

H. TITUS.
Oil-Tanks.

No. 146,619.

Patented Jan. 20, 1874.

Fig. 1.

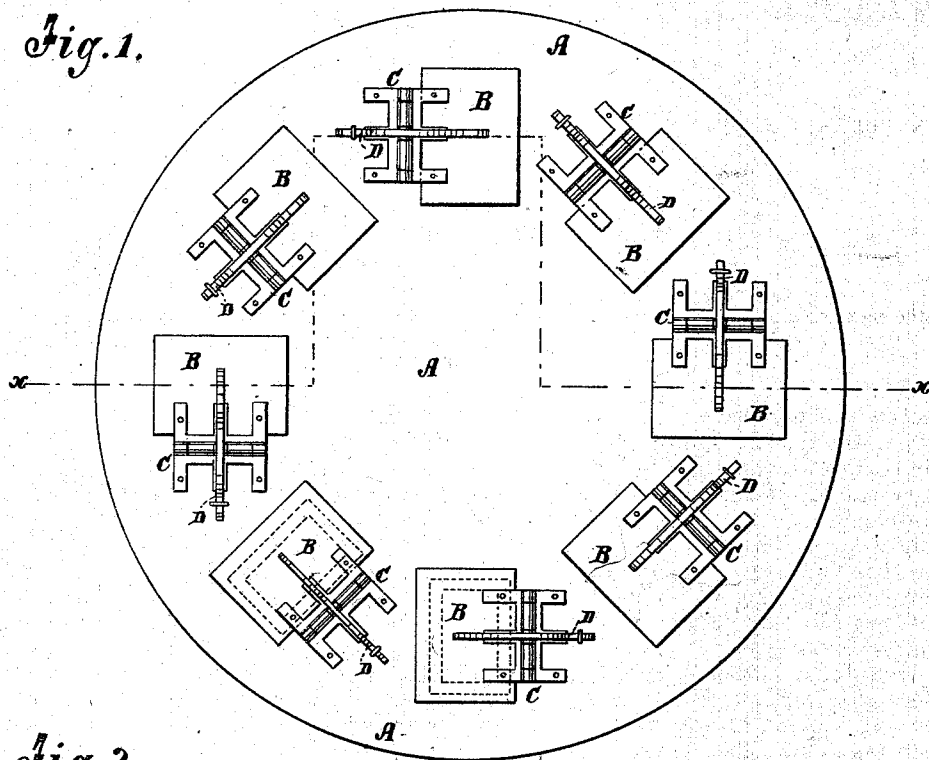
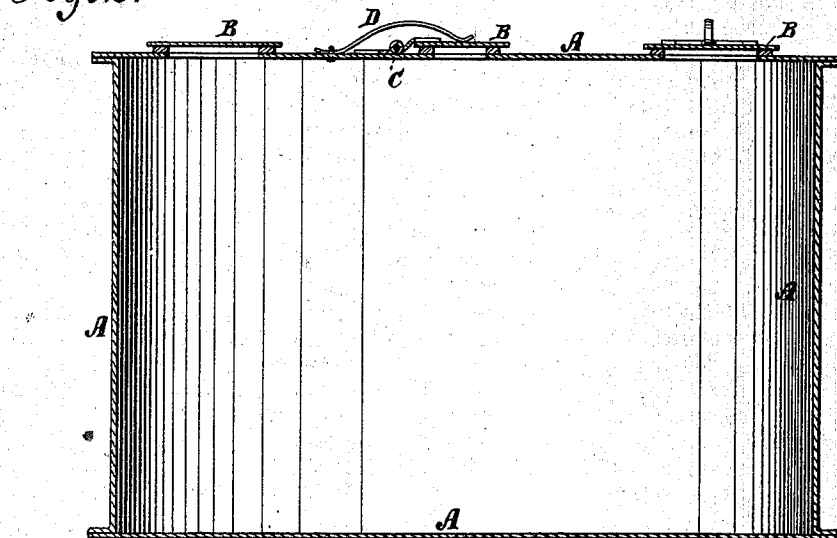


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

A. Remondet.
Chiquet

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BY

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ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HAZEN TITUS, OF ST. PETERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
AND THOMAS CUSHING, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN OIL-TANKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **146,619**, dated January 20, 1874; application filed
December 20, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HAZEN TITUS, of St. Petersburg, in the county of Clarion and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Oil-Tanks, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a top view of an oil-tank to which my improvement has been applied. Fig. 2 is a detail vertical section of the same taken through the line *xx*, Fig. 1.

My invention has for its object to furnish oil tanks or reservoirs, which shall be so constructed that, should the oil take fire and an explosion take place, the exploded gases may escape freely, and the tank may be again tightly closed automatically, so as to smother the fire and thus save the oil. The invention consists in oil-tanks provided with a number of openings, closed with hinged covers, to allow the exploded gases to escape freely without injury to the tanks, and so arranged as to close automatically and smother the fire as soon as the pressure is removed, as hereinafter fully described.

A represents the tank, which is made of sheets of iron, riveted together in the ordinary manner. In the top of the tank A a number of the plates are left out, forming a sufficient number of openings to allow the gases to escape freely in case of explosion without injury to the tank. To the top of the tank A, around the openings formed in it, are riveted iron frames, which form seats for the covers B. The covers B are formed of sheets of iron,

which may be strengthened with iron frames fitting snugly upon the frames of the openings. The covers B are connected at one edge with the top of the tank B by hinges C, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The covers B are provided with springs or stops D, which are connected with the top of the tank A, and should be of sufficient strength to prevent the covers B from being forced back too far by the pressure of the exploded gases, so that they will fall back by their own weight as soon as the pressure is removed, and tightly close the tank, smothering the fire and preventing the oil from being burned up.

The foregoing description applies more particularly to tanks, the tops of which are made of iron; but in cases where the tops are made of wooden planks, the covers and frames are made of wood also.

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

Oil-tanks A, provided with a number of openings closed with hinged covers B C, to allow the exploded gases to escape freely without injury to the tanks, and so arranged as to close automatically and smother the fire as soon as the pressure is removed, substantially as herein shown and described.

HAZEN TITUS.

Witnesses:

G. W. MOLTS,
H. W. BRECKENRIDGE.