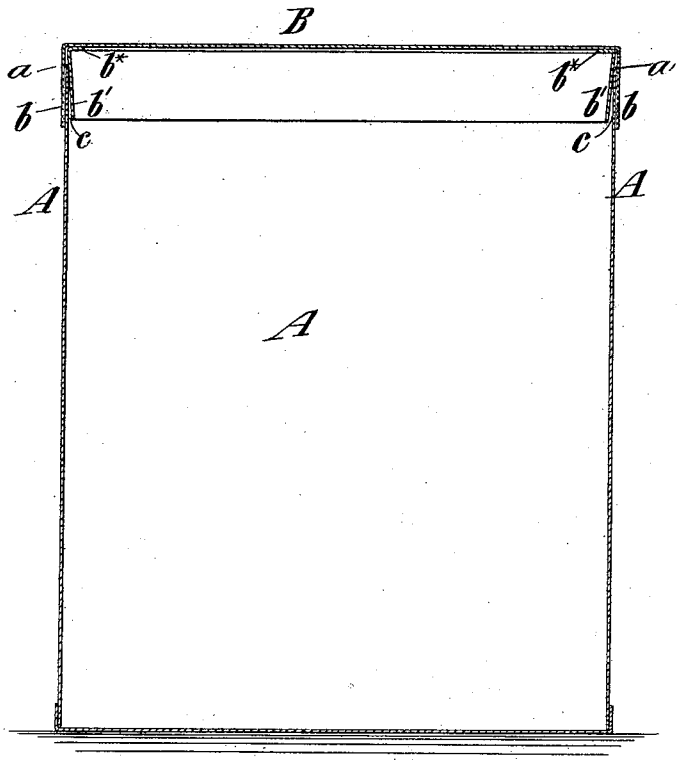
(No Model.)

A. WARNER.

METAL CAN, &c.

No. 337,539. Patented Mar. 9, 1886.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER WARNER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

METAL CAN, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 337,539, dated March 9, 1886.

Application filed August 27, 1885. Serial No. 175,432. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER WARNER, of the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Metal Cans, Pails, and other Covered Receptacles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cans, pails, and other such receptacles as are used for containing meats and other articles of food, lard, butter, &c., and which are made of tin or other sheet metal, and provided with covers which are slipped downward upon them. When such pails are used for packing lard and other substances which it is desired to preserve from atmospheric influences, or which consist of or contain liquid which would be liable to leak out in case the pails or cans become tilted or inverted in transportation, it is common to solder the slip-covers in place on the bodies of the pails and cans. This method of securing the cover, while it effectually closes the pail or can, is objectionable, because of the difficulty of removing the cover, and because in removing the cover by the rude implements usually at hand the body or cover, or both, are liable to become so bent or distorted that they cannot be reused in the original way, and are often so cut and defaced as to be afterward useless for any purpose.

The object of my invention is to construct covers of the kind described so that they may be very tightly secured upon the bodies of the pails or cans by simply pressing them down thereon, thereby producing a metal-to-metal joint, and so that the covers may be readily removed without defacing or injuring in any way the bodies or covers, and leaving them fit for further use.

The invention consists, essentially, in the combination, with a metal pail or can body, of a cover having a double rim, which is presented downward, and forms a wedge-shaped annular seat or groove to receive the edge of the body, and closing thereon with a wedge-like action when forced down thereon. I prefer to make the outer rim or member of the cover which slips outside the body straight and cylindric, so that it will hug the body closely, and project at the lower edge only the thickness of metal from the body, and the inner rim or member which slips inside the body I make with an inward bevel or taper from top to bottom, so as to form the wedge-shaped groove or seat between the rims.

The accompanying drawing represents a can and cover embodying my invention.

A designates the can-body, which is shown as straight and cylindric from top to bottom. The upper edge or rim *a* of the body is shown as plain and straight, being only the thickness of the metal in width.

B designates the cover, provided with a double rim, *b b'*, which is presented downward. The outer rim or member, *b*, of this double rim may be struck up or turned in from the same piece with the head of the cover in the usual way, and the inner rim or member, *b'*, may have its upper edge turned inward, as shown at *b**, and soldered to the under side of the cover top. The outer and inner rims or members, *b b'*, of the double rim are in close proximity, and are so arranged and placed relatively to each other that between them is formed an annular groove or seat, *c*, which is wedge-shaped or contracted from the lower edge upward. This groove or seat *c* is so proportioned that at the lower edge its width is considerably more than the thickness of the body-rim *a*, while at the top its width is less than the thickness of the rim *a*. Therefore it will be seen that when the cover is forced or pressed down upon the body the seat or groove *c* closes with a wedge-like action on the body-rim *a* and forms a tight joint therewith.

I prefer that the wedge-like form of the groove or seat *c* shall be obtained by making the inner rim or member, *b'*, of the double rim with an inward bevel or taper, as shown, and the outer rim or member, *b*, may then be straight and cylindric, and hug closely against the exterior of the body A.

For many purposes the joint produced by forcing the cover directly down on the body-rim *a* without any substance between them will be sufficient, thus producing a close metal-to-metal joint. If greater security be desired, a strip of metal foil may be doubled or folded over the body-rim *a* before the cover is applied, or a small quantity of suitable varnish or cement may be applied to the body-rim *a* before the cover is applied.

Whenever it be desired to remove the contents from the can or pail the cover may be loosened and taken off by simply knocking the

lower edge of the rim *b* upward at one or more points around the circumference of the can or pail, and this may be done without in any way marring the body or cover, and will leave them fit for repeated use.

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

1. The combination, with a metal pail or can body, of a cover having a double rim which is presented downward and forms a wedge-shaped annular seat or groove, *c*, to receive the edge of the body, and closing thereon with a wedge-like action when forced down, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination, with a metal pail or can body, of a cover having a double rim, which forms a wedge-shaped groove or seat, *c*, to receive the edge of the body and to close with a wedge-like action thereon, the outer member, *b*, of the rim being straight and cylindric, and the inner member, *b'*, being beveled or slanted inward, substantially as herein described.

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