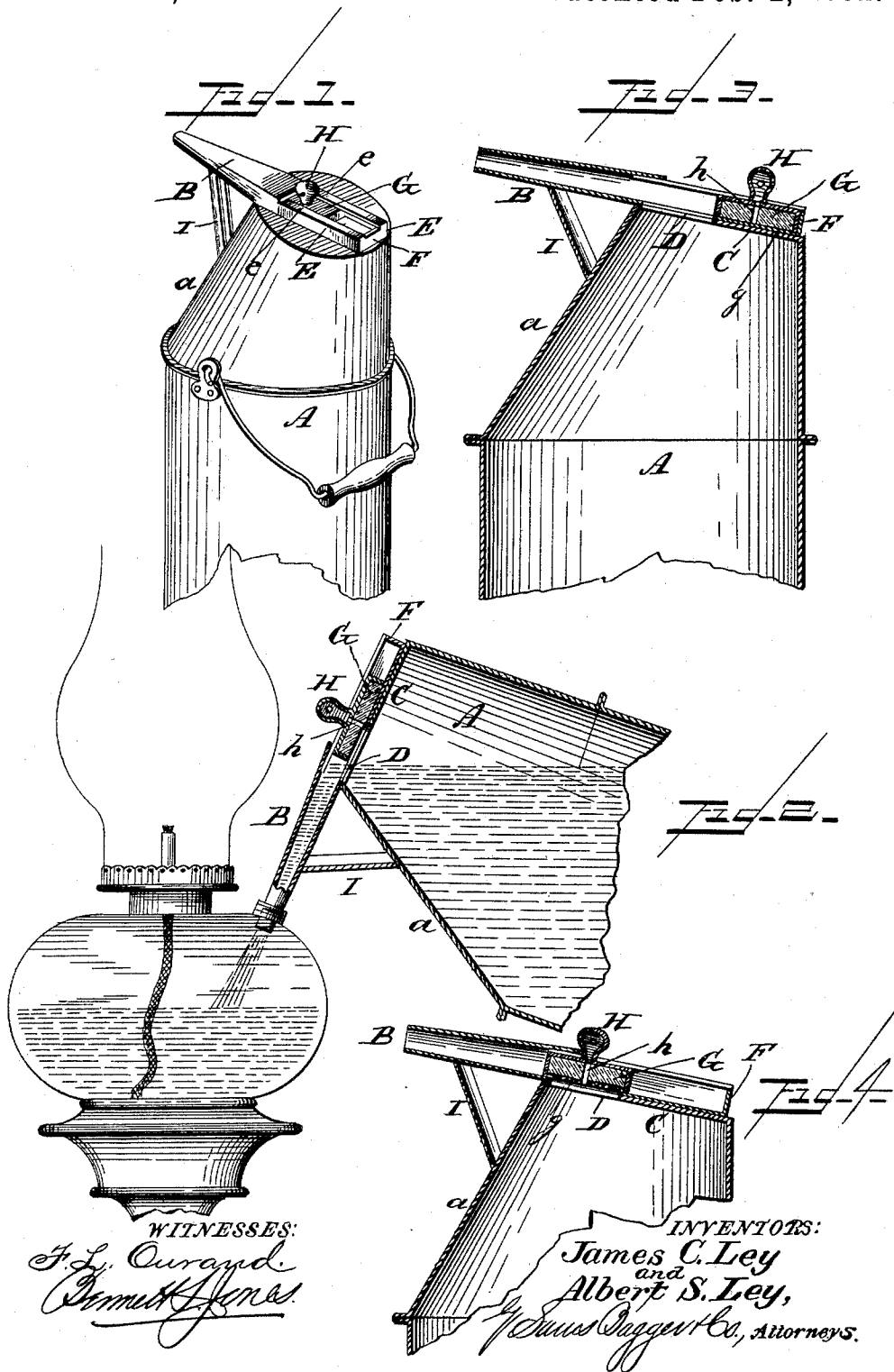


(No Model.)

J. C. & A. S. LEY.
SPOUT AND STOPPER FOR OIL CANS.

No. 468,152.

Patented Feb. 2, 1892.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES C. LEY AND ALBERT S. LEY, OF HANCOCK, MICHIGAN.

SPOUT AND STOPPER FOR OIL-CANS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 468,152, dated February 2, 1892.

