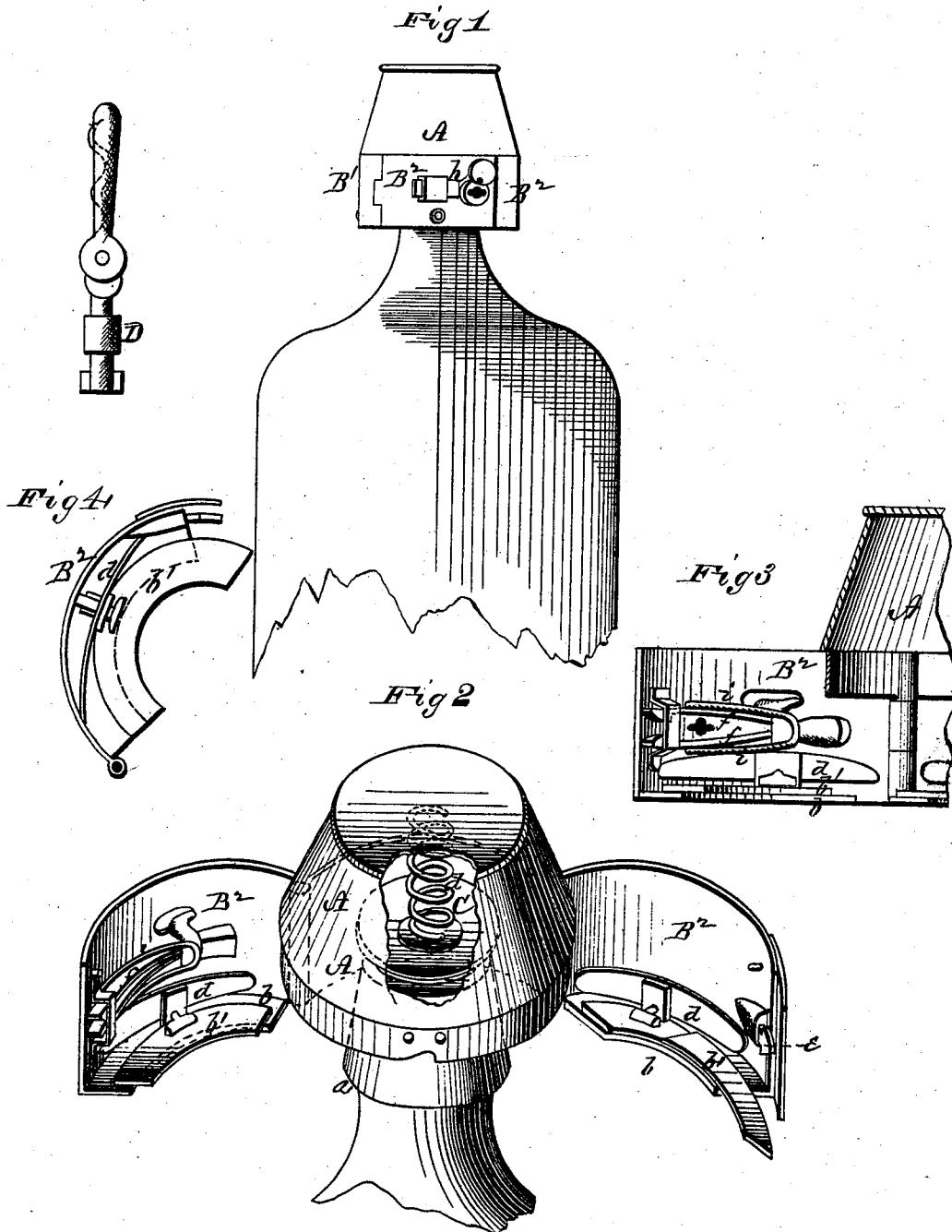


J. W. ROBARDS.
BOTTLE AND JUG-LOCK.

No. 173,061.

Patented Feb. 1, 1876.



WITNESSES
H. L. Curand,
C. L. Eeert.

By

INVENTOR
Joseph W. Robards,
Alexander Mason
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH W. ROBARDS, OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOTTLE AND JUG LOCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 173,061, dated February 1, 1876; application filed July 26, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH W. ROBARDS, of Richmond, in the county of Henrico and in the State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bottle and Jug Locks; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a cap and lock for bottles, jugs, demijohns, &c., as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawing, Figure 1 is a side view of my invention closed. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the same open. Figs. 3 and 4 are detailed views of parts thereof.

A represents a conical or other suitably shaped cap to fit over the cork and upper part of the neck of a bottle, jug, demijohn, or other vessel that has a shoulder, *a*, formed around its neck near the end.

The lower end of the cap forms a rim, made in three sections, one section, *B*¹, being fast to the cap while the other two sections, *B*² *B*², are hinged to the ends of the section *B*¹, and close around the neck of the bottle. These sections are, at their lower ends, provided with inwardly-projecting flanges *b*, to fit under the shoulder *a* of the neck.

In the top part of the cap A is attached a spring, *d*, having a circular plate, C, attached to its lower end. When the cap is put on, the plate C is on top of the cork, and the spring *d* more or less compressed, so that when the rim is closed the flanges *b* will be drawn up against the shoulder *a* on the neck of the bottle or demijohn.

It is intended to manufacture my invention of various sizes to suit different-sized vessels, and if there is no variation in the necks of each size vessel, the sections of the rim will be simply provided with the stationary flange *b*, as described; but in case there should be any variation, each section is provided with an additional flange, *b'*, on top of the stationary flange, and such additional flange is pressed inward by means of a spring, *d*, suitably connected to the rim, so that under all circumstances a flange will be forced inward under the shoulder *a* on the neck of the vessel.

The outer end of one of the sections *B*² is provided with a stationary double hook or catch, *e*, and the corresponding end of the other section *B*² is provided with two spring-jaws, *f f*, to close on the two sides of said catch, and thus lock the sections together, thereby securing the cap on the vessel.

It is opened by means of a key, D, constructed in such a manner as to force the jaws *f* apart, so that the sections *B*² may be separated.

On the outside of that section to which the jaws *f* are attached is a slide, *h*, connected with two arms, *i i*, on the inside of said section, which arms embrace the jaws, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

When the slide *h* is moved toward the key-hole, the jaws become locked, so that they cannot be opened even when the key is inserted and turned; but when the slide is moved outward the arms *i* are so far drawn back from the jaws that by the use of the key, the jaws may be separated and the sectional rim opened.

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

1. The cap A, provided with a sectional flanged rim, having two sections, *B*² *B*², hinged to the ends of the third stationary section *B*¹, and, when closed, locked by a suitable locking mechanism, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The plate C and spring *d*, in combination with the cap A and sectional flanged rim *B*¹ *B*², for the purposes herein set forth.

3. The auxiliary flanges *b'*, with springs *d'*, attached to the sectional rim *B*¹ *B*², for the purposes herein set forth.

4. The combination, with the sectional rim of the cap A, of the double catch *e* and spring-jaws *f f*, for the purposes herein set forth.

5. The slide *h* and arms *i i*, in combination with the jaws *f f*, sectional rim *B*¹ *B*², and cap A, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of June, 1875.

JOSEPH W. ROBARDS.

Witnesses:

P. A. TATUM,
E. A. BAKER.