No. 699,462. Patented May 6, 1902.

F. G. O. EHLE.

NESTABLE PAIL.

(Application filed May 22, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 2.

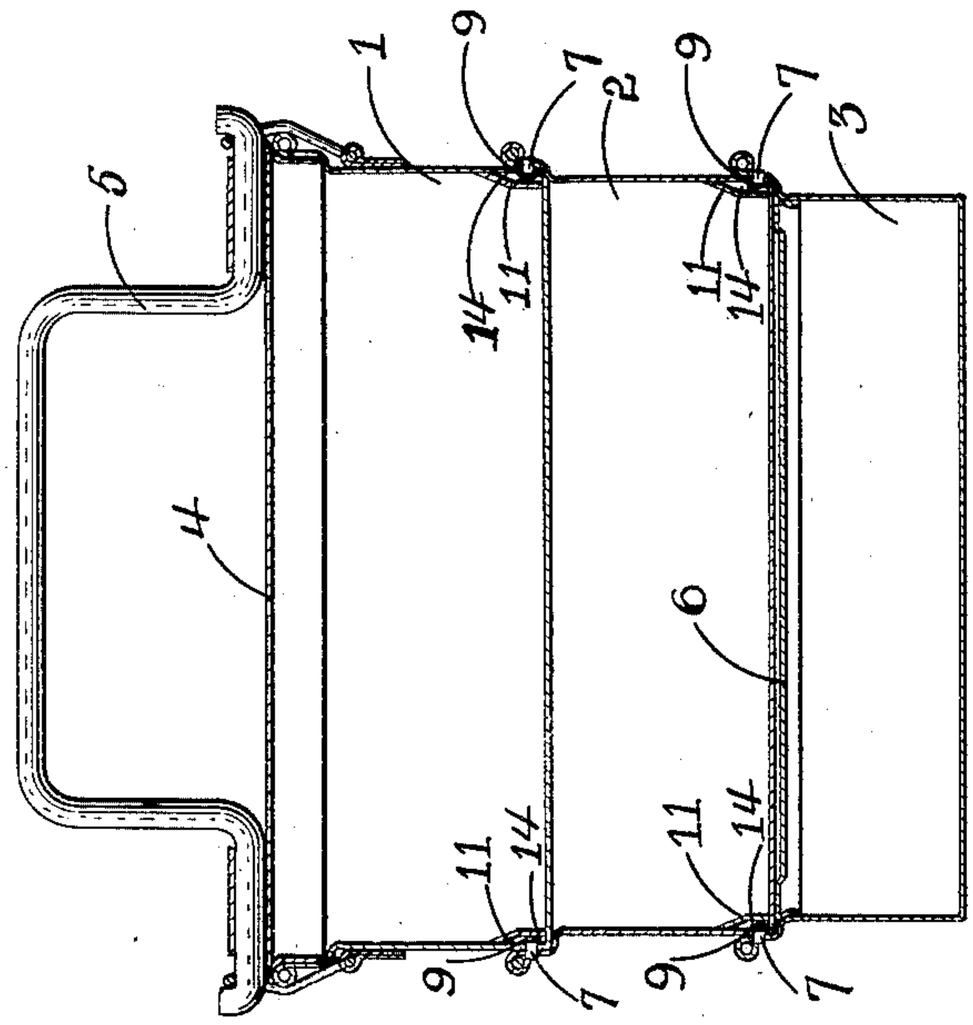


Fig. 9.

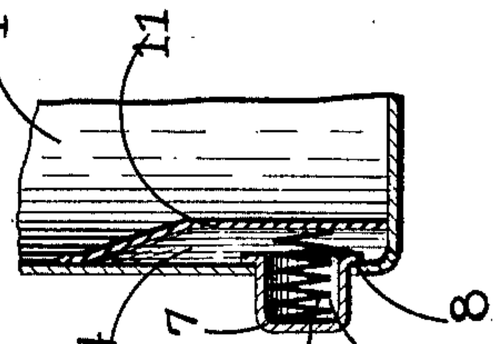


Fig. 8.

