

No. 661,681.

Patented Nov. 13, 1900.

J. H. ASHBAUGH & C. L. WEBSTER.

FRUIT JAR FILLER.

(Application filed May 31, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

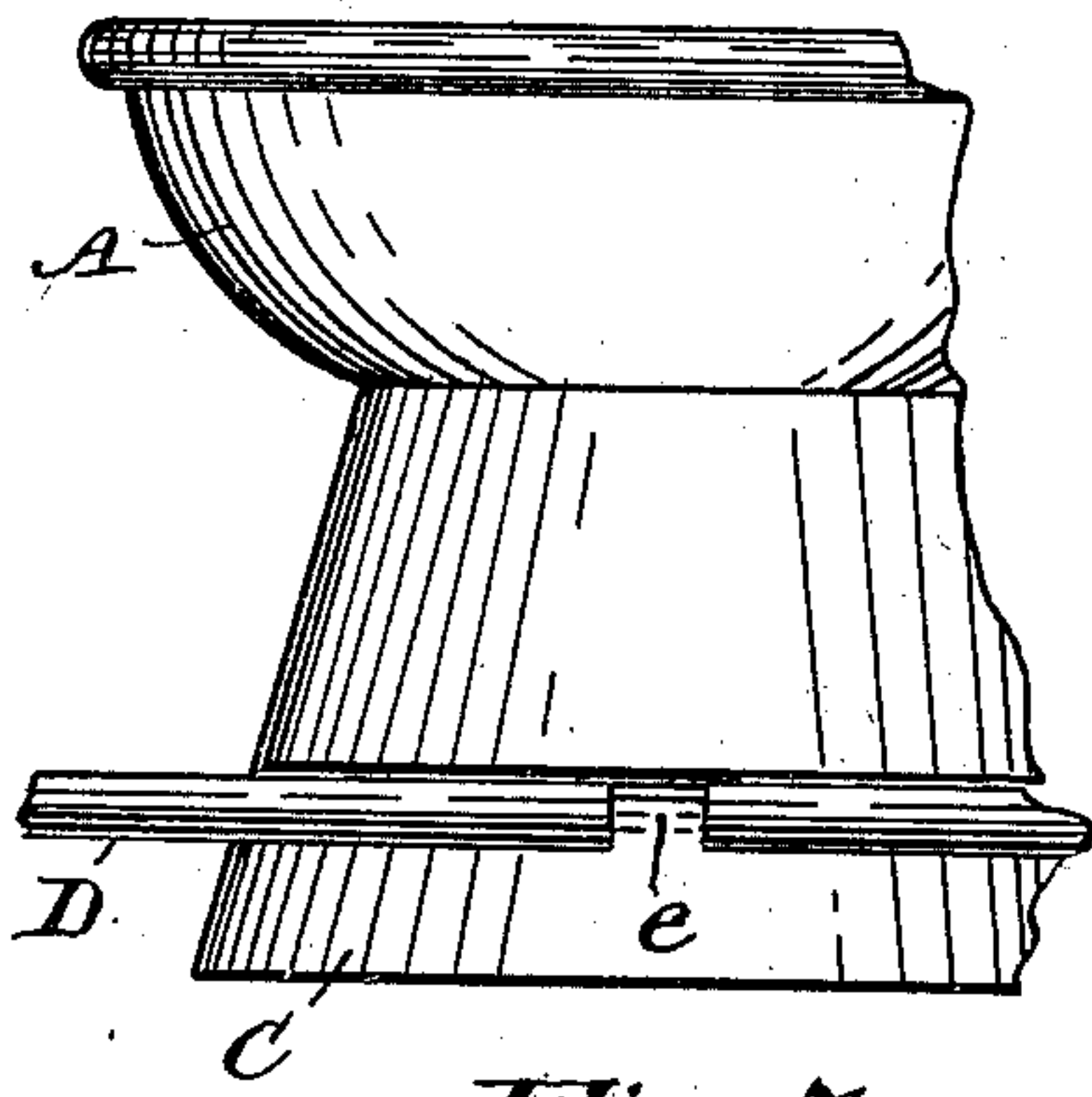


Fig. 2.

