

(No Model.)

A. L. WHITTEMORE.
CAN HOLDER.

No. 502,897.

Patented Aug. 8, 1893.

Fig:1.

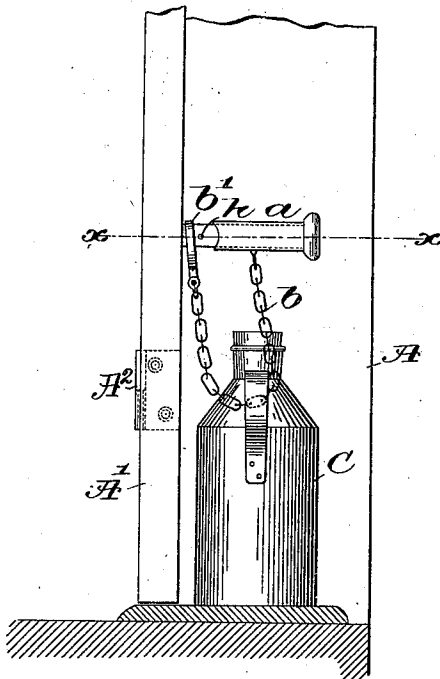


Fig:3.

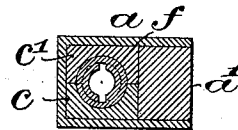


Fig:4.

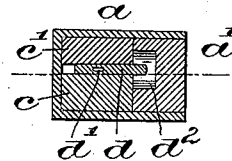


Fig:2.

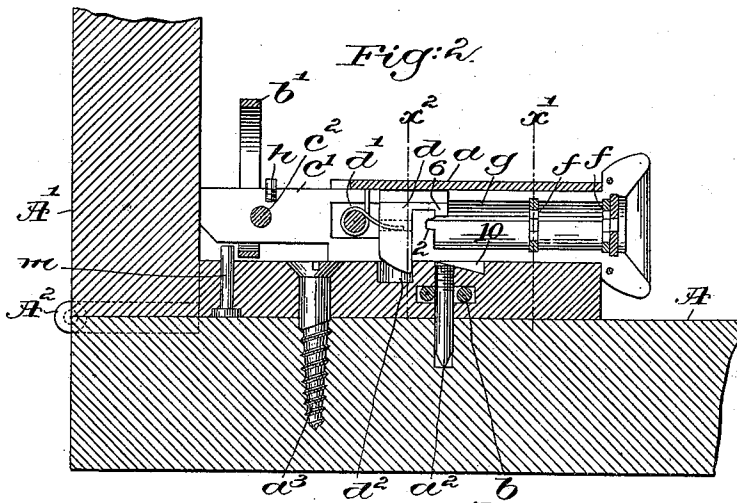


Fig:5.

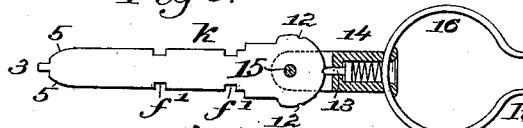
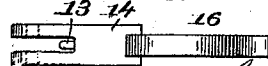


Fig:6.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR L. WHITEMORE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

CAN-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 502,897, dated August 8, 1893.

Application filed February 17, 1893. Serial No. 462,697. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR L. WHITEMORE, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Can-Holders, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters and figures on the drawings representing like parts.

People in cities and towns who receive milk delivered by milkmen in cans are much annoyed by the frequent loss of cans left at their doors, the cans being stolen before the usual rising hour of the servants.

I have devised a can-holder to prevent the can from being stolen, or even overturned by accident.

My improved holder consists of a bolt controlled by a lock, the key of which is always in the custody of the milkman, the inner end of the bolt having co-operating with it a slot-closer, or being made to abut against some movable part of the house, as a door or window, as will be described.

Figure 1, shows my improved holder in use, it being represented as applied to a door casing, the door being shown as closed; Fig. 2, an enlarged section on the line x ; Fig. 3, a section in the line x' ; Fig. 4, a section in the line x'' ; and Fig. 5, shows the key detached. Fig. 6 is a detail of the key handle.

The holder herein shown is composed of a case or shell a , having a suitable back piece a' provided preferably with an attaching prong a^2 , and with a hole for the reception of a screw a^3 by which to properly secure the shell in place, the prong a^2 also preferably serving as a means for securing one end of a suitable chain or other strong flexible connection b . The case is adapted to receive a bolt composed, as shown, of two plates c , c' suitably united by a rivet c^2 , the inner faces of the plates being cut away to receive a dog d , acted on by a spring d' to normally keep the outer end of the dog on the outside of the bolt in a notch d^2 of the back piece, the bolt at such time being retained in the casing with its inner end in contact with a suitable slot-closer, which may be a pin or projection m extended through the back piece, as shown

in Fig. 1, it being understood when the servant puts out the can at night, that she puts the flexible connection through the handle of the can C , and then puts the large link or ring b' of the connection over the inner end of the bolt, the latter having been left retracted, and then the bolt will be pushed in substantially to the slot-closer, in which position the dog d will spring into the notch d^2 and the can will be retained so that it cannot be taken away except by a person having a proper key, care being taken that each milkman has a key for his line of customers which differs in shape from the key of other milkmen on his route. As herein shown, the two parts of the bolt are bored to form a cylindrical space or chamber g in which are suitably located the wards f of any desired number, it being understood that the shapes of the blades of the keys will be varied at pleasure, and that the notches f will be properly located to adapt them to the location of the wards under whatever arrangement, this being well known to lock-makers. The end of the chamber, as herein shown, has a socket 2 to receive the teat 3 at the inner end of the key blade, the latter, when turned in the chamber,—the notches and wards then necessarily coinciding,—causing one of the shoulders 5 of the key blade to act on the part 6 of the dog d and withdraw it from the opening d^2 , which done, the milkman may pull the bolt outwardly from the slot-closer, the key remaining in the bolt until the stop h meets the case, such partial withdrawal of the bolt enabling the ring b' of the connection to be freed and the empty can to be taken off by the milkman, he leaving a full can, and also leaving the bolt retracted.

