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Patented June 19, 1900.

W. E. FOREST.
OIL STORAGE CAN OR DEVICE.

(Application filed Sept. 21, 1898.)

(No Model.)

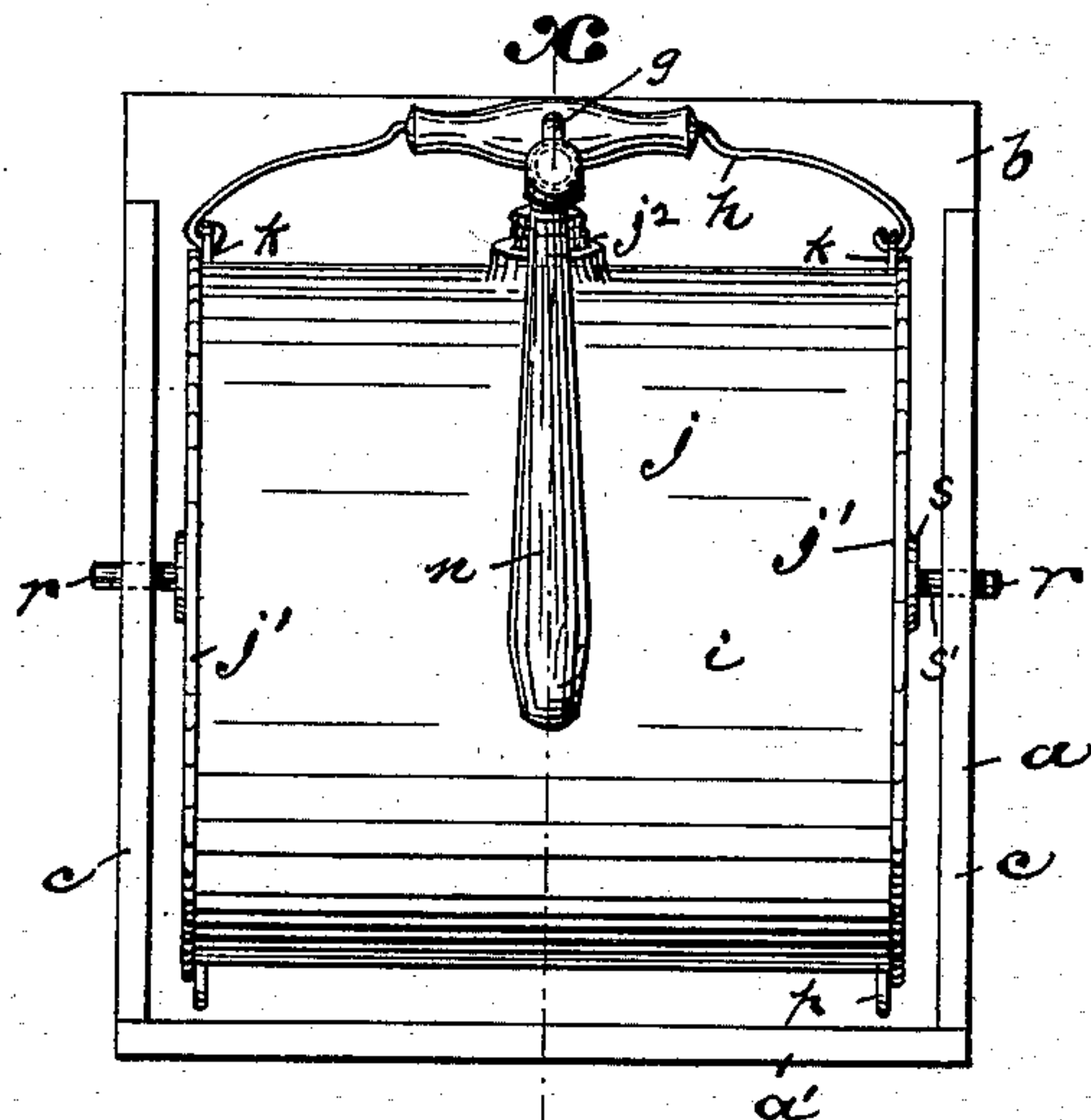


Fig. 1.