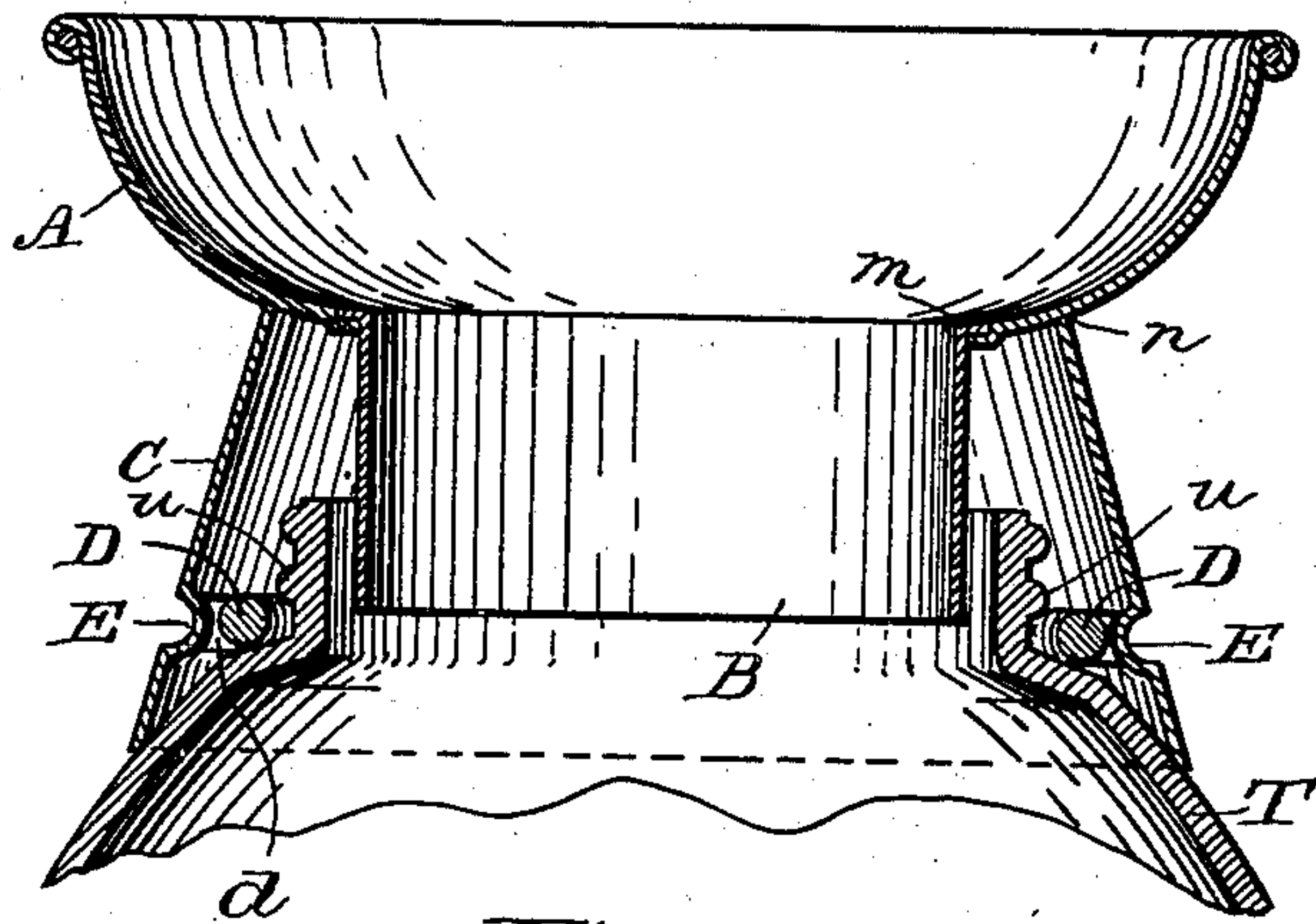


Fig. 3.

