

(No Model.)

W. F. BOWDEN.

MECHANISM FOR SECURING COVERS ON BARRELS, &c.

No. 531,898.

Patented Jan. 1, 1895.

FIG. I.

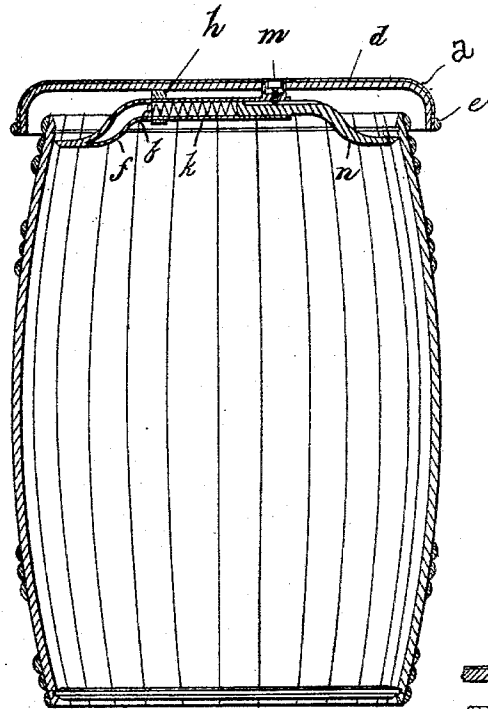


FIG. II.

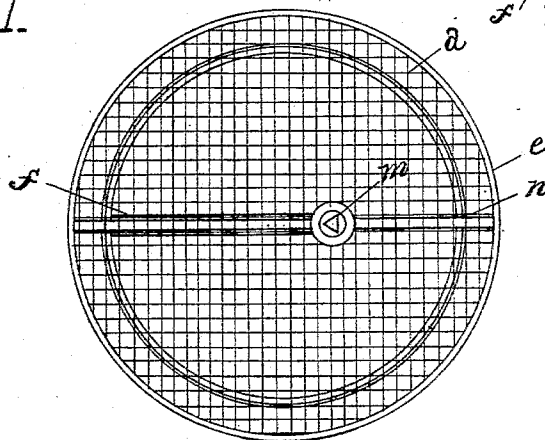
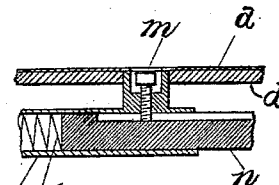


FIG. III.



WITNESSES.

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MECHANISM FOR SECURING COVERS ON BARRELS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 531,898, dated January 1, 1895.

Application filed February 20, 1893. Serial No. 463,001. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLARD F. BOWDEN, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Mechanism whereby to Secure Covers on Barrels or Similar Bodies, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

10 In the modern practice of displaying the contents of barrels and boxes filled with apples, fruits and the like, it is common to place over the box or barrel a cover having its outer rim suitably formed to project over the barrel edge and supporting a netting of wire, or similar material, through which the contents of the box or barrel are exposed to view and at the same time protected from interference by obtrusive observers.

20 It is the object of this invention to provide means whereby said cover may be detachably secured in place over the barrel or box and a locking device whereby to prevent the removal of the cover, except by persons in charge of the necessary operating key.

25 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of a longitudinal, central section of a barrel having this invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a plan view of a barrel and this invention applied thereto. Fig. 3 is an elevation of a detail section.

30 In carrying out this invention, as represented in the present instance, a cover is employed composed of a central sheet of wire netting, *a*, and preferably having cross-bar, *d*, and an outer rim, *e*, attached to and supporting the wire and preferably extended downwardly at the outer edges to receive within its embrace the top end of a barrel or similar body, as shown in Fig. 1. Projecting downwardly from the bar, *d*, are hangers, *h*, in which is supported the attaching mechanism. As represented in the present instance, said mechanism comprises a tubular bar, *f*, having one end pointed or otherwise fashioned to engage the barrel, when pressed against the same. In the chamber of said bar is a spring, *k*, arranged to bear with one end against a suitably formed shoulder, *b*, and having its opposite end in bearing contact with the inner end of bar, *n*, which bar, *n*, has its outer end also pointed or suitably formed to engage

with the barrel, when pressed against the same, and is fitted to slide longitudinally in the chamber of bar, *f*. Said bar, *f*, is suitably formed to receive and engage with the screw-threaded plunger, *m*, one end of which extends downwardly to bear against the bar, *n*, and the top end of which is adapted to receive the key whereby the plunger may be turned within its socket and moved thus toward and from the bar, *n*, in order to grip and release the bar, *n*, as occasion requires it.

