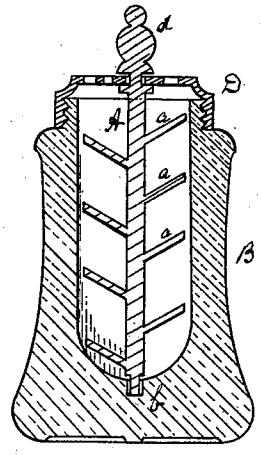
J. PUTNAM.

Salt-Cruet.

No. 221,099. Patented Oct. 28, 1879.



Witnesses.

N. Bakewell

L. C. Fitler

Inventor.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN PUTNAM, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SALT-CRUETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,099**, dated October 28, 1879; application filed August 30, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN PUTNAM, of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Salt-Cruets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which the figure represents a vertical section of a salt cruet or bottle showing my improvement.

My invention relates to means for disturbing, agitating, or loosening salt, so as to prevent it from caking in a hard mass around the sides of the bottle or cruet; and it consists of a bar of suitable form pivoted and passing through the top or cover of, and fitting in a slot at the bottom of, the bottle or cruet, in such a manner that the motion may be applied to the bar or agitator from the outside of the cruet.

The bar or agitator A is made of any suitable material, preferably, however, of white metal, and is provided with horizontal arms *a*. This bar at its lower end is made to fit into a slot or depression, *b*, in the bottom of the cruet B, while its upper end passes through the cap D, and is furnished with a knob or handle, *d*, by which it can be turned so as to cause the lateral arms *a* to loosen the salt from the sides of the cruet.

The bottom of the cruet B is made concave, so that when the cap D is placed on the cruet the lower end of the agitator A will be guided into the slot or depression *b*.

The agitator A may be fastened to and made part of the cap D, so that when the cap is turned the arms *a* will turn in the cruet and thus loosen the salt; or it may be made separate, passing loosely through the cover D, and being turned by the knob *d*, as shown in the drawing.

All the agitators heretofore used have consisted of a tumbling-bar or similar device placed in the bottle, so that upon the shaking of the bottle the bar or other device moving about loosens the salt; but all these are liable to become fast when the salt cakes, and thereby are prevented from accomplishing the object for which they are intended. My improved agitator, however, is not subject to this objection, as, being moved or worked from the outside of the bottle, enough force can easily be applied to overcome the resistance of the salt, no matter how hard it may be caked.

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

The combination of a cap, an agitator having lateral arms and a projecting head pivoted in said cap, and a glass cruet or bottle having a concave bottom slotted centrally for affording a step or bearing for the lower end of the agitator, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I, the said JOHN PUTNAM, have hereunto set my hand.

JOHN PUTNAM.

Witnesses:

R. H. WHITTLESEY,

JAMES K. BAKEWELL.