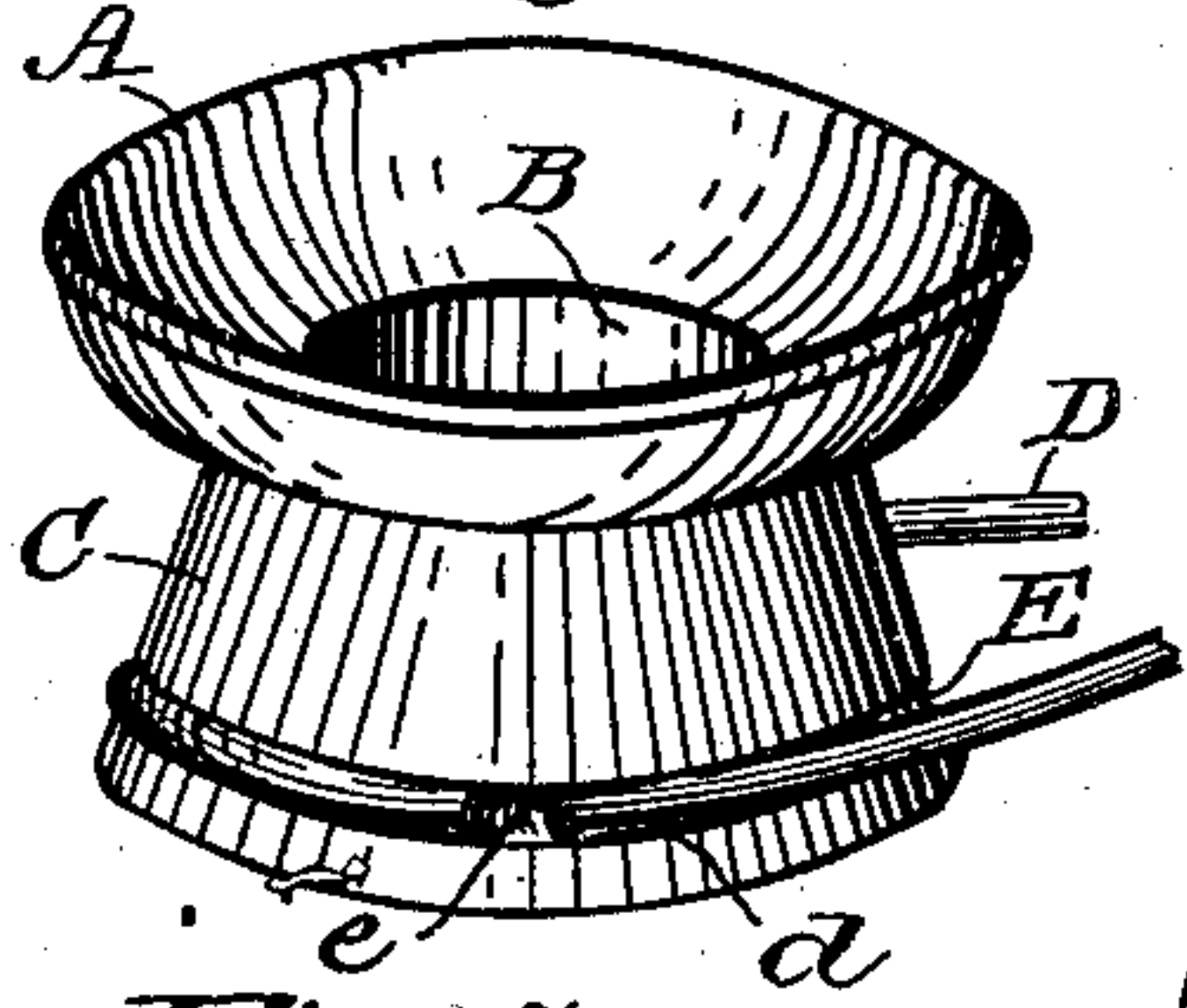


Fig. 4.