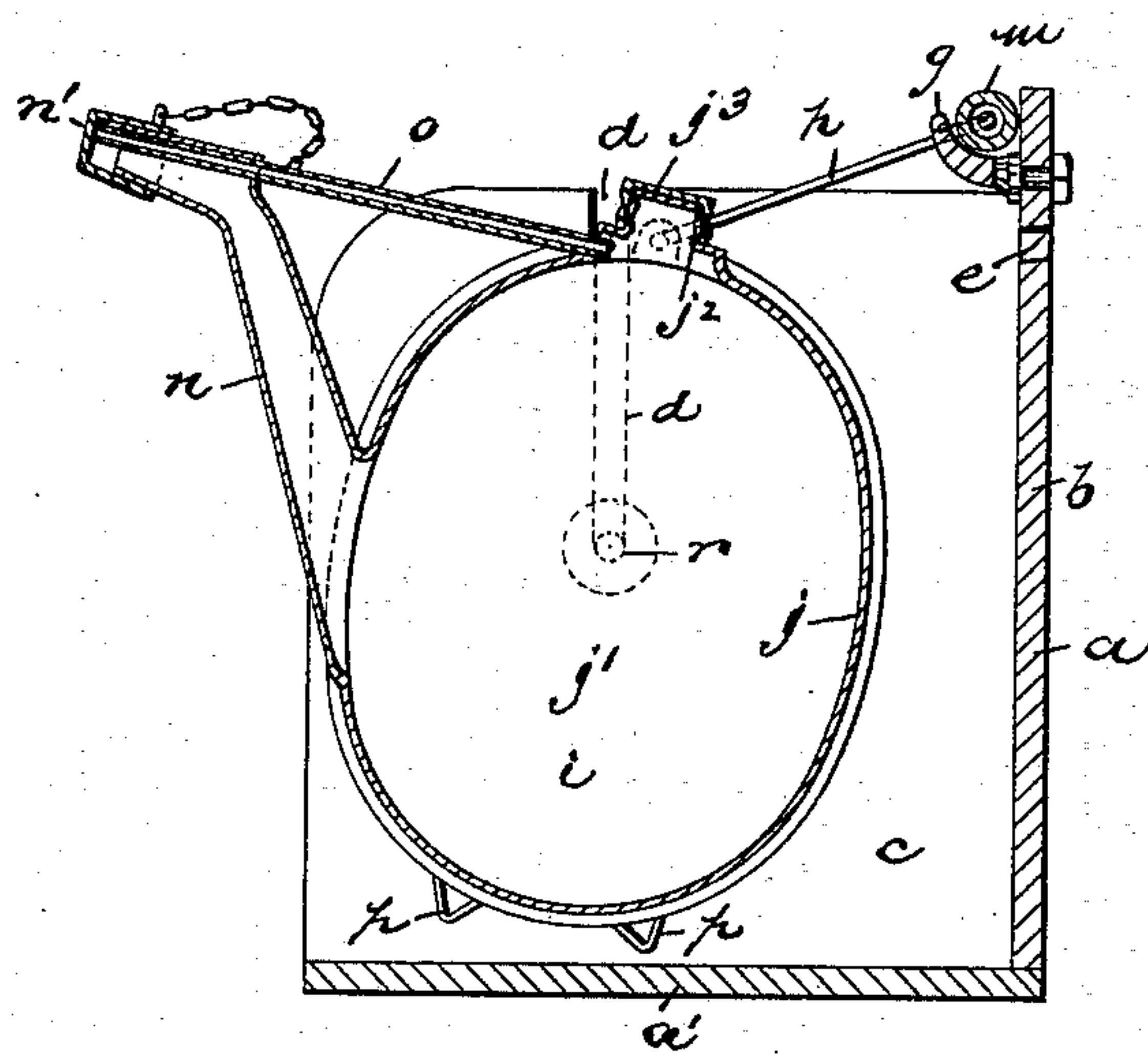


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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OIL-STORAGE CAN OR DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 651,990, dated June 19, 1900.