Obviously, the key-receiving end of the plunger may be fashioned to receive only keys of novel formation. The bar, *n*, permits longitudinal, sliding movements through the bar, *f*, and thus allows of being moved endwise in order to permit engagement with barrels of varying sizes. The endwise movement of bar, *n*, toward bar, *f*, is arranged to take place against the tension of spring, *k*, whereby the bars, when released, are automatically forced apart and into engagement with the barrel side, as shown in Fig. 1.

By a suitable operation of the plunger, *m*, the bars, *f*, *n*, may be held together against the contracted spring, *k*, in position to permit placement of the cover down over the barrel, as shown in Fig. 1. Then, a movement of said plunger releasing said bars, allows the spring, *k*, to act, whereby the bars are forced apart and their outer ends engaged in the barrel sides. Another movement of the plunger will operate to secure the bars in place and prevent removal of the cover until the key is applied and the plunger again moved to release the bars, *f*, *n*, and allow their disengagement from the barrel sides, whereupon the cover may be lifted.

It is noted that the holding mechanism is located beneath the screen, *a*, and operated from above by a key which to that purpose is extended down through an opening in the screen. This construction is considered preferable as it removes the holding mechanism from exposure to meddlesome observers.

I claim and desire by Letters Patent to secure—

1. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a cap, a hollow arm supported thereby, and a second arm movable in said hollow arm; said arms being so constructed and arranged that they engage a part of the barrel whereby

the cover is secured in place, substantially as described.

2. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a cap, an arm supported thereby, a second arm carried by said first arm, and a spring bearing against said arms whereby they are normally pressed in a direction such that they co-operate to clamp the barrel; substantially as described.

3. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a cap, a hollow arm supported thereby, a second arm movable in said hollow arm, said arms being so constructed and arranged that they engage a part of the barrel whereby the cover is secured in place, and a spring in said hollow arm bearing upon the movable arm; substantially as described.

4. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a cap, a hollow arm supported thereby, a second arm movable in said hollow arm, said arms being so constructed and arranged that they engage a part of the barrel whereby the cover is secured in place, a shoulder upon said second arm, and a projection from said hollow arm in the path of said shoulder; substantially as described.

5. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a cap, a hollow arm supported thereby, a second arm movable in said hollow arm, said arms being so constructed and arranged that they engage a part of the barrel whereby the cover is secured in place, a shoulder upon said second arm, and a removable projection from said hollow arm in the path of said shoulder; substantially as described.

6. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a cap, a hollow arm supported thereby, a second arm movable in said hollow arm, said arms being so constructed and arranged that they engage a part of the barrel whereby the cover is secured in place, a shoulder upon said movable arm, and a screw projecting from said hollow arm in the path of said shoulder; substantially as described.

7. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a wire netting, a support depending therefrom, a hollow, tapered arm carried by said support, a second tapered arm, said arms being so constructed and arranged that they engage a part of the barrel whereby the cover is secured in place, a shoulder upon said second arm, a screw projecting from said hollow arm in the path of said shoulder, and a spring in said hollow arm bearing upon said movable arm; substantially as described.

8. A cover for barrels and the like comprising a cap, a hollow arm supported thereby, a second arm movable in said hollow arm, said arms being so constructed and arranged that they engage a part of the barrel whereby the cover is secured in place, and a screw projecting from said hollow arm and bearing upon said movable arm; substantially as described.

Signed at Lynn, Massachusetts, this 1st day of February, A. D. 1893.

WILLARD F. BOWDEN.

Witnesses:

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