S. H. DECOU.

Fruit-Jar Protector.

No. 209,666. Patented Nov. 5, 1878.

Fig. 1.

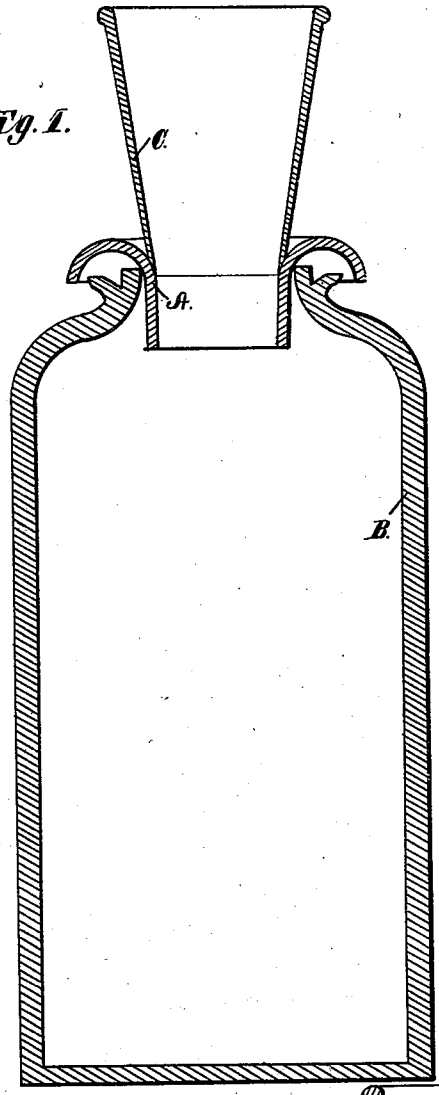


Fig. 2.

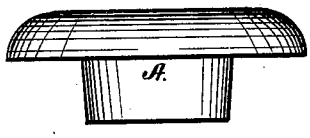
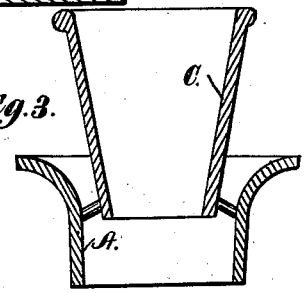


Fig. 3.



Witnesses;
Chas. M. Peck
P. H. Gunckel

Inventress;
Susan H. Decou
by her Attys;
Peck & Ritchie

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SUSAN H. DECOU, OF CENTREVILLE, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-JAR PROTECTORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **209,666**, dated November 5, 1878; application filed October 4, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SUSAN H. DECOU, of Centreville, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Jar Protectors; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

In putting up preserves, pickles, or canned goods, the housewife experiences much difficulty and is put to no little inconvenience in keeping the top part of her jars clean and free from smearing or dripping of the goods to be preserved, even when an ordinary funnel is used. When the upper edge of the jar or can whereon the top rests becomes so smeared, much care and trouble are necessary to render it perfectly clean and dry, in order that the top or cover may adhere tightly when the wax or solder is applied.

The object of my invention is to provide a protector for the tops of the jars or cans which will keep them perfectly clean and dry while the preserves are being poured in; and my device consists, essentially, of a short metal cylinder or collar of sufficient size to fit snugly into the mouth of the jar or can, and which has its top flaring and bent over so as to cover and protect the top edge of the vessel. This may be used either with or without a funnel, all as will be hereinafter set forth and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a central sectional view, in elevation, showing the application of my device. Fig. 2 shows the device without the funnel. Fig. 3 is a modification of the device.

I take a tube of heavy tin, brass, copper, or other sheet metal, from one and a half to about two and a half inches in diameter and about three inches long, and by suitable machinery I bend over its top edge in the form of a concavo-convex flange. This forms the protector represented by A, which is inserted into the mouth of the jar, as shown in Fig. 1. The turned-over flange should be large enough to cover the top edge of the jar when the lower portion of the protector is inserted into the mouth of the jar, as shown. The protector may be used in this form, or a funnel of the shape shown at C, Fig. 1, may be attached to the protector by solder or in any suitable way, or any ordinary detached funnel may be used.

These devices may be made of different sizes to suit the jars or cans, and when it is desired to fill the latter they are applied as shown in Fig. 1, and the preserves or other goods are poured through them as through an ordinary funnel.

By means of the protecting-flange the top of the jar is kept perfectly dry and clean, even though the preserves should run over and down upon the outside of the jar.

The particular form of this device may be varied at will, provided the covering-flange be retained. For instance, the lower portion of protector may be fluted or crimped, as also the flange, to form ducts for the escape of air or gases while the preserves are being poured; also, instead of inserting the funnel C tightly into the protector, it may be suported within the latter by equidistant arms or ribs, as seen in Fig. 3, so that if any of the preserves should run over the sides of the funnel they will be caught by the flaring mouth of the deflector and conducted into the jar.

I claim as follows:

1. A protector for the tops of jars or cans, consisting of a tubular portion, to be inserted into the mouth of the jar, and a protecting-flange, which covers and shields the top edge of the jar, as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination, with the protector A, constructed as described, of a funnel, C, applied in the manner and for the purpose specified.

Witness my hand this 30th day of September, A. D. 1878.

SUSAN H. DECOU.

Witnesses:

ISAAC DECOU,

WM. M. HAINES.