V. C. GETTY.

MILK BOTTLE HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 24, 1908.

**930,281.** Patented Aug. 3, 1909.

FIG. 1.

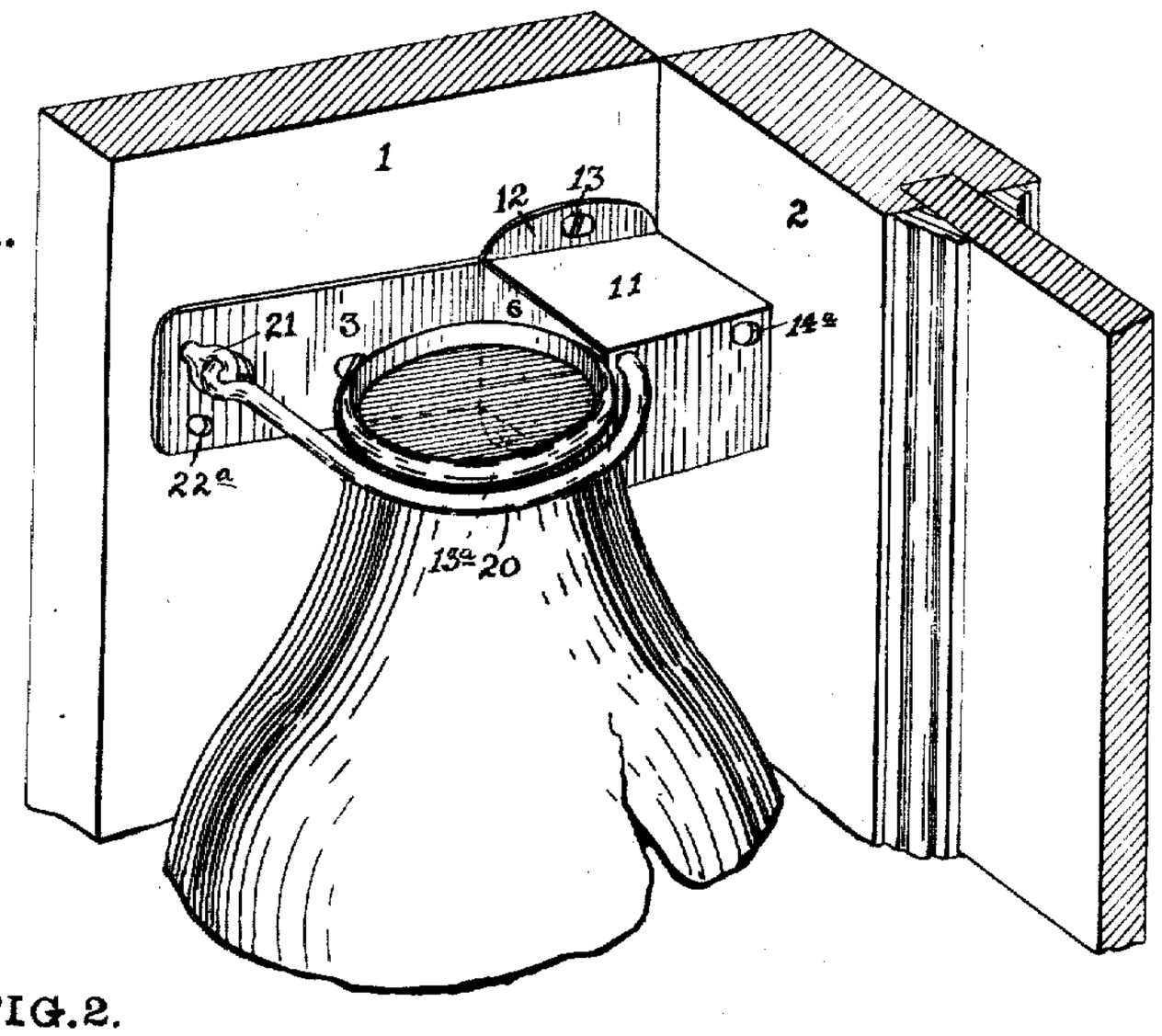



FIG. 2.

