

K.E. Ashley, Fruit-Jar Holder,

N^o 50,674.

Patented Oct. 31, 1865.

Fig. 1.

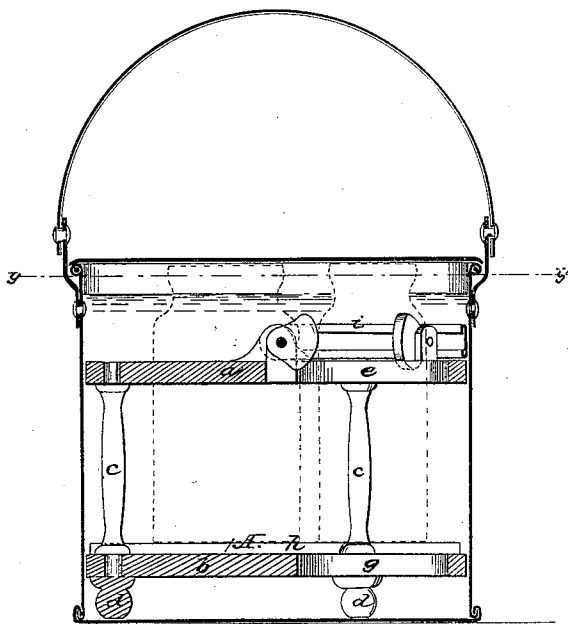
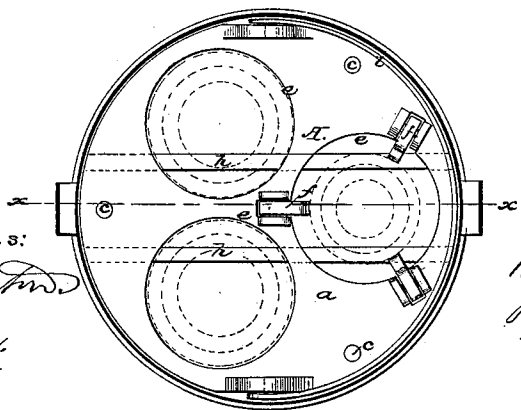


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

J. W. Huntington
W. O. Brown.

Inventor:

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By Munroe & Co.
Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KATE E. ASHLEY, OF WILLIAMSBURG, NEW YORK.

IMPROVED STAND FOR PRESERVE-JARS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,674, dated October 31, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KATE E. ASHLEY, of Williamsburg, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Preserving Fruit, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a vertical central section of this invention, the line *xx*, Fig. 2, indicating the plane of section. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same, taken in the plane indicated by the line *yy*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates particularly to a stand to be used for lifting jars in and out of hot water when the same are to be used in the process of preserving fruits and vegetables.

In the ordinary process of sealing jars said jars are immersed in boiling water as far as can be without allowing the water to enter the mouths or open parts of the same, and in carrying out this operation much inconvenience is experienced in putting the jars in and lifting them out of the vessel of hot water, so much so that often the fingers are scalded, and jars, in consequence thereof, are dropped and broken, causing their contents to be lost. Furthermore, great care must be taken to prevent the jars from coming in contact with the bottom of the vessel of hot water in which they may be placed, and to effect this pieces of wood or layers of straw or other material must be placed beneath the jars, which material, by reason of the motion of the water or through the jars floating from it, often becomes displaced, and thereby the jars are caused to be broken and their contents are lost. Besides these inconveniences, it is also necessary to place weights on the jars, in order to keep them down in the water and prevent them from floating and being thrown against each other by the motion of the boiling water, and by these weights the operation of filling the jars is much impeded.

All these inconveniences are prevented by the use of my stand A, which is composed of

two disks, *a b*, of iron, tin, or other suitable material, which are held apart by three (more or less) uprights, *c*, and suitable legs, *d*, under the lowest disk, *b*, complete the stand. The upper disk, *a*, is perforated with three (more or less) holes, *e*, each large enough to admit a jar of the largest size used for preserving fruit or other materials.

In order to adapt the openings for jars of smaller size, eccentric disks or cams *f* are applied near the edge of the said openings, and by turning said disks they can be made to grasp the jar and hold it firm in the opening in which it may be placed. Said eccentric disks or cams may be arranged on horizontal or on vertical axles, or any other suitable devices, such as wedges, may be applied to produce the desired effect.

The bottom disk, *b*, of the stand A is also perforated with three (more or less) holes, *g*; but these holes simply serve to allow the boiling water to pass freely all around the jars, and in order to prevent the jars from passing through said holes strips *h*, of wood or any other suitable material, are fastened across the same, and these bars or rests may be straight or curved, or made in any desirable form or shape, and they may be placed in grooves or between ears.

The stand is made to fit into a vessel, B, of tinned sheet-iron or other suitable material, with or without a cover, and it is provided with one or more bails, *i*, by means of which it can be conveniently handled.

By the use of this stand all accidents, losses, and disappointments are prevented, and the operation of preserving is rendered at once easy, convenient, and economical, inasmuch as it holds the jars from the bottom of the boiler in which they may be placed, keeps them apart while boiling, and all can be lifted out without danger of scalding the hands.

It must be remembered that the construction of the stand A can be changed in various different ways. For instance, the upper disk with its openings might be dispensed with, and the bottom disk might then be provided with such suitable devices as should serve to keep the jars from slipping upon the same, or the upper disk might be so arranged that it could be easily detached from the uprights

and dropped over the jars after the same had been arranged on the bottom disk, and by providing one or more of the uprights with suitable spring-catches this movable disk might be made to keep the jars down and prevent them from floating in the boiling water.

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

1. The stand A, composed of one or more disks or their equivalents, capable of supporting the jars while the latter are introduced in

or lifted from the vessel containing boiling water, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. Making the holes *e* in the disk *a* adjustable by cams *f* or their equivalents, substantially as and for the purpose described.

KATE E. ASHLEY.

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,

WM. E. LYON.