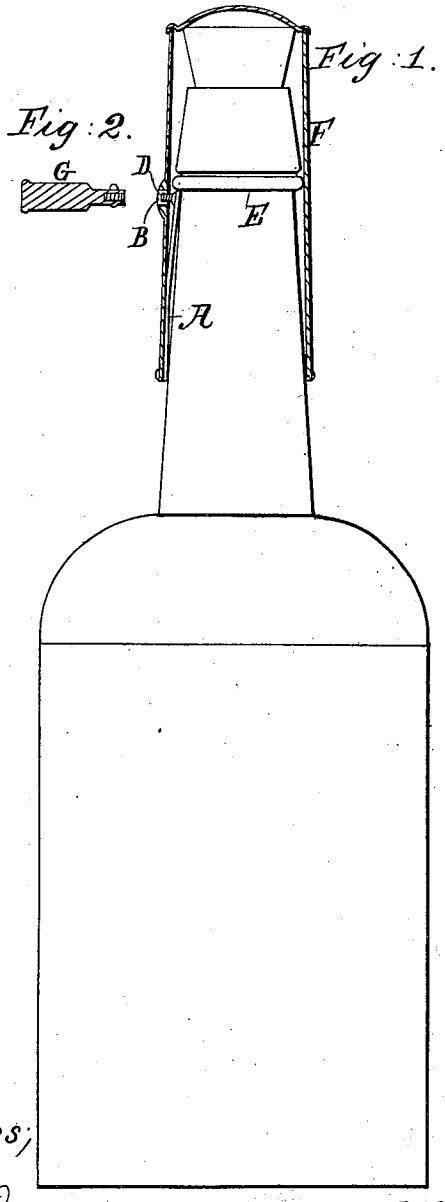
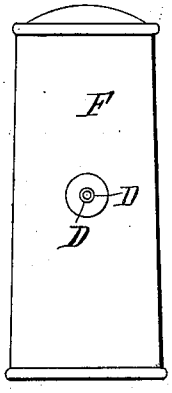
W. A. Ludden,

Stopper Lock,

No. 85,111, Patented Dec. 22, 1868.







Witnesses;

James F. Dean

Thos. W. Wyatt

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WILLIAM A. LUDDEN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 85,111, *dated December* 22, 1868.

IMPROVED BOTTLE-LOCK.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. LUDDEN, of the city of Brooklyn, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful "Bottle-Lock" and "covering or cap for the neck of bottles;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and construct the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a means for securely locking up the contents of bottles, and rendering them inaccessible to any one not possessing a key to unlock the same; and, for this purpose,

My invention consists of a cap or hollow cylinder, closed at one end, into which the neck of any ordinary bottle may be inserted, the said cap or hollow cylinder being provided with a spring, or screw-catch, or other lock, so constructed and arranged that the catch or screw or bolt of the lock shall catch under or upon the flange on the upper end of the neck of the bottle, when the cap is in position, thus securing it firmly in its place.

It is obvious that many forms and kinds of catches, bolts, and locks may be used in connection with this cap.

In the form shown in the accompanying drawings, the covering or cap F is made of sheet-brass or other material, in the form of a thimble-cap, or a hollow cylinder closed at one end, and covering the entire end of the neck of the bottle, and shutting in the cork, and coming down over the neck of the bottle, below the rim or flange E of the neck, more or less, closing in the cork and the neck of the bottle with a snug or fair fit.

The lock is attached to the side of the cover or cap, and, with its spring or screw-catch, bolting or shutting below and under the rim or flange of the neck of the bottle, and, when locked, makes the cover or cap fast upon the neck of the bottle, keeping the cork in place, and the bottle and its contents safe, and inaccessible to all except those having the key to the lock of the same.

The spring or catch-lock is constructed by means of a spring, attached at its lower extremity by being soldered, riveted, or otherwise fastened to the lower edge of the bottle-cover or cap, and within the same, and projecting upwards and towards the centre of the cap, at an acute angle within the cap, when the bottle-cover or cap is locked, or when in its natural position, as seen in Figure 1, at the point A; and to the upper end of the spring is affixed a short screw, as seen at the point B, in figs. 1 and 4, perpendicular to the spring, or nearly so, projecting outward and through the bottle-cover or cap, and into a central opening or key-hole, D, in a short nipple, affixed upon the outer surface of the bottle-cover or cap.

The bottle-cover or cap is unlocked and removed by inserting a key, G, at and within the end of the nipple, with a socket and screw in the end of the key, and, by screwing the key upon the screw attached to the spring, while the shoulder of the key, coming against the top of the nipple, draws the spring back against the side of the cover, and thus sets the bottle-cover or cap free, and easily to be slipped off or removed from the neck of the bottle.

The lock may also be constructed by means of a screw attached to and passing through the nipple by corresponding threads upon the screw and in the nipple, with the outward and upper end of the screw square, or of any other form, and the bottle-cover or cap locked by attaching a key of corresponding shape and form, fitting upon the outer end of the screw, and the bottle-cover or cap locked by turning the screw by means of the key, and driving the screw inward and through the nipple, towards the neck of the bottle, and under the bottle-rim or flange, and thus making the bottle-cover or cap fast and firm.

Many other forms of tumbler and other locks may be advantageously employed in connection with the lock, cap or bottle-stopper, some of which, though more complicated and expensive, would give greater security against the picking of the lock or the opening of the bottle without the proper key.

The cap F may be made of other metals or materials, and ornamented, as may be desired.

What I claim as my invention, is—

A bottle-cap, provided with a lock or catch, in which the spring or bolt acts directly on the flanged neck of the bottle, substantially as described.

WILLIAM A. LUDDEN.

Witnesses:

JAMES J. DEAN,

THO'S M. WYATT.