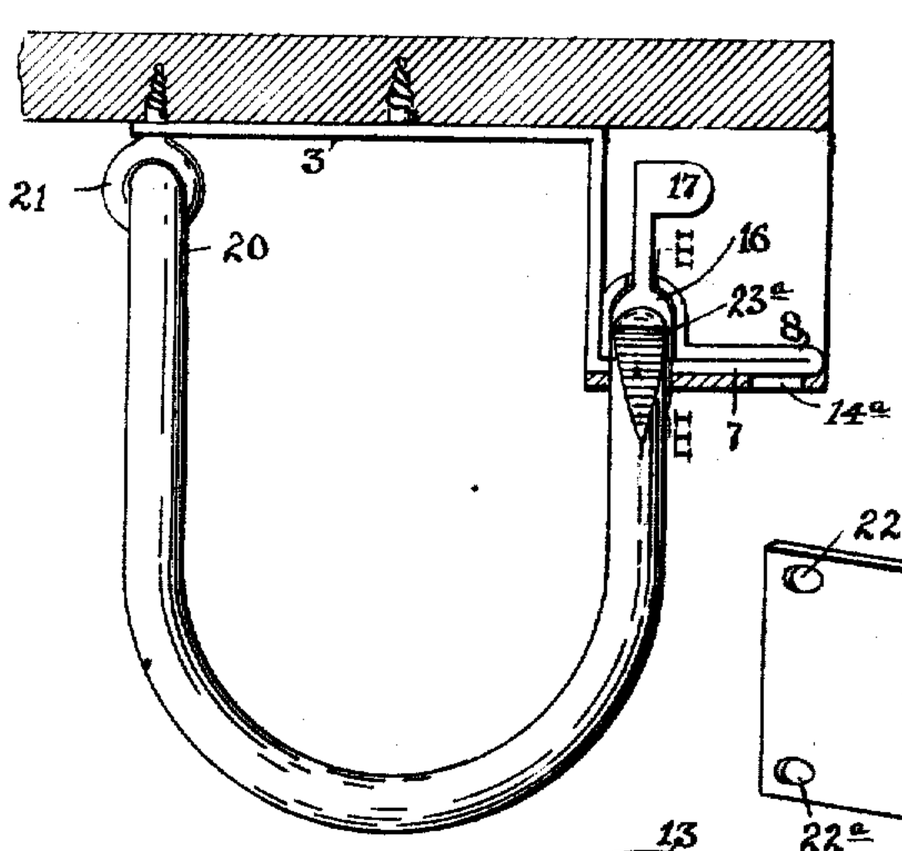
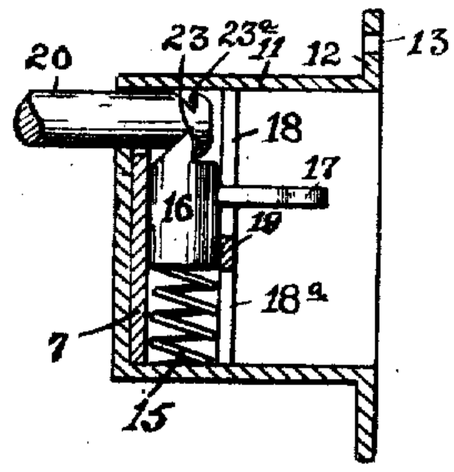



FIG. 3.



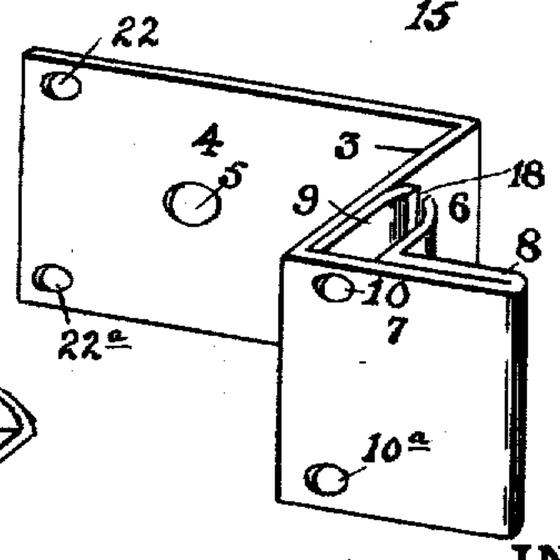
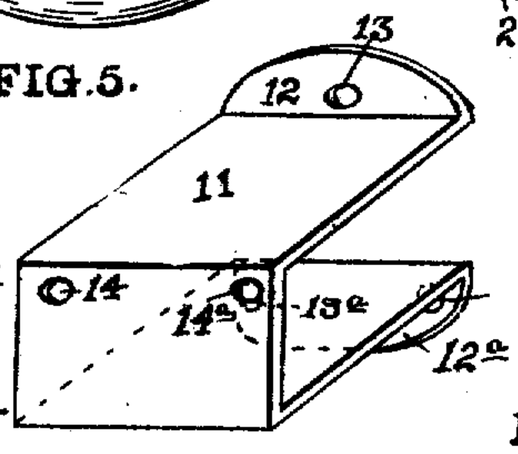




FIG. 4

FIG. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## MILK-BOTTLE HOLDER.

No. 930,281. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 3, 1909.

