(No Model.)

W. SOMERVILLE.

JAR.

No. 345,999. Patented July 20, 1886.

Fig. 1.

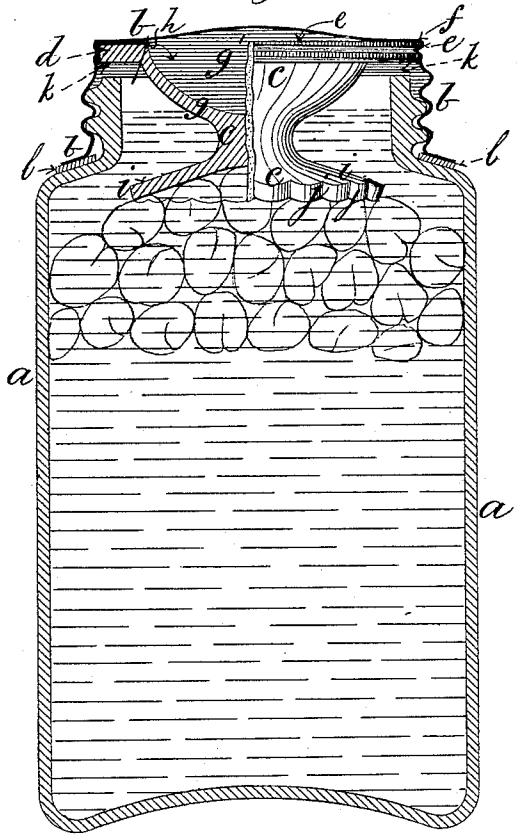


Fig. 4.

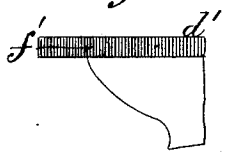


Fig. 2.

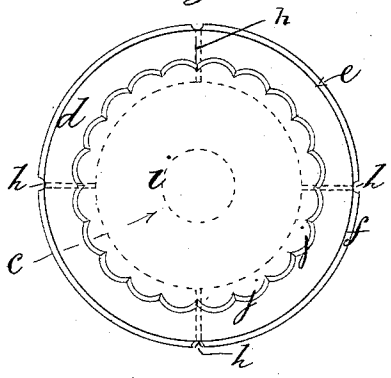
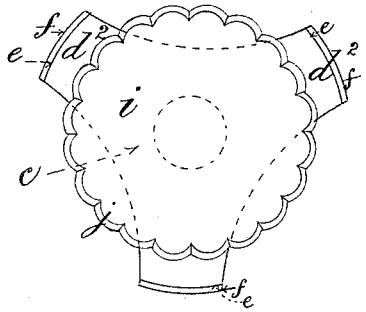


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM SOMERVILLE, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

JAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 345,999, dated July 20, 1886.

Application filed March 29, 1886. Serial No. 197,057. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SOMERVILLE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have made a certain new and useful Improvement in Immersers of Fruit in Jars or Cans, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in the construction and arrangement of immersers used in fruit-jars or cans for preventing the rising of the fruit above the surface of the sirup, and so preserving the fruit from oxidation and molding, which otherwise occurs.

My invention has for its objects to enable a fruit-immerser to be quickly placed in position inside the cover of the jar, or can, or inside the jar or can itself, apart from the cover, and be removed from the latter at pleasure; to provide a receptacle for any air or gas that may arise from the jar or fruit; to allow of a free circulation of the sirup between the immerser and the neck of the jar or can while adjusting the cover and immerser, and to enable the cover to be screwed down sufficiently to form a perfectly air-tight joint with the jar or can, these several features being essential for the effective preservation of the fruit, but hitherto unattained by immersers of ordinary construction.

On the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional view of a fruit-jar fitted with my improved immerser shown in sectional elevation; Fig. 2, an inverted plan of the immerser; Fig. 3, a similar view of a modification thereof; and Fig. 4, a modified arrangement of part of Fig. 1, like letters of reference indicating like parts in all the figures.

a represents a fruit-jar, and *b* its zinc or other metal cover. *c* is the immerser, the upper rim, *d*, of which is formed on its edge with a screw-thread, *e*, having a circumferential milling, *f*, whereby the immerser *c* can be instantly screwed into its proper position inside the cover *b* and firmly held therein; or, if preferred, I may dispense with the thread *e* and form the periphery of the upper rim, *d'*, with milling *f'*, as shown in the detached view thereof, Fig. 4, whereby the immerser can be instantly burred into its place in the cover *b*, the portions d^2 engaging with the thread of the cap *b*. In either case the milling *f* serves to retain the immerser in the cap, owing to the increased friction.

I form the top of the immerser *c* with a concave depression, *g*, so as to leave between it and the cover *b* a space or cavity, *g'*, ingress to which is obtained from the interior of the jar *a* through holes or channels *h*, formed in the upper rim, *d*, of the immerser *c*. By this means any air remaining in the jar *a*, or any gas arising from the fruit, can escape into the cavity *g'*. The lower disk or presser, *i*, of the immerser *c* is formed on its periphery with corrugations *j*, which permit of the free passage of the sirup between the disk *i* and the inside of the jar *a*, while the cover *b* is being screwed on the neck of the jar *a* and the immerser *c* is assuming its proper position.

Between the edge of the mouth of the jar *a* and the under side of the upper rim, *d*, of the immerser *c*, I leave an annular space, *k*, which permits of the cover *b* being screwed down on the neck of the jar *a* to any desired distance necessary for effecting a perfectly air-tight joint between its lower edge and the jar *a* or interposed rubber ring *l*.

When secured to the cover *b* by the screw-thread *e*, the immerser *c* may be unscrewed and removed from the cover *b* for cleaning the immerser *c* or removing any dirt that may accumulate within the cavity *g'*.

In the modification of my invention (shown by Fig. 3) I dispense with the rim *d*, (and consequent space or cavity *g'*,) as above described, and substitute therefor three (more or less) segmental arms, d^2, which may be secured at their outer edges to the inside of the cover *b* by screwing or burring in a similar manner to that described in Figs. 1, 2, and 4.

I claim as my invention—

1. In fruit-immersers, the upper rim, *d*, formed on its periphery with thread *e*, having milling *f*, in combination with cover *b* of jar or can *a*, substantially as shown, and for the purpose described.

2. In fruit-immersers, a disk, *c*, having a horizontal upper portion adapted to engage with the inner circumference of the jar-cap, a depression or chamber, *g*, and a channel lead-

ing into said depression, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In fruit-immersers, the combination of a cover, *b*, jar *a*, disk *c*, channels *h*, depression *g*, and the rim *d*, arranged to form the space *k*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 25th day of March, 1886.

WILLIAM SOMERVILLE.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH W. CROOKES,

PAUL BAKEWELL.