Application filed September 21, 1898. Serial No. 691,486. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. FOREST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Oil-Storage Cans or Devices; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates more particularly to that class of storage-cans intended for frequent use, especially in connection with the refilling of smaller receptacles or reservoirs, and is more particularly useful in connection with the storage of oil for lighting purposes and permits the easy and convenient filling of the lamps without wastage and loss of time.

The invention has for its objects a more perfect prevention of the overflow of the oil in the act of filling the reservoirs or lamps and to secure a more easy and convenient filling of such lamps and to secure other advantages and results, some of which may be referred to hereinafter in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved storage device and in the arrangements and combinations of parts of the same, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth, and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both views, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the improved device; and Fig. 2 is a section of the same, taken on line *x*.

In said drawings, *a* indicates a case or inclosure providing bearings for the can or receptacle for the oil. Said inclosure preferably consists of four pieces of board forming the bottom *a'*, back *b*, and two side pieces *c c*. The sides are preferably rounded at their upper forward corners, and back from their

front edges the said sides are provided with vertical slots *d d*, into which the pivotal trunnions of the can are arranged. At the back of the case or inclosure the board *b* is preferably provided near its upper edge with a hole *e*, by means of which the said case or inclosure may be supported from a suitable nail, hook, or similar device upon the wall. Said board at its upper edge may also be provided with a hook *g*, upon which the handle or bail *h* of the can can be caught to prevent the can from turning upon its pivotal trunnions, and thus causing an outflow of fluid. The top and front of the case are open and permit an easy removal of the can and free pivotal motion thereof in a forward direction.

The can or receptacle *i* is easily removable from the case or receptacle *a* and consists of a cylindrical or approximately-cylindrical body *j* and discous or approximately-discous side pieces *j' j'*. These are joined, by any means common in the tinsmith's or sheet-metal worker's art, to form an impervious receptacle for the fluid. At the top of the can I have provided a suitable nozzle *j²* and cap *j³*, adapted to permit the filling and closing of the can, the said nozzle and cap being preferably threaded to permit an easy application and removal of the cap. The said nozzle and cap are nicely fitted, so that when the cap is in place the can will be practically air-tight, and air cannot enter said can excepting as hereinafter provided. At the opposite ends of the said can, at the top, I have provided suitable ears *k k*, to which the bail *h* is attached, the said bail being of bowed wire and the center provided with an ordinary hand-piece *m*, by means of which the can may be carried from place to place with ease and convenience.

The hook *g* upon the case *a* is so disposed that the bail at the handle thereon can be caught upon the said hook when the can is in its normally-upright position, and thereby said can may be retained in said upright position should the case be carried from place to place.

At the front of the can, near the lower end thereof, I have secured a spout *n*, the interior passage of which is in open communication with the interior of the can, the said can-body being suitably perforated to allow such communication. Said spout at its upper and forward extremity is bent forward into the plane approximating a horizontal, the said plane approximating, preferably, the horizontal plane in which the nozzle and cap are stationed at the top of the can. The lower and larger end of the spout lies normally at a point below the axis of the can. Said spout may be provided with a cap *n'*.

The open horizontal extremity of the spout *n* is connected with the top of the can, preferably at the nozzle *j*² thereof, by a vent-pipe *o*, which extends through an opening in the top of the can, as shown in Fig. 2, and at its forward end into and through the nozzle, the open forward end of said vent-pipe terminating at and approximately flush with the extremity of said nozzle. The spout and vent-pipe terminate at substantially the same point, so that when the lamp is being filled and the fluid issuing from the spout rises in the lamp or receptacle to a level with the open extremity of said spout it will close said vent-tube and prevent further inflow of air and outflow of fluid.