Application filed May 16, 1891. Serial No. 392,995. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES C. LEY and ALBERT S. LEY, both residents of Hancock, in the county of Houghton and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spouts and Stoppers for Oil-Cans; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the top part of an oil-can equipped with our improved spout and stopper. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same, showing the position of the stopper when pouring oil from the can into a lamp-fount or other receptacle. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the position of the stopper when the can is open for filling, and Fig. 4 is a sectional view showing the position of the stopper when the can is closed.

Like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures.

This invention relates to oil-cans for household use for filling lamps, &c.; and it consists in an improved construction and arrangement of the spout and stopper whereby a single stopper, which is always permanently attached to the can, answers the twofold purposes of a closure both for the opening through which the can is filled and for the spout through which it is emptied, substantially as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

On the accompanying drawings, the letter A denotes the body of the can, which may be of any desired size, shape, and material. Preferably the top part of the can is made sloping inwardly, as shown at *a*, so that the mouth of the spout B will not project beyond the body of the can, thus permitting the cans to be packed easily in boxes fitted to hold a certain number (for example, half a dozen or a dozen) without waste of space, so that the cans will "nest" together easily.

The top of the can is closed by a disk C, through which an oblong aperture D is cut between two parallel side flanges E E, which are connected at their rear end by a transverse flange F, which forms a stop or abutment for the sliding stopper G when the can is opened

for filling. This sliding stopper is in the nature of a rectangular disk or plate, of metal or any other suitable material, lined on the under side with a packing-disk *g*, of rubber, leather, or some other suitable packing, so that it will form a tight joint as against the flat top C. It is held in place movably, but permanently, by the parallel side flanges E E and their overlapping edges *e e*, so that it can be moved forward and back only, its play or limit of motion in a rearward direction being controlled by the rear flange F and in a forward direction by the vent-knob H, striking against the rear or inner end of the spout. This knob H, which forms a finger-piece for operating the sliding stopper, is bored through, as shown at *h*, the bore being continued through the stopper-plate and its packing to form a vent, through which air may enter the can when oil is being poured out through the spout into a lamp-fount or other reservoir.

Instead of being connected with the body of the can, as usual, the spout B is set above the top plate C, to which it is soldered, as well as to the side flanges E E, its projecting end being connected to the sloping front *a* by a brace I. In shape the spout is of a flat triangular or wedge shape, its reduced outer end forming the mouth or outlet, while its broad and flattened inner end is of a width corresponding to the distance between the parallel side flanges E E, of which it forms, so to speak, a "tapering" and "closed" continuation, while its depth is equal to the height of said sides or flanges above plate C, so that the forward end of the sliding stopper-plate G may be pushed some distance into the open rear end of the spout above the oblong aperture D.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, the operation of the device will be readily understood.

By reference to Fig. 4 it will be seen that when the stopper-plate G is pushed forward until the knob H strikes against the open rear end of the spout plate G will project with its forward end into the spout, so as to not only close the spout, but also cover completely the oblong opening D, thus effectually sealing the can. By pushing knob H a little in the opposite direction it will uncover the forward part of the oblong aperture before it is wholly withdrawn from the overlapping rear end of

the spout, thus opening communication between the spout and the interior of the can, (see Fig. 2,) so that the contents of the can may be poured out through the spout into the lamp-fount or other reservoir which requires filling. If the stopper is pushed back still farther, until its near end strikes against the stop or flange F, the whole of the aperture D will be uncovered and the can may now be replenished by filling it through this opening.

It will be seen that whatever the position of the stopper it is never detached from the can, but that the can is opened for pouring or filling or sealed simply by sliding the stopper forward or back between the parallel ways or flanges E E. The packing *g* makes a tight and perfect joint, so that loss by leakage or evaporation is effectually prevented.

Having thus described our invention, we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The combination, with a can-body having an opening in its top, of a spout secured over said opening and having an aperture in

its upper and lower wall coincident with the opening in the can-top, thereby providing means for filling the can, and a stopper located within said spout and having a sliding engagement therein to close the said apertures and opening and to shut off the flow of oil through the spout.

2. The combination of the can having the aperture D, parallel side flanges E E, and transverse stop F, spout B, open at both ends and overlapping the forward part of the can-aperture, and the sliding stopper-plate G, provided with a suitable vent H *h* and packing *g*, substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereunto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES C. LEY.
ALBERT S. LEY.

Witnesses:

JOHN RUHL,
EDWARD K. LORD.