

J. W. WRIGHT.
Air-Tight Tin-Cans.

No. 136,949.

Patented March 18, 1873.

Fig. 1.

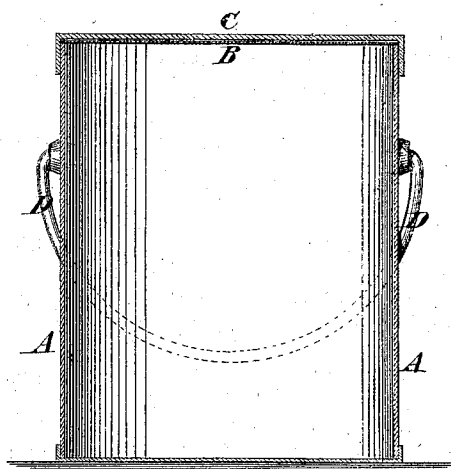
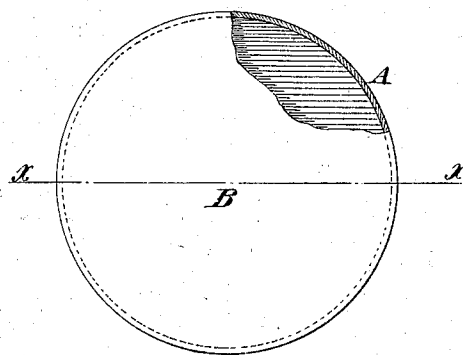


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

Gustave Dietrich
Seignier

Inventor:

J. W. Wright
PER *Wm. H. L.*
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. WRIGHT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO W. H. I. HOWE, OF
SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN AIR-TIGHT TIN CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **136,949**, dated March 18, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. WRIGHT, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Air-Tight Tin Cans, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to prevent the destruction of air-tight tin cans used for preserving fruits, milk, desiccated vegetables, fish, and meats, as well as spices, teas, coffee, and various other articles; and it consists in an air-proof top or disk soldered or fastened air-tight to the top of the can, and in a tin cover combined therewith and used on the can the same as the cover of a tin pail.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a vertical section of the can taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a top view with the cover off, showing the foil top partly in section.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the can, properly made of tin, of the size and proportion of the tin cans ordinarily used in preserving various articles air-tight. B is a top, made of tin-foil or other air-proof material, but preferably of tin-foil, which is tightly soldered or fastened to the rim of the can. C is the cover, which is fitted to the can so as to be removed at pleasure. D is the bail, but the can may be made either with or without a bail.

The cans may be made square or in any other suitable form, and the cover C may be hinged to the can, if desired.

The fruits, fish, condensed milk, desiccated vegetables, &c., which are put up in tin cans for transportation to every part of the world, and for use in all parts of the country, form a large item in the products and trade of the country. The tin cans as now used are, when emptied, thrown away. The quantity annually destroyed in the city of New York alone numbers many millions. My object (as before stated) is to prevent this great waste and allow the cans to be used over and over for the same purpose, or to become convenient receptacles of other articles, as small pails or vessels convenient for a great variety of purposes. The foil top B is readily removed with a knife where the can of fruit, &c., is to be opened. After the can is emptied it may be returned to the manufacturer or dealer, as it possesses value after use which the old can does not.

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

1. The tin-foil top B, in combination with a can for preserving fruits, &c., air-tight, substantially as shown and described.
2. The foil cover B, in combination with the cover C and can A, as shown and described.
3. A tin can provided with an air-tight top beneath the cover C, as shown and described.

JAMES W. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:

T. B. MOSHER,
ALEX. F. ROBERTS.