The vent-tube *o* is of a small bore, the passage-way therein being about one-eighth of an inch in diameter, more or less, and when of about this bore as the fluid rises and closes the mouth thereof a portion of said fluid will enter the vent-passage and stop the inflow of air. This portion of fluid in the vent-tube remains therein by capillary attraction or otherwise after the lamp is withdrawn and serves as a plug to prevent the inflow of air and outflow of fluid while the spout is in its downwardly-turned position, and this condition will continue until the can is brought to its normally-upright position, when the fluid serving to plug the vent-tube will flow inward through said vent-tube and open said tube to a further inflow of air when needed in subsequent filling.

At the bottom of the cylindrical can I have provided at its opposite ends legs *p*, by means of which the said can may be stationed in an upright position upon a suitable floor or table when removed from its case or inclosure. At the sides of said can I have fastened or arranged trunnions *r r*. These are preferably composed of discous plates *s*, at the centers of the outsides of which are formed the pivots *s'*, above referred to. The disks are soldered or otherwise applied to the side plates of the can, and the trunnions are adapted to enter the slots in the case or inclosure and engage the lower end walls of said slot. The trunnions are preferably disposed a little above the center axis of the can, so that the latter becomes eccentric, and thus the weight

of the fluid tends to hold the can in an upright position. The can, however, can be readily turned on the trunnions, so as to bring the end of the spout vertically into the mouth of the lamp with ease and convenience, and inasmuch as the bottom of the can is a continuously-curved piece, and, further, inasmuch as the opening at the forward sides of the can for the spout becomes a bottom opening when the can is turned, any sediment or settlings of heavy matter in the fluid upon the bottom are caused to pass out through the spout, and thus the can is kept free from such sediment or accumulated heavy matter, and the can retains its proper capacity. Thus a gallon-can will retain its capacity to measure a gallon after years of constant use, and its capacity is not reduced because of its accumulated non-fluid gummy accumulation becoming solid therein.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The combination with a cylindrical or cylindroidal oil-can having its axis horizontally disposed and being provided at the opposite vertical ends with pivotal trunnions, of a supporting-case having a horizontal floor, a vertical plane back, and sides perpendicular to said back and floor and filling the angle therebetween and extending forward and upward beyond the can and being vertically slotted from the top downward to receive the trunnions of the can and forming bearings therefor, the top and front of the case being entirely open from side to side and from the floor upward, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with an oil-can adapted to turn on a horizontal axis and having end trunnions, of a case having a horizontal floor, vertical plane back, and sides perpendicular to said back and floor and filling the angle therebetween, said sides being slotted from the top downward and forming bearings for the pivotal trunnions of the oil-can, the front of the case being open from the floor upward and the case being entirely open at the top, a hook projecting forwardly from the said back and a bail or handle attached to the top of the oil-can, said hook being adapted to receive the bail whereby the oil-can is prevented from turning on its trunnions, substantially as set forth.

3. In an oil-can, the combination of a cylindrical or cylindroidal body having its axis horizontally disposed and being provided at each end with eccentrically-disposed trunnions comprising discous plates fastened to the outer surfaces of the can and pins projecting therefrom, whereby the can may be pivoted to swing freely, a spout *n*, opening out of said body at a point normally in the horizontal plane of the axis, and having its upper end bent to lie normally horizontal, a closed vent-tube having one end laid parallel with the upper end of the spout and opening

in substantially the same plane and having
the other end opening into the top of the can-
body, a handle attached to the top of the can-
body, and a supporting-case having a hook
5 receiving said handle whereby pivotal motion
of the can may be prevented, substantially
as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I
have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of
September, 1898.

WILLIAM E. FOREST.

Witnesses:

CHARLES H. PELL,
RUSSELL M. EVERETT.