Application filed December 24, 1908. Serial No. 469,102.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, VINCENT C. GETTY, a citizen of the United States, and residing in the city of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented or discovered new and useful Improvements in Milk-Bottle Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices for securing or locking milk bottles and similar articles so that when left by the dealers on the consumer's doorstep or windowsill, they cannot be stolen or removed by unauthorized persons but will remain where deposited until the door or window is opened by a member of the consumer's household. A number of devices intended for this purpose have been designed and tested but have not gone into commercial use, notwithstanding the fact that the aggregate value of milk or other products thus stolen is very large and forms a fruitful source of dispute between dealer and consumer. Among the objectionable features of prior devices intended for this purpose and which have contributed to their lack of success, may be named the cost of manufacture arising from the use of a large number of expensive cast metal parts and their complicated mechanism which, also, causes them to quickly get out of repair and become useless. As the device is furnished free of charge by the dealer, it must be very inexpensive to enable it to go into general use. Again, the method of attaching these devices to the building has been such that they may be readily removed bodily from the building together with the bottle locked therein. Another objection is that such devices are not reversible so that two styles must be kept in stock, one for either side of the door or window, and, after installation, a device cannot be shifted from one side of the door or window to the other but a new device must be procured. My invention overcomes all of these objections.

The casing is made of stamped metal, preferably in two parts, at small cost, and is so constructed as to be reversible and may be attached to either side of the doorway or window, or transferred from one side of the same to the other side at the consumer's convenience.

The means of attaching the device to the building is such that when a bottle is locked in the device, the screws or other attaching means are so protected by the bottle that they cannot be reached by a screw driver or other tool, so that the bottle cannot be stolen by removing the device bodily from its anchorage.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective showing a portion of a door jamb and closed door with my device attached and a bottle locked therein; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same with one of the plates removed; Fig. 3 is a section along the line III—III in Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a perspective showing one of the plates, and Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the other plate.

The following is a description of the drawings.

1 represents a door jamb and 2 represents a door, shown closed. For the sake of illustration I have shown the device applied to a doorway, but it will be understood that it may as readily be applied to a window frame, the sliding window being substituted for the swinging door.

The locking device consists of the following named elements. 3 is a plate having a portion 4 adapted to be attached flat against the door jamb 1 by means of a screw passing through a central hole 5 which is located behind and concealed by the bottle when a bottle is locked in the device. Any other convenient means of attachment may be substituted. 6 is a portion of said plate bent horizontally at right angles to the portion 4 and 7 is another portion of said plate 3 bent at right angles to portion 6 and parallel with portion 4, the portions 6 and 7 thus forming two sides of a box. The plate 3 is further bent back against the portion 7, as at 8, and at its end is bent inwardly and then outwardly to form three sides of a compartment 9 whose outer wall is formed by portion 7 of said plate 3. Adjacent respectively to the top and bottom of portion 7 of said plate 3 are provided two hasp holes, 10 and $10^a$ for the entrance of the hasp to be described into the compartment 9. 11 is a second plate, bent to form three sides of a rectangular box and provided with vertical end flanges, 12 and $12^a$. The upper flange 12 is provided with a central screw hole 13 through which a screw may be passed to secure the plate 11 to the door jamb while the lower flange, $12^a$, is provided with two screw holes, $13^a$—$13^a$, one of the same being adjacent to each end of the flange. It is evident

that when the bottle is locked in place, its body will protect the screw hole 13ª in the end of the flange 12ª adjacent to the bottle, so that a screw driver or other tool cannot be applied to remove the screw from said hole and therefore the plate 11 cannot be removed while the device is in use. It is also evident that while the plate 11 is in place, as in Fig. 1, the horizontal portions of said plate will form the top and bottom of a box and the vertical portion of said plate will abut against portion 7 of plate 3, whereby a closed box will be formed inclosed on all sides except that closed by the door 2 when the same is shut. Access may thus be gained to the interior of the box only when the door 2 is opened, or, where the device is attached to a window frame, by raising the window.

14 and 14ª are holes formed in the vertical portion of plate 11 on the same level as hole 10 in plate 3, so that one of said holes, 14, will register with said hole 10 when the parts are assembled as shown in Fig. 1. If, however, the device be assembled in reverse arrangement, as when it is attached to the other side of the door, the plate 3 will be turned upside down and the hole 10ª in portion 7 of said plate will register with the hole 14ª in plate 11.

In the compartment 9, formed by a portion of plate 3 and closed at the top and bottom by horizontal portions of plate 11, is seated a coiled spring 15 on top of which rides a latch 16 provided with an arm 17 extending through a vertical slot 18 extending downwardly in the wall of said compartment from the top thereof, and protruding into the interior of the inclosed box where it is accessible when the door or window is opened. I prefer to provide a second slot, 18ª, in vertical alinement with slot 18, and separated therefrom by a web 19, extending upwardly from the bottom of compartment 9. Thus when the plate 3 is reversed the slot 18ª is uppermost and the arm 17 of latch 16 moves therein. The web 19 is left to prevent undue weakening of the walls of compartment 9.

