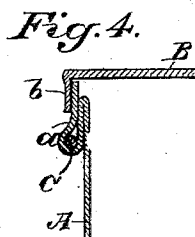
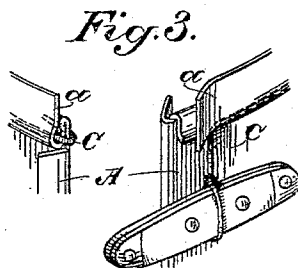
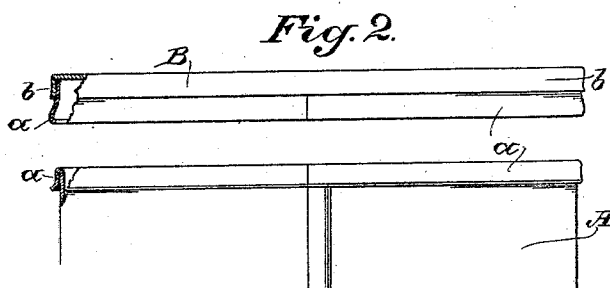
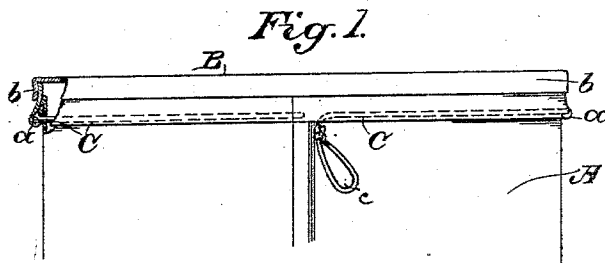


(No Model.)

W. H. GILBERT.
KEY OPENING CAN.

No. 565,162.

Patented Aug. 4, 1896.



Witnesses,

R. A. Morse
J. F. Oscheck

Inventor
William H. Gilbert
By Dwyer & Co.
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY GILBERT, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

KEY-OPENING CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 565,162, dated August 4, 1896.

Application filed September 20, 1895. Serial No. 563,110. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY GILBERT, a citizen of the United States, residing in Oakland, county of Alameda, State of California, have invented an Improvement in Key-Opening Cans; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to that class of key-opening cans in which a wire is folded within a portion of the can or its cover and has one end projecting, adapted to be grasped or to be taken hold of and caused to tear the fold in which it lies.

My invention consists of a can the end of the body of which is provided or formed with an exterior V-shaped flange or trough and a wire lying in the base fold of said flange or trough with its end projecting, so that when force is applied to it the wire will tear through said base fold and thus sever the outer wall of the flange or trough and relieve the attached head or cover, so that it may be separated from the body of the can.

The object of my invention is to provide a key-opening can of a simple construction, providing for the effective disposition of the opening or tearing wire, and especially providing, by the peculiar bending or construction of the flange, for leaving the edge of the can throughout its entire circumference folded upon itself and with a finished edge after the wire has been torn out, thereby adapting the can for other uses, such as a pail, a cup, or such like vessel, requiring a finished and smooth edge.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of my can, a small portion of the top being shown in section. Fig. 2 is a similar view, the head or cover and the severed outer wall of the flange *a* being shown separate from the can-body and remaining portion of the flange. Fig. 3 is a perspective detail of the separated side-seam edges of the can-body, showing the disposition of the wire ends. Fig. 4 is an enlarged section of the can-top and head.

A is a can-body, the edge of which is provided with or formed around its entire circumference with an exterior V-shaped flange or trough *a*, formed by bending the edge over

outwardly upon itself, and thence upwardly again. The outer wall of this flange or trough is higher than the doubled edge or top of the can-body, and it is upon this outer high portion or wall that the flange *b* of the head or cover B fits.

A wire C is laid within the base fold of the V-shaped flange or trough, one end thereof being bent around the vertical or side-seam edge of the can to hold it, and the other end being brought down outside of the can-body and formed into a loop, as shown at *c*, so that it may be engaged by means of a key, such as a nail or like piece of material, and can be pulled down upon with force sufficient to tear it out of its seat. This free end, in order to avoid accidental soldering when the side seam of the can-body is soldered, is drawn sidewise from the edge as much as possible, and for this purpose the flange *a* is severed along its base fold for a very short distance back, and this is again closed up by the soldering-iron; but the loop end of the wire is thus allowed to be carried away from the side seam and is in no danger of being soldered up, so that it is free to be engaged by the key. When the wire is drawn down by the key, it tears the flange or trough along its bottom fold, and thus the outer portion or wall of the flange or trough which carries the cover or head is severed from the body of the can, which is left with the turned-over inner portion of the V-shaped flange or trough, and this forms a finished and smoothed doubled top edge for the can, giving it a finished appearance, notwithstanding that the cover or head has been removed by tearing, and leaving it smooth enough to adapt it for use as a cup, a pail, and other like vessel.

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

An improved key-opening can, consisting of a body, the upper edge of which is bent or doubled outwardly, and is carried downwardly close to the body, and is thence bent upwardly again, forming a base fold integral with the body and an outer wall which extends above the plane of the folded edge, said base fold, at the side seam of the can, being normally torn away slightly, and a wire

lying in said base fold and having a project-
ing end laid to one side of the side seam in
the torn-away extremity of said fold, said
wire being adapted, when pulled down upon,
5 to tear the base fold close to the body, leav-
ing the can edge doubled and finished, and
severing the outer wall with its seated head
from said body, and a head having a flange
adapted to be passed outside of the upwardly-

extending portion of the bent edge, substan- 10
tially as herein described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
hand.

WILLIAM HENRY GILBERT.

Witnesses:

S. H. NOURSE,
JESSIE C. BRODIE.