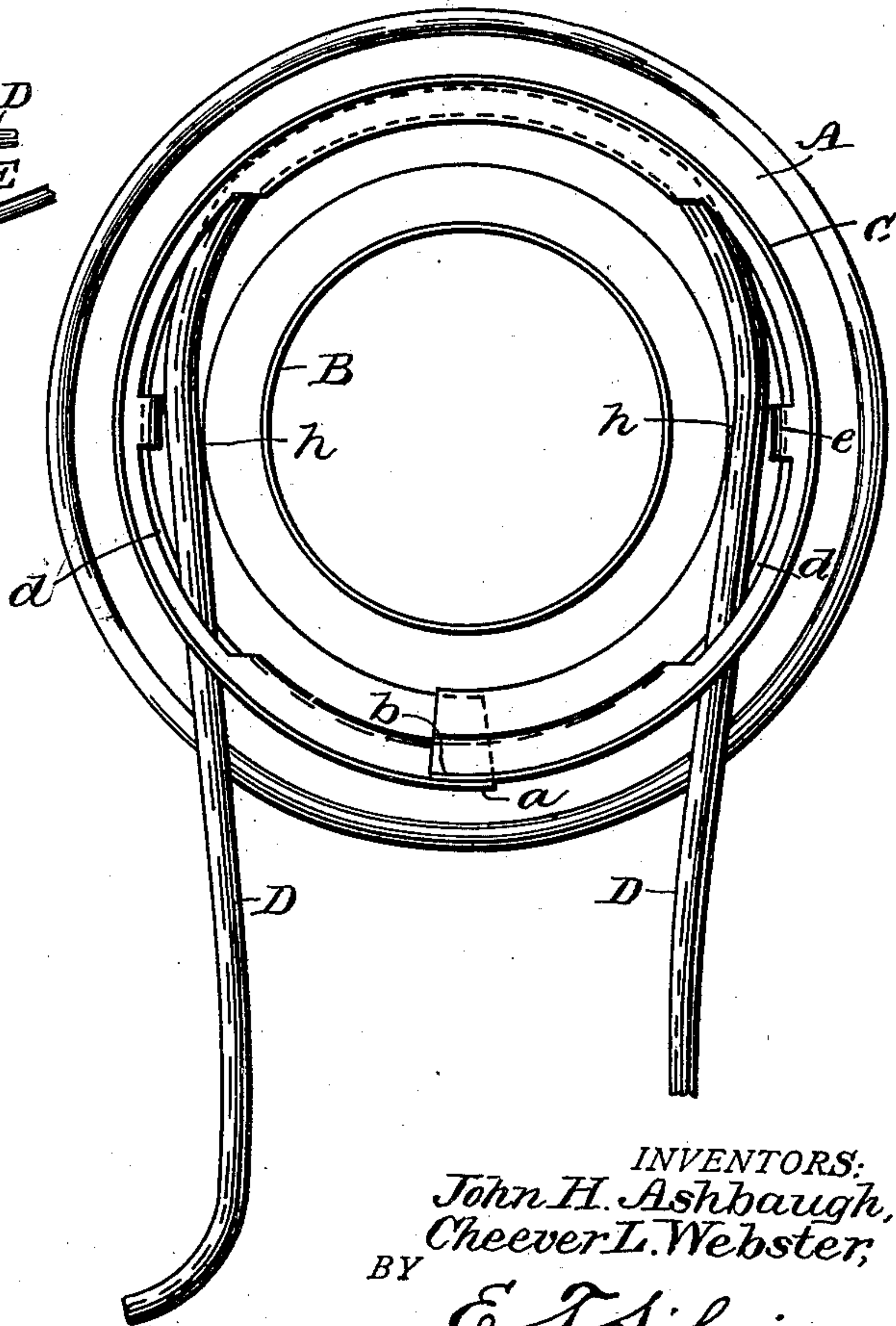
