or upon the lower end of said main receptacle to form a

seat or holder, as indicated in Fig. 2, said auxiliary receptacle also being adapted to perform the functions of a varnish or oil bucket for containing the desired quantity of liquid for immediate use and into which a brush may be dipped in the operation of applying the varnish or oil to a surface to be coated. In practice each of said receptacles is of even or uniform diameter throughout. The auxiliary receptacle or bucket is provided with a bail 5, which is pivotally mounted by means of loops or eyes 6 upon the opposite walls of said receptacle for swinging movement preferably in a plane parallel with the length of the handle 2 of the main receptacle or with its axis of swinging movement arranged in a plane perpendicular to the length of said handle 2, whereby when the auxiliary receptacle is employed as a seat or holder for the main receptacle, as indicated in Fig. 2, the upper or cross bar of the bail is adapted to be swung over and engage with the handle 2 to maintain the main and auxiliary receptacles in the adjusted position described. This bail, however, is adapted not only to hold the auxiliary receptacle in place upon the lower end of the main receptacle by engagement with said handle 2, but to perform the function of a handle, whereby the auxiliary receptacle may be carried when used as a bucket containing varnish or other material for immediate use, and also to secure the auxiliary receptacle upon the main receptacle when the former is used as a cap covering the upper end of said main receptacle, as indicated in Fig. 1. In order that said bail may perform the function of securing the auxiliary receptacle upon the main receptacle as a cap, the main receptacle is provided upon one of its side walls, near its lower end, with a shouldered projection or catch 7 for engagement by the cross-bar of said bail, as indicated in Fig. 1, the said cross-bar (the bail being of wire or analogous material) being sufficiently yielding or having sufficient resilience to adapt it to be sprung slightly to facilitate the engagement thereof with and the disengagement thereof from said catch. Thus the device embodying my invention comprises two elements—namely, a main receptacle or can constructed substantially as in the ordinary practice for containing varnish and oils and



an auxiliary receptacle adapted to occupy either of relatively-reversed positions upon the main receptacle to serve as a cap to exclude dust and prevent rapid evaporation from the main receptacle or as a seat or holder when not otherwise in use, said auxiliary receptacle in either of said adjusted positions being secured to the main receptacle by means of the bail, which is adapted for engagement with either the catch 7 or the main-receptacle handle or grip 2, according to the relative positions which said elements occupy. Also the auxiliary receptacle is adapted to perform the function of a separate bucket, into which a portion of the contents of the main receptacle may be poured to serve as a dipping vessel for the varnish or oil brush, the above-mentioned bail serving as a handle by which said receptacle when thus used may be carried.

It is obvious that when the parts are in the position illustrated in Fig. 2 the lug or catch 7 is received within the bucket 4, but as the projection of this lug or catch beyond the surface of the side wall of the main receptacle or can is but slight, and as the wall of the bucket 4 is adapted to yield outwardly, I have found in practice that the described arrangement of the parts, as shown in said Fig. 2, may be accomplished without difficulty and without unnecessarily straining said parts. The fact that the lug (of which the size is somewhat exaggerated in Fig. 1) is arranged above the bottom of the main receptacle or can, and hence does not pass downward to the bottom of the bucket 4, (when the can is fitted in the bucket,) avoids straining the joint between the side wall and the bottom of said bucket.

My present invention is designed as an improvement upon the construction shown and described in a former patent, No. 588,121, granted to me on August 17, 1898, with the object of increasing the simplicity and reducing the cost of manufacture of a device of this class and at the same time adapting the auxiliary or dipping receptacle to perform a function independently of the main receptacle when it is undesirable in the course of applying varnish or oils to carry the main receptacle from point to point.

It will be understood, furthermore, that various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A can for varnish, oils, &c., comprising a main receptacle and an auxiliary receptacle into which either end of the main receptacle may be fitted, and means for securing the auxiliary receptacle in either of its adjusted positions to the main receptacle, substantially as specified.

2. A can for containing varnish, oils, &c., comprising a main receptacle and an open-topped auxiliary receptacle into which either end of the main receptacle may be fitted, said auxiliary receptacle being provided with a bail whereby it may be carried when detached from the main receptacle, substantially as specified.

3. A can for containing varnish, oils, &c., comprising a main receptacle and an open-topped auxiliary receptacle into which either end of the main receptacle may be fitted, and common means for securing the auxiliary receptacle in either of its adjusted positions upon the main receptacle, substantially as specified.

4. The combination of a can for holding varnish, &c., a bucket adapted to receive either end of said can and provided with a bail, and means carried by the can for engagement by the bail in either position of the bucket, substantially as specified.

5. The combination of a can for holding varnish, &c., and provided at its upper end with a grip or handle and at a point contiguous to its lower end with a catch, and an open-topped bucket adapted to receive either end of the can and provided with a swinging bail for engagement with one of said members carried by the can, substantially as specified.

6. The combination of a can for holding varnish, &c., an open-topped bucket adapted to receive either end of the can and provided with a swinging bail forming a handle, and means carried by the can adjacent to its opposite ends, one of said means being adapted for engagement by the bail of said bucket to hold the latter in operative relation with the can, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. BARBER.

Witnesses:

LOUELLA RUDOLPH,  
H. L. HUMPHREY.