(No Model.)

P. LEHMANN.

Canister.

No. 235,789. Patented Dec. 21, 1880.

Fig. 1.

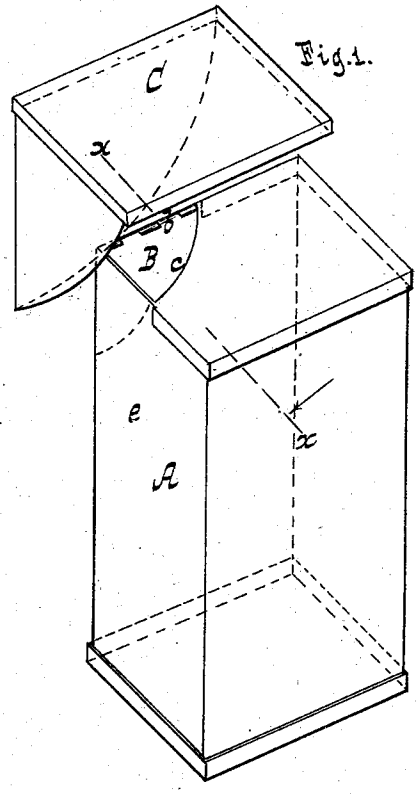


Fig. 2.

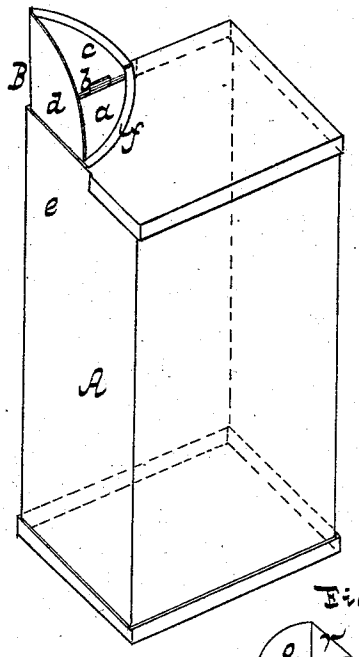


Fig. 3.

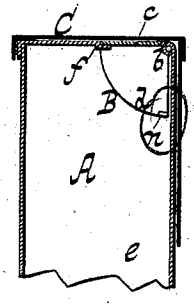


Fig. 4.

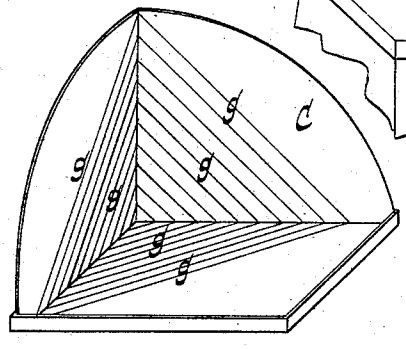
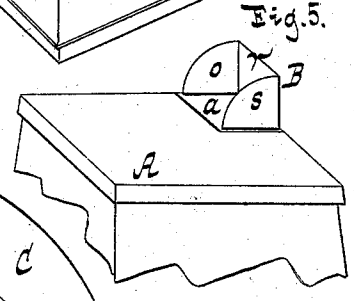


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CANISTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 235,789, dated December 21, 1880.

Application filed November 24, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL LEHMANN, a subject of the King of Prussia, residing at Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia and German Empire, have invented new and useful Improvements in Canisters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of vessels which are generally used for containing tea, ground coffee, or pulverized or granulated substances.

My invention consists in the combination, with a box or vessel, of a spout which is hinged to one edge of the discharge-opening and provided with a flat surface adapted to cover the discharge-opening, so that when said spout is turned up it allows of a free and convenient discharge of the contents of the vessel, while the same when being turned down closes the discharge-opening and lies flat upon the surface of the vessel. With this hinged flat-faced spout is combined a depression at the edge of the discharge-opening opposite to the hinge of the spout, so that when said spout is turned down it lies flush with the surface of the vessel. With the hinged spout is further combined a cap constructed to be placed upon the vessel, so as to cover the spout and retain it in its closed position.

This invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a vessel containing my invention when the spout is closed and the cap raised. Fig. 2 is a similar view when the spout is open. Fig. 3 is a vertical section in the plane *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detached perspective view of the cap. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a modification.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

In the example shown in the drawings the letter A designates a vessel or canister, such as generally used in families for containing tea, ground coffee, or other materials of a similar nature. In the top of this canister is an opening, *a*, for charging or discharging, and if the canister is square, as shown in the drawings, I prefer to make this opening in or near one of the corners of the top.

To one edge of the opening *a* is attached the spout B, the connection being effected by a hinge-joint, *b*, so that said spout can be turned down to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 3, or up to the position shown in Fig. 2.

In the examples shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 the discharge-spout consists of a segmental piece of sheet metal bent at right angles, so as to assume the form best seen in Fig. 2. The side *c* of this spout is connected, by the hinge-joint *b*, to the edge of the discharge-opening, and the side *d* is in line with the inner surface of one side, *e*, of the canister, and when the spout is turned down to the position shown in Fig. 1 the side *d* slides down on the inner surface of the side *e* of the canister, while the edge of the hinged side *c* closes down upon the inner edge of the discharge-opening. This inner edge is formed with a depression, *f*, Figs. 2 and 3, so that the spout when turned down lies flush with the top surface of the canister, as shown in Fig. 3. A suitable stop, *n*, prevents the spout from being turned up beyond the required position. The form or shape of the canister may, however, be changed to suit taste or convenience, and the spout, instead of being made with two sides, *c d*, may be made with three sides, *o r s*, as shown in Fig. 5. When the spout is turned up to the position shown in Figs. 2 and 5, the contents of the canister can be conveniently discharged without danger of spilling.

With the canister and its discharge-spout is employed a cap, C, which is so formed that it can be placed on the top of the canister when the spout is turned down, and that it serves to retain the spout in its closed position. On the inner surface or surfaces of this cap are marked lines *g*, at suitable distances apart, so that when the contents of the canister are poured into said cap the lines *g* indicate the quantity poured out.

For a canister intended for coffee or tea the lines *g* may be so placed and numbered that they indicate the quantity of coffee or tea required for one, two, three, or more persons, so that the cap C serves the double purpose of closing the spout and of forming a measure.

My vessel can also be used with advantage for articles which are sold in pieces, such as cigars, candy, or other like materials.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with a vessel, of a spout

which is hinged to one edge of the discharge-opening and provided with a flat surface adapted to cover the discharge-opening when said spout is turned down, while when it is turned up it allows of a free and convenient discharge of the contents of the vessel, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with the hinged flat-faced spout B and with the vessel A, of a depression in the top of the vessel, to allow the spout when turned down to lie flush with the surface of said top, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the vessel A and its hinged spout B, of a cap, C, constructed to be placed upon the vessel and to cover the spout and retain it in its closed position, substantially as described.

This specification signed by me this 22d day of October, 1880.

PAUL LEHMANN.

Witnesses:
RICHARD B. GRINNELL,
JOHN H. SCHNABEL.