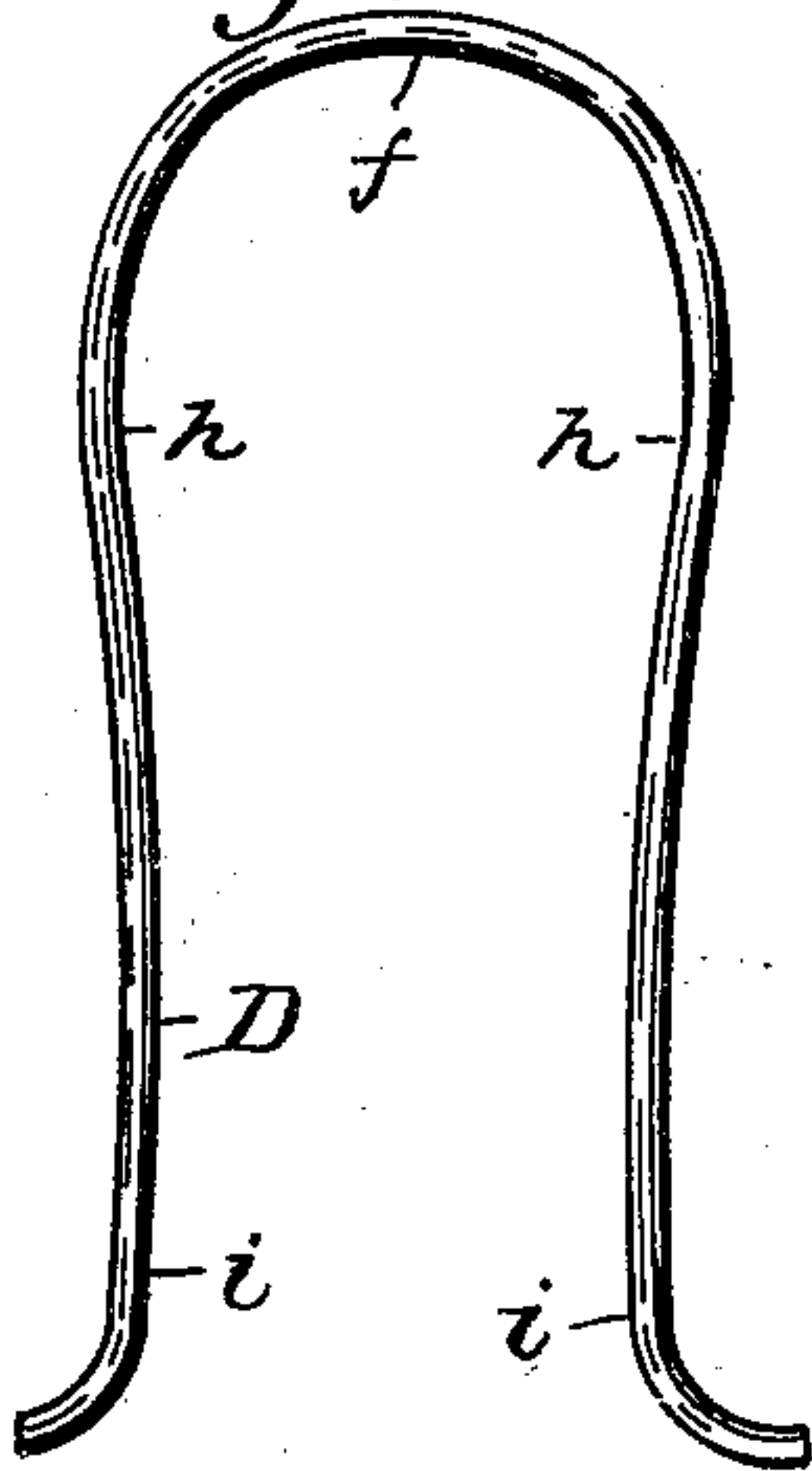


Fig. 5.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. ASHBAUGH, OF IRVINGTON, AND CHEEVER L. WEBSTER, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

## FRUIT-JAR FILLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 661,681, dated November 13, 1900.

Application filed May 31, 1900. Serial No. 18,542. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN H. ASHBAUGH, residing at Irvington, and CHEEVER L. WEBSTER, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, citizens of the United States, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Jar Fillers; and we do 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 the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

Our invention relates to appliances whereby the filling of jars with fruit and the like for preserving the same may be facilitated; and the object is to provide means whereby the jar may be conveniently handled, particularly while hot, and the fruit poured into the jar without dripping the same upon the top and exterior of the jar.

The invention consists in a funnel of new and novel form provided with a clamp adapted to engage either exterior annular ribs or threads or grooves at the exterior of a jar-neck, whereby the funnel may be temporarily attached to the jar, so that the jar may be lifted and carried by the funnel or by a handle connected therewith.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a fragmentary view in elevation; Fig. 2, a central vertical sectional view showing our appliances connected to a jar-neck having screw-threads; Fig. 3, a perspective view of our invention in which the extremities of the clamp-handles are broken away; Fig. 4, a bottom plan view, and Fig. 5 a plan view of the clamp as we preferably form it.

Similar letters of reference in the several views of the drawings designate like parts.

In construction we provide a funnel-like bowl A, preferably of tin-plate, of suitable shape, to which is attached a short funnel-tube B, adapted to freely enter the mouth of a jar T. The tube is circular and is joined at one end, as at *m*, preferably by means of solder, a suitable aperture being formed in the bottom of the funnel A, corresponding

to the internal diameter of the tube B. A circular base C, having a diameter greater than that of the tube B and preferably tapering, is secured at one end (the smaller end when made tapering) to the funnel A, as at *n*, preferably by means of solder, and extends around the tube D and also somewhat below the tube, so that the base may rest upon the top of the body of the jar and at the same time act as a gage, so that the clamp D may register with such portion of the jar-neck as it may be designed to engage, in the present case the under side of the lower thread *u* on the neck. The base C has apertures *d* at two opposite sides and somewhat near the lower edge thereof, extending circumferentially, in which the clamp is mounted and in which it operates. These apertures are more or less elongated, as may be required, to conform to the clamp, which in some cases may be wedged against the jar-neck and the sides of the apertures, of which there would be four; but, as shown, the web *e* may be removed, if desired, when the clamp is adapted to normally spring open and then be pressed against the neck by the hand grasping the handles of the clamp. The apertures are preferably arranged in an annular groove E, which affords a seat for the central part of the clamp. In forming the base C the two ends *a* and *b* of the metal plate of which it is composed preferably overlap without being secured together, so that the bottom of the base may expand and contract to better fit jars of various sizes; but the joint edges may in some cases be soldered together. The clamp D is composed of spring-wire of suitable diameter and has a central semicircular portion *f* and two arms *h* slightly curved, the extremities of which are curved outwardly and form handles *i*, the whole being in plan somewhat in shape like the letter U and the arms may be more or less spread, as may be required. The arms are inserted in the apertures *d* and extend through from one side to the opposite side of the base. When the clamp is designed to be forced in as a wedge, the ends should not be curved outwardly, but rather the reverse, but slightly, and then the curved portion *f* may be used as



a handle instead of the opposite ends. The elasticity of the clamp will retain it in its place in the apertures of the base.

In practical use the appliance is placed upon the top of a jar that is to be filled, the funnel-tube extending into the mouth of the jar a short distance. Then the arm portions *h h* of the clamp may be forced against the neck of the jar either below a projection or thread or into a groove should there be one in the neck, and by this means the jar and the filler or funnel may be lifted and carried to the preserve-kettle and filled over it conveniently and then removed without danger of burning the hands and in a perfectly clean condition ready for sealing.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A fruit-jar filler including a funnel, a base provided with apertures extending circumferentially, and a clamp mounted movably in the apertures of the base.

2. A fruit-jar filler including a funnel provided with an apertured base and a funnel-tube within the base, and a clamp working in the apertured base, whereby the filler may be connected to a jar and the jar carried thereby.

3. A fruit-jar filler including a funnel having a funnel-tube, a base provided with circumferentially-disposed apertures and surrounding the funnel-tube, and a substantially U-shaped clamp extending through and

working in the apertures of the base whereby to engage a jar-neck.

4. A fruit-jar filler consisting of a funnel including a funnel-tube, a base attached to the funnel and surrounding the funnel-tube and provided with apertures therein, and a spring-clamp working in the apertures in the base.

5. The combination with a funnel, of a base provided with circumferentially-disposed apertures and extending below the apertures as a gage for a clamp, and a clamp mounted in the apertures and extending into the interior of the base so as to engage a jar-neck, when the base incloses the same.

6. A fruit-jar filler consisting of a bowl apertured at the bottom thereof, a tube attached to the bottom of the bowl at the apertures thereof, a base provided with circumferentially-disposed apertures and secured to the bowl and surrounding the tube, and a substantially U-shaped spring-clamp extending through the apertures in the base to the interior thereof and projecting through at opposite sides of the base.

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

JOHN H. ASHBAUGH.  
CHEEVER L. WEBSTER.

Witnesses:

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E. T. SILVIUS.