

S. S. BUTLER.

Improvement in Covers for Jars and Bottles.

No. 128,849.

Patented July 9, 1872.

Fig. 1.

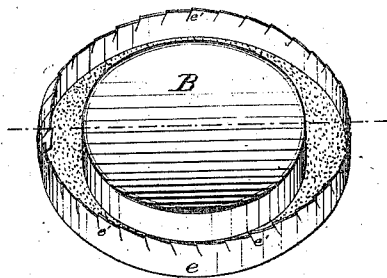


Fig. 2.

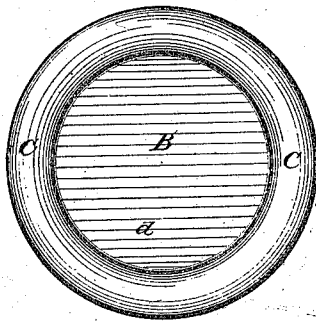
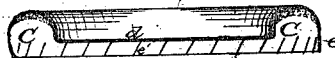


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

Alonzo Hughes
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL S. BUTLER, OF PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN COVERS FOR JARS AND BOTTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 128,849, dated July 9, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL S. BUTLER, of Petaluma, Sonoma county, State of California, have invented an Improved Cap for Bottles, Jars, and other Vessels; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the under side of my improved cap. Fig. 2 is a top view of my cap; and Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same.

My invention has for its object to provide a cheap cap or top for bottles or other vessels which can be readily applied and by means of which such vessels are rendered perfectly airtight, and without the danger of having the caps accidentally displaced. My invention consists in stamping or turning a piece of metal so as to create a depression in its center and forcing the edge down and creating an annular depression around the rim on the under side, and also a slitting or clipping the edge of the cap so formed, for the purposes hereinafter described.

In order that those skilled in the art may make and use my invention, I shall proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

The cover B is a piece of sheet metal which is stamped or otherwise formed with an annular depression, C, around its rim on the under side. This annular channel is intended to be of the proper width and circumference to allow the edge of the mouth of the bottle, jar, or other vessel to enter it when the cap is properly placed upon the bottle. A flange, e, will then project downward entirely around the outside of the bottle. This flange e has on its lower edge a succession of short slits, e' e' e', for a purpose hereinafter stated. When the cap is thus formed a circular depression or saucer, d, will be left on the upper side of the cap.

In using this cap the bottom of the annular depression C is covered with wax or other adhesive or plastic substance. When wax is used several small pieces can be placed in the depression at intervals around it and the cap be placed upon a stove. The wax will then

melt and equally distribute itself around the depression. When thus heated the cap can be applied over the mouth of the bottle or jar which it is desired to seal and the depression or saucer d on the upper side filled with cold water, which will immediately chill the wax or other substance and prevent it from running down the inside of the bottle, jar, or other vessel.

I am aware that metal caps for bottles are not new, and I do not claim, broadly, a metal or glass cap when made with the depression or saucer, such being shown in the patent of H. B. Norton of June 2, 1868. These caps, as made, are objectionable, however, because they are easily displaced and liable to be accidentally knocked off, there being no means of securing them in position. Another difficulty is, as fruits are canned while hot, the steam in the jar causes the metal cap to rise from its seat, thus endangering the safety of the fruit. By my improvement in the construction of these caps they can be readily secured in place after being once put in position by simply turning in the lower edge of the flange e, and this is rendered easy by means of the slits e' e' e', as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. This not only gives a neat finish to the jar or bottle on which my cap is used, but all danger of the packing wasting out or of the top coming off by accident is entirely and successfully avoided.

For unsealing the jar it will be only necessary to fill the depression or saucer d with hot water, which will melt the wax or other adhesive employed; so as to allow the cap to be removed.

When the cap is made of tin or other metal which is liable to corrode by the action of acids the under side can be covered with a coating of wax or porcelain, to prevent the acid from coming in contact with the metal.

By the use of this cap open-mouthed bottles, jars, or cans, of which almost every family has a number constantly on hand—such as pickle-jars—can be utilized.

The cap above described accomplishes this object perfectly, enabling families to employ cast-off bottles for preserving fruits at a very small additional expense, while the labor of sealing is greatly reduced, and, when properly performed, a perfectly air-tight joint is made

and the cap secured against accidental removal or the possibility of wasting the packing, both of which are very important points gained by my invention.

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

As a new article of manufacture, the cap B

provided with the annular-shaped depression *c*, the saucer *d*, and the slitted flange *e*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

SAMUEL S. BUTLER.

Witnesses:

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RICHD. K. EVANS.