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PATENTED APR. 14, 1903.

D. G. CARPENTER.

FRUIT JAR.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 9, 1902.

NO MODEL.

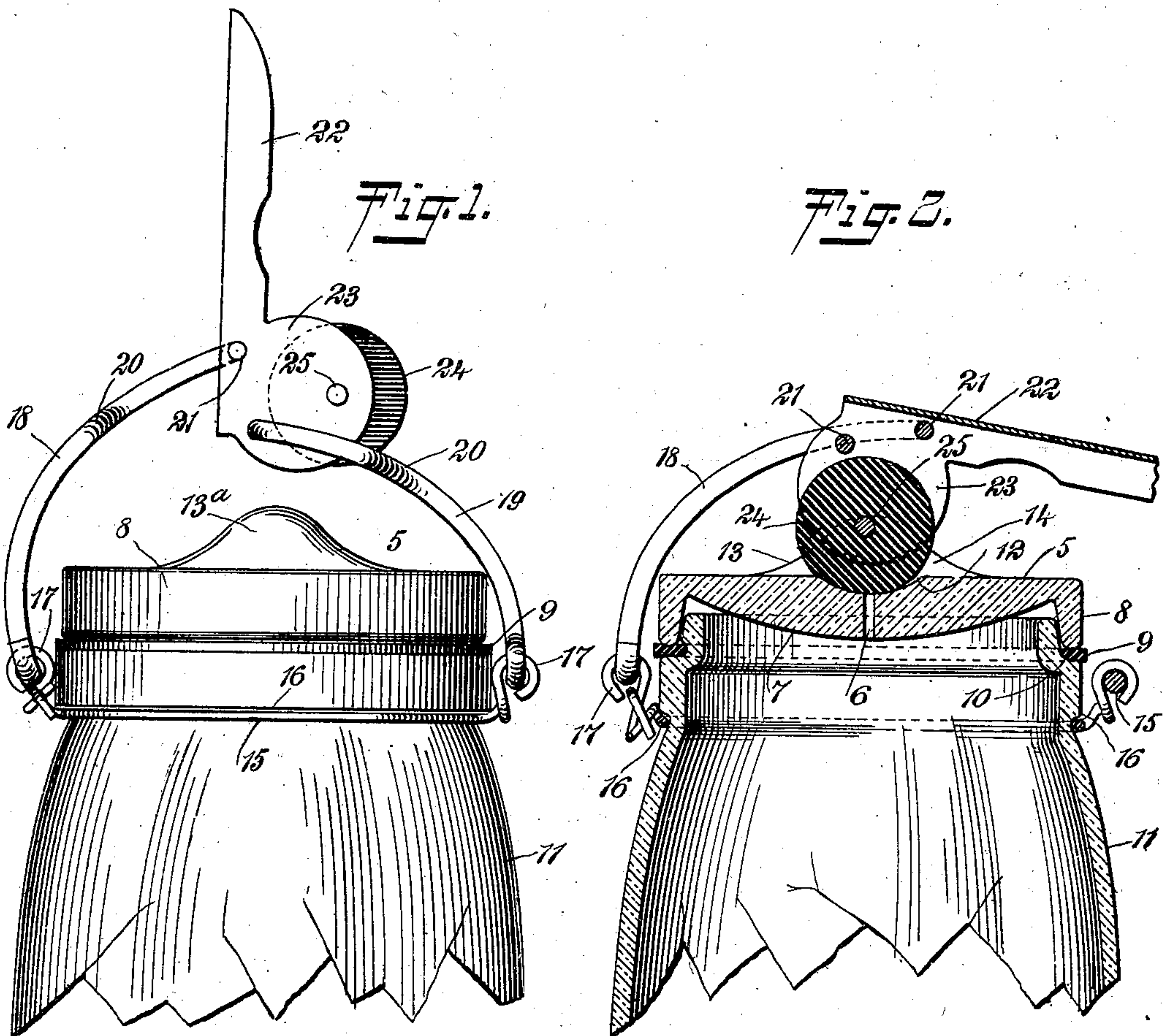
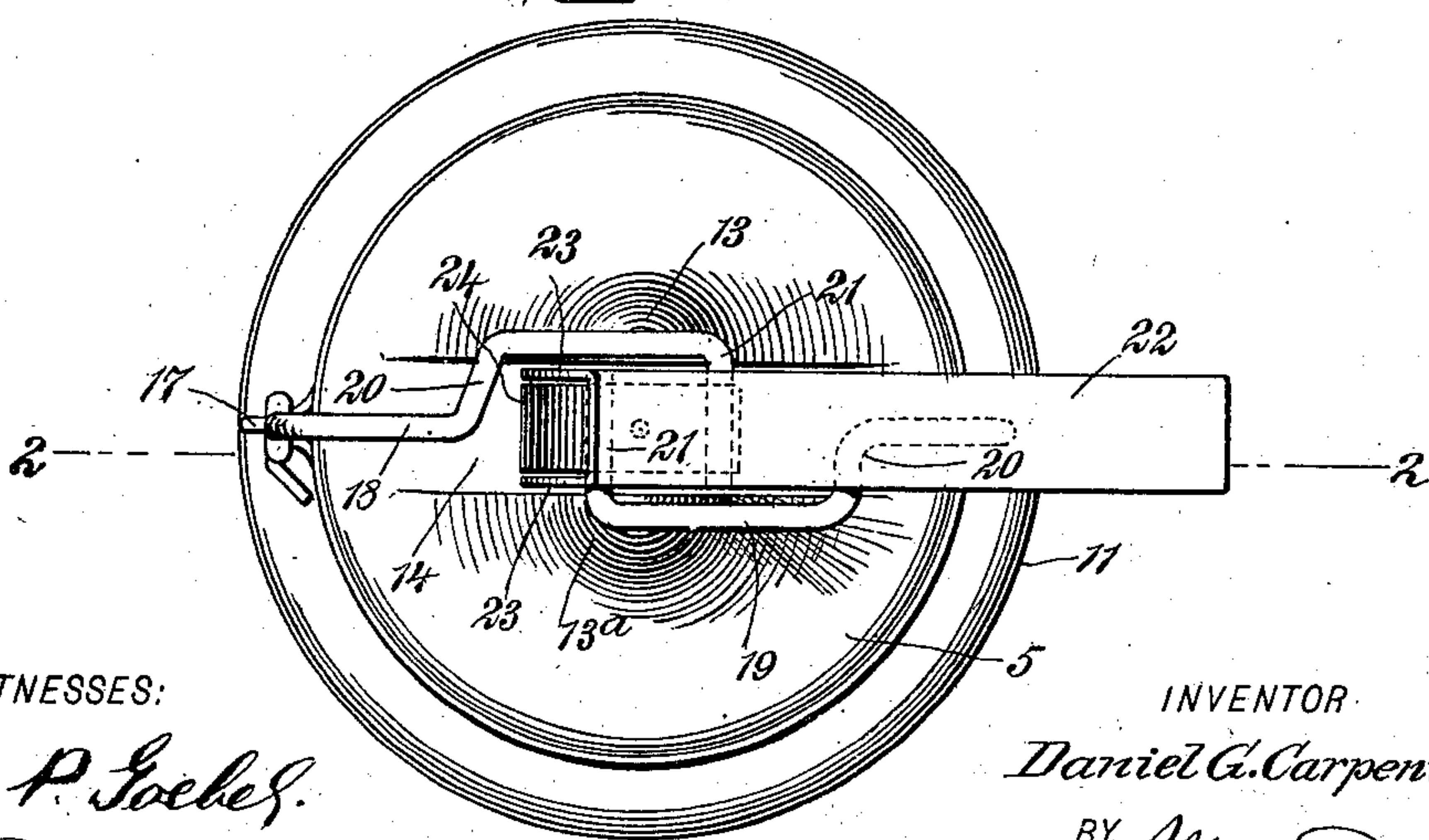


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FRUIT-JAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 725,407, dated April 14, 1903.

Application filed August 9, 1902. Serial No. 119,102. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DANIEL GODFREY CARPENTER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Highview, in the county of Sullivan and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Fruit-Jar, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in preserving-jars which may be used for packing all kinds of fruits, vegetables, and other substances; and one object that I have in view is to provide an improved closure which may be easily and securely closed in an airtight manner, such closure being capable of the important advantage of being easily and quickly opened by a very slight effort by a housewife or other person, thus overcoming one of the serious objections to the existing styles of jars now on the market.

A further object is to provide a closure designed to remain attached to the vessel and capable of swinging out of the way of the cover, such closure being simple and durable in construction, cheap of manufacture, and efficient in operation.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the subjoined description and the novelty will be defined by the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a preserving-jar embodying my improvements and showing the clamping devices in their inoperative positions. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional elevation taken in the plane of the dotted line 2 2 of Fig. 3 and showing the clamping devices in their operative positions. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the jar-closure.

In carrying my invention into practice I employ a cover 6, which is provided with a single vent passage or opening 6, the latter extending transversely through the cover and extending through the upper and lower faces thereof. This cover is provided with a dished or curved lower face 7 and with an annular peripheral flange 8, the latter being adapted to rest upon a gasket 9, which is fitted to the shoulder or seat 10, near the top edge of a jar or other vessel 11. The cover 5 is further-

more provided with a depression or countersink 12, the same being formed in the upper face of the cover, at the middle portion thereof, so that the vent-passage 6 will open through the depression or countersink. Finally, the cover is provided with the bosses 13 13<sup>a</sup>, which project upwardly from the top face of said cover and which are disposed on opposite sides of the depression or countersink 12. These bosses are curved in order to merge into the top face of the cover and present a neat appearance; but the inner opposing edges of the bosses are straight and disposed in parallel relation to each other, as shown more clearly in Fig. 3, whereby the bosses produce a transverse channel or groove 14 in the top face of the cover. This channel or groove extends in a straight line across the cover and with it communicates the depression or countersink 12, which has communication also with the vent-passage 6.

15 designates a ring or band secured around the jar or vessel 11 and below a shoulder 16 thereon. The band or ring is provided at diametrically opposite sides with loops or eyes 17, to which are loosely or pivotally connected the members 18 19 of a divided bail. Each bail member is curved in the direction of its length and provided with a bend or offset 20 at a point intermediate of its length, (see Fig. 3,) the free end of the bail terminating in a pivotal arm 21. The pivotal arms of the two bail members extend in opposite directions and inwardly toward each other, as shown by Fig. 3, and said bail members are connected individually to a common or single operating-lever 22, as shown by the drawings. This lever is made or struck up from a single piece of sheet metal to provide parallel side portions joined by an intermediate web or back portion; but the detail construction of the lever is not material and may be modified at the will of the skilled constructor. The lever is provided at one end with the flanges 23, which are integral with the lever and produce at the end thereof a cam-shaped head. The pivotal arm 21 of the bail member 18 passes through the lever 22 from one side thereof, while the other arm 21 of the bail member 19 passes in the opposite direction through the lever, (see Fig. 3,) whereby the bail members are individually connected to



the lever at points a short distance from each other, as clearly shown by the drawings. The provision of the parallel plates 23 at one end of the lever produces a divided or bifurcated cam-shaped head, and within this division or bifurcation is arranged a compressible or yieldable roller 24, the same being idly or loosely mounted in the cam-shaped head by the pin or arbor 25. This pin or arbor is secured in any suitable way to the parallel members 23 of the cam-shaped head at a point eccentric to the pivotal connections 21 of the bail members to the lever, whereby the roller is adapted to partly extend beyond the lever-head, and it is thereby exposed for engagement with the top face of the cover. This cover may be made of rubber or other suitable material, and, if desired, I may provide the roller with a core of hard material—such, for example, as wood, metal, or any other substance.

The lever and the roller are permanently connected with the parts comprising the divided bail, and this bail is loosely connected to the band or ring 15, so as to swing to a position at one side of the jar or vessel, whereby the clamping device may be easily and quickly adjusted out of the way of the cover in fitting the latter to or removing it from the vessel.

In using the improved jar the clamping device is swung to one side and the cover is removed, after which the cooked food or other substance is placed in the vessel in the usual way. The cover is fitted on the vessel before the contents thereof become cool, and the bail is then raised over the cover, care being taken to bring the straight channel or groove 14 in line with the pivotal connections 17 between the bail and the ring or band 15. The lever when the bail is adjusted over the cover occupies the position shown by Fig. 1, and the operator now depresses the free end of the lever, so as to bring the pivotal arms 21 of the bail members nearly in the same horizontal plane. (See Fig. 2.) This depression of the lever forces the compressible roller into the groove 14 and the depression 12, whereby the bail is placed under tension and the roller is compressed. This operation secures an air-tight joint between the cover and the roller, and said roller serves to effectually close the vent-passage 6 against the ingress of air into the jar or vessel, whereby the contents of the jar may be kept for an indefinite time.

When it is desired to use the fruit or other matter packed in the jar, it is only necessary to lift the free end of the lever, and thereby raise the roller from engagement with the cover, the parts assuming the position shown by Fig. 1. The withdrawal of the roller from

the cover allows atmospheric air to rush through the vent-passage 6, and thereby break the vacuum in the air-tight passage. This construction and adaptation of parts enables the cover 5 to be easily lifted off the vessel, and this advantage is of considerable importance in this class of devices, because the operator is not required to pry off the cover and use force in removing the same. These objections are common to ordinary preserving-jars now on the market, and, as hereinbefore stated, one of the prime features of my invention is the provision of the closure, in which the cover can be expeditiously and easily removed.

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

1. In a closure for air-tight packages, the combination with a cover having a vent, of a lever, a divided bail having its members pivoted at different points to said lever, and a member adapted to be moved by said lever into and out of engagement with said cover.

2. In a closure for air-tight packages, the combination with a cover having a vent, of a bail, a lever attached to the bail, and a compressible roller mounted in the lever and arranged to ride upon the cover to force the latter into place and to close the vent therein.

3. In a closure for air-tight packages, the combination with a cover, of a cam-headed lever, a divided bail having its members pivoted individually to said cam-head of the lever, and a compressible roller mounted in the headed lever in eccentric relation to the pivotal connection of the bail to the lever.

4. A closure for air-tight packages, having a cover formed with a depression which communicates with a transverse groove and with a vent-passage, combined with a clamping device including a lever and a compressible roller arranged to be forced by said lever into the depression or over the vent-passage.

5. In a closure for air-tight packages, the combination of a cover having a vent-passage and a transverse groove in its upper face, a divided bail, a lever having a cam-shaped head to which the members of the bail are individually pivoted and a compressible roller journaled in the lever-head in eccentric relation to the pivotal connection of the bail members thereto.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DANIEL GODFREY CARPENTER.

Witnesses:

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G. SPENCER COWLEY.