In some neighborhoods, mischievous persons take the filled cans before the rising time of the servants, and it is desirable at times to prevent this.

In some places customers are willing to have the holder so located that the can cannot be taken off by an unauthorized person without opening a door or window, or moving away from the end of the back piece some movable part of the building.

In the drawings the case is represented as

applied to a door casing A and the closed door A' hinged at A² shuts substantially against the inner end of the case. When this is permitted to be done, the slot-closer *m* will be
 5 taken out of the back piece, and the door or sash will constitute the slot-closer. In this latter application of my device, the milkman will leave the bolt pushed fully in, and the servant, when putting out the can at night,
 10 the door being open, will put the ring *b'* over the end of the bolt and close the door, thus securely locking the can in place.

The milkman on his arrival will retract the bolt, take off the can, supply a filled can, put
 15 the ring in position, and push the bolt into it up substantially to the door, the dog *d* locking the bolt in place, so that the filled can cannot be removed until the servant opens the door, or it may be, raises the window.

To prevent children or others from tampering with the holder and pulling it out of the case, I have provided a second notch 10, which, when the bolt has been retracted sufficiently to permit the removal of the ring,
 25 will engage said notch and prevent the further retraction of the bolt even should the stop *h* be removed, but the inward movement of the bolt will not be restrained by such notch, because of the bevel at the end of the dog.

In all the different positions in which the holder has to be applied at different places, that is, on one or the other side of the door or window frame, or in corners, &c., it becomes expedient, if not absolutely necessary,
 30 to provide a novel key, that is, one in which the handle portion may occupy different positions with relation to the blade, so that the key may be operated with the greatest ease and rapidity. To do this, the outer end of the
 35 blade has been provided with a circular or sector-like head provided with suitable notches 12 which are adapted to be engaged by a locking device 13, herein shown as a spring-pressed pin placed in a suitable notch
 40 in a forked part 14, suitably pivoted at 15 upon the key blade or head, said forked part having preferably a metallic spring band 16 which may be adapted to the finger, gloved or otherwise, of the milkman, the spring or
 45 clamp-like head enabling the key to maintain its position on the glove or hand.

The milkman on arriving at a house can readily change the angle of the blade with relation to the handle of the key to thus put
 55 the blade in position to readily enter the bolt and leave the hand of the milkman in the most advantageous position to turn the key readily no matter what the location of the holder, as in use the key will be kept on the
 60 finger continuously.

It will be understood that this invention is not limited to the exact shape shown for the case, or for the blade or its dog, or to the shape shown for the key, as all these parts
 65 may be changed in shape in various manner

without the exercise of invention and yet be within the scope of this invention.

It will be obvious that a vertically moving window sash will perform readily the functions described for the door in stopping the
 70 slot or space between the end of the casing and the end of the bolt.

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

1. A can-holder consisting essentially of a bolt, a case therefor, a slot-closer to co-operate with the inner end of the bolt when protruded, and a connection under control of the bolt to retain a can, combined with a
 80 locking device concealed within the case for and to maintain the bolt protruded, a key to act upon said device to unlock the bolt, and a retaining device to connect the key and bolt while the bolt is unlocked, movement of
 85 the key at such time moving the bolt longitudinally in the case, substantially as described.

2. A can-holder consisting essentially of a bolt, a case in which it is movable, and a slot-closer, combined with a connection under the control of the bolt to retain a can, the inner end of the bolt being adapted to co-operate with the slot-closer to retain the connection in its locked condition, and with a locking
 90 dog for the bolt and a key to release said dog to thus enable the bolt to be withdrawn by the holder of the key, substantially as described.

3. A can-holder consisting essentially of a bolt having a key receiving opening, a retaining device therein, a locking dog for the bolt, a case in which said bolt moves, and a connection under the control of the bolt to retain the can, the inner end of the bolt being adapted to abut against or terminate next
 105 a movable part of a building and be held in such position by the dog, the movement of said part to open it exposing the inner end of the bolt for the removal of the can from the said connection, combined with a key adapted to enter the opening in the bolt to release the dog, the retaining device holding the key in place while the bolt is unlocked—
 110 substantially as described.

4. In a can-holder, a case having two notches, combined with a bolt provided with a key receiving opening, and a spring actuated dog adapted to be moved against the action of the spring by a key inserted in said opening,
 120 one of said notches being engaged by the dog when the bolt is in operative condition, the other notch engaging the dog when the bolt has been unlocked, to prevent the withdrawal thereof from the case, substantially as described.
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5. A can-holder, consisting of a case, a bolt adapted to slide therein and provided with a spring-actuated dog, a flexible connection connected with said case and adapted to co-op-
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erate with the end of the bolt, a key consisting of a blade provided with a pivoted head, and a locking device intermediate the handle and blade to enable the angle of the blade to
5 be changed with relation to the handle, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR L. WHITEMORE.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. GREGORY,
M. J. SHERIDAN.