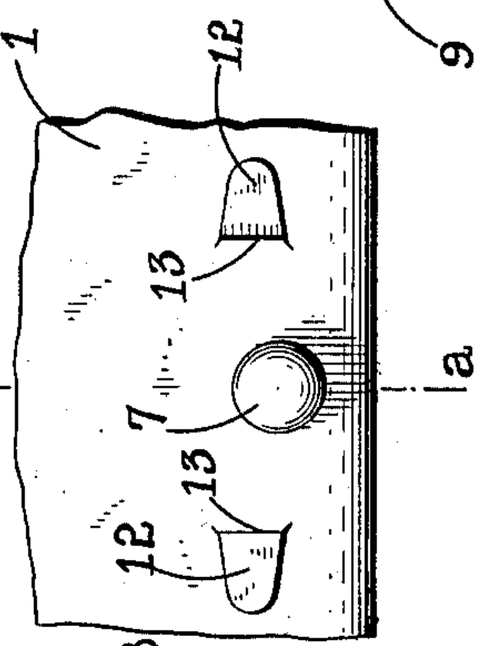


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

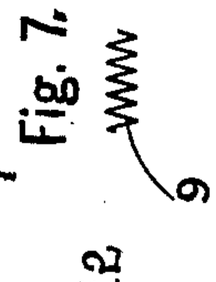


Fig. 1.

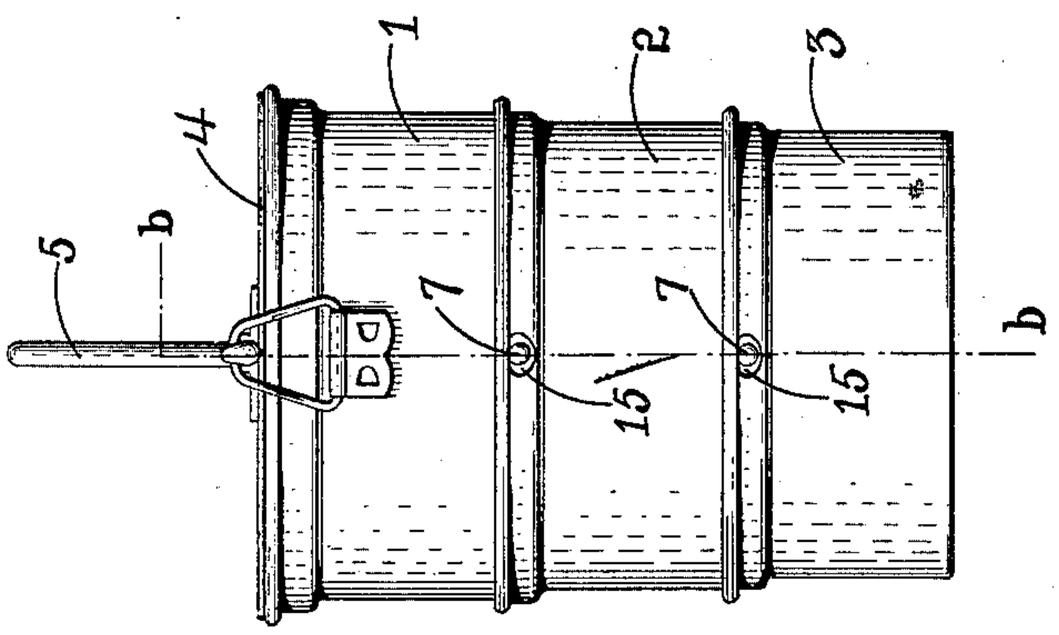


Fig. 5.

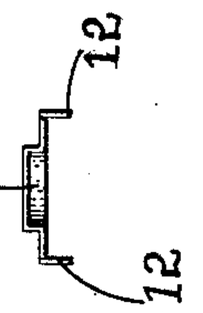


Fig. 4.

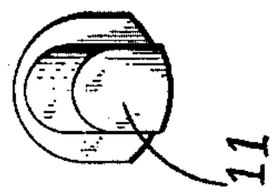
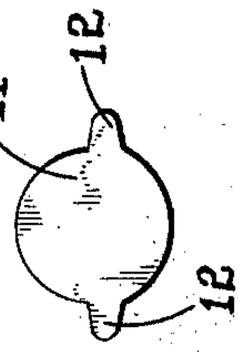


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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NESTABLE PAIL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 699,462, dated May 6, 1902.

Application filed May 22, 1901. Serial No. 61,402. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK G. O. EHLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nestable Pails, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved pail or other article of two or more parts arranged to nest together; and the main object of the invention is to provide one of said parts with a simple and easily-operated fastening device which is adapted to engage with the adjacent part, and thereby lock the parts together. Any ordinary number of vessels or parts may be independently secured to each other by this improved fastening, so that the end vessel or part can be easily detached without unfastening the remainder, all of which will be fully and clearly hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an end elevation of a pail having parts secured together by my improved fastening device. Fig. 2 is a section on line *b b*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detached plan view of a blank of one of the inclosing parts. Fig. 4 is a detached side elevation of one of the inclosing parts. Fig. 5 is a detached bottom view of one of the inclosing parts. Fig. 6 is an enlarged detached view of the locking-cap. Fig. 7 is a detached view of the spring. Fig. 8 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing an exterior view of the fastening device. Fig. 9 is a section on line *a a*, Fig. 8.

In referring to the drawings for the details of construction like numerals designate like parts.

In the construction shown in the drawings, 1, 2, and 3 represent the vessels or parts constituting the pail, which in this instance are three in number; 4, the top cover; 5, the handle, attached to the top cover, and 6 the cover for the bottom vessel or part. The vessels or parts are formed so that they will nest in each other when not in use and are each provided with a fastening device which locks the vessel or part to the adjacent vessel or part. The fastening devices are arranged in the lapping portions of the vessels and are two in number, one being arranged at each end of the vessel. The fastening devices, as shown, consist of a cap 7, which projects through an opening in the vessel side, substantially as shown in Fig. 9, and has a flange 8, which fits against the inner surface and limits the outward movement of the cap. The cap is normally maintained in its projecting position by a spring 9, the end of which seats in a socket 10 of the cap. The spring is held in its tensioning position by an inclosing part 11, the blank of which is formed substantially as shown in Fig. 3, and bent into the shape shown in Figs. 4 and 5. Each inclosing part is provided with a pair of oppositely-disposed ears 12, which fit through slits 13 and are bent upon the outer surface of the vessel to secure the inclosing part together. The inclosing part is bent to permit the necessary movement of the locking-cap and has its edges fitting against the vessel-surface, so as to entirely inclose the space 14, within which the cap operates. The inclosing parts can be soldered at their edges to the interior of the vessel in order to seal any openings that may exist, so as to render the vessel absolutely water-tight. The vertical wall of the part 11 serves as a support for the rear end of the spring and also acts as a stop to limit the inward movement of the cap. The oppositely-projecting caps of one of the vessels or parts spring into openings 15 in the overlapping portion of another vessel or part as it is fitted upon the first-mentioned vessel or part, and thereby detachably secure the two vessels together.

The vessels or parts are easily separated by pressing the caps inwardly out of the openings 15.

The many advantages of this improvement are chiefly its simplicity and cheapness, the convenience of attachment and detachment, and the fact that any reasonable number of vessels or parts can be attached to or detached from each other without unfastening the others, as each vessel or part has its own independent fastening device.

I claim as my invention—

1. A pail comprising a plurality of vessels; one of which has a lapping portion provided with oppositely-disposed perforations, and the other oppositely-disposed spring-tensioned bolts adapted to lock in the perforations in said lapping portion and to be pressed

inwardly by the operator to release it therefrom.

2. In a vessel comprising a plurality of parts, one having a perforation and another having slits and an opening between the slits, a locking-bolt adapted to seat in the perforation of the first-mentioned part and projecting through the opening, a spring tensioning the bolt and an inclosing part for said spring having ears fitting through the slits, substantially as set forth.

3. In combination, a plurality of vessels adapted to be fastened in superimposed position and having oppositely-disposed perforations in the upper portions of its ends and each vessel with the exception of the bottom vessel having oppositely-disposed spring-tensioned locking-bolts in the lower portion of its ends adapted to spring into the depressions of the adjacent vessel, substantially as set forth.

FRANK G. O. EHLE.

Witnesses:
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