W. COLLINGS.
Fruit-Can.

No. 216,831. Patented June 24, 1879.

Fig. 1.