20 is a hasp pivoted at one end to screw eye 21 which passes through a hole, 22, in plate 3, on a level with hole 10 in said plate, and is screwed into the door jamb. A second hole, 22ª, is provided in plate 3, in vertical alinement with hole 22, and on a level with hole 10ª in said plate 3, so that when said plate 3 is reversed, as above described, the screw eye 21 is inserted into the door jamb through said hole 22ª which is now above hole 22, said hole 22ª being then in alinement with the holes 10ª and 14ª which would then be registering with each other. The free end of hasp 20 is beveled, as shown, and provided with vertical shoulders, 23 and 23ª, the material of the hasp being beveled forwardly toward said shoulders to form seats.

Assuming that the device is assembled and attached as shown in Fig. 1, the neck of the bottle is encircled by hasp 20 and the free end of said hasp inserted through registering holes 10 and 14 into compartment 9, the beveled end of said hasp riding over the spring actuated latch 16. The shoulder 23 will pass said latch which will then spring up into the seat formed at the rear of said shoulder, thus firmly locking the free end of said hasp against removal from compartment 9 until the door 2 is opened and the finger inserted in the box to press down arm 17 to depress said latch 16 out of engagement with hasp 20, when said hasp may be withdrawn from compartment 9 and the bottle released. By this means the bottle is firmly locked in the device and cannot be released except in the manner above described. As the screws passing through screw holes 5 and 13ª, adjacent to the bottle, are protected by the bottle, the plates 3 and 11 cannot be removed so that access cannot in this manner be had to the interior of the compartment 9. It is impossible to unscrew the screw eye 21 to release the pivoted end of hasp 20 while the free end is locked in compartment 9.

When the device is to be attached to the opposite side of the doorway or window from that shown in Fig. 1, the plate 3 is reversed so that holes 22ª and 10ª are on top, the hole 10ª then registering with hole 14ª in plate 11 when the said plate 11 is fixed in place. The slot 18ª in the wall of compartment 9 is also uppermost, the arm 17 of latch 16 extending through said slot into the interior of the box. The screw eye 21 is now inserted through the hole 22ª into the door jamb or window frame and the free end of the hasp is inserted through registering holes 10ª and 14ª to lock the hasp about the bottle neck.

Enough space is left between the corner of the box and the bottle neck to allow of some play so that the bottle cannot be used as a lever to crush in the box. However the closed door bearing against one end of the box practically renders the box indestructible. As the necks of both quart and pint bottles are of the same diameter, the hasp will contain the neck of either size, enough space being allowed between the extreme outer diameter of the hasp and the door jamb to accommodate the body of the bottle. The bottle may rest on the door step or be suspended in the air by the hasp as may be desired, according to the height of device above the step.

It is evident that when the free end of the hasp 20 is not locked in compartment 9, the hasp will drop vertically and hang parallel with the door jamb, out of the way of

the dress of persons passing through the doorway.

It thus appears that my locking device or holder for milk bottles and similar articles cannot be tampered with or removed bodily from the building with the bottle locked therein. It is cheap and at the same time very durable, and its novel construction renders it readily reversible by the simple adjustment of the position of plate 3 when the device is assembled.

What I desire to claim is:—

1. In a milk bottle holder, a hasp pivoted to a stationary support and adapted to encircle a bottle, a locking device for the free end of the hasp, a plate attached to the stationary support and bent to form a compartment wherein said locking device is mounted, and a second plate superimposed on said first plate and bent to co-act with said first plate to complete a box open on but one side, which side is closed by the house closure when the same is shut, and inclosing said compartment whereby the release of said locking device is prevented except when the house closure is open.

2. In a milk bottle holder, a hasp pivoted to a stationary support and adapted to encircle a bottle, a locking device for the free end of the hasp, a plate attached to the stationary support and bent to form a compartment wherein said locking device is mounted and also to form a portion of a box concealing said compartment, and a second plate superimposed on said first plate and attached to the stationary support and bent to co-act with said first plate to complete said box closed on all sides but one, which side is closed by the house closure when the same is shut, whereby the release of said locking device is prevented except when the house closure is open.

3. In a milk bottle holder, a hasp pivoted to a stationary support and adapted to encircle a bottle, a locking device for the free end of the hasp, a releasing means carried by said locking device, a plate attached to the stationary support and bent to form a compartment wherein said locking device is mounted and from which said releasing means extends, and a second plate superimposed on said first plate and bent to co-act with said first plate to complete a box open on but one side, which side is closed by the house closure when the same is shut, and inclosing said compartment and said releasing means whereby access to said releasing means is prevented except when the house closure is open.

Signed at Pittsburg, Penna., this 22nd day of December 1908.

VINCENT C. GETTY.

Witnesses:
J. H. HARRISON,
E. A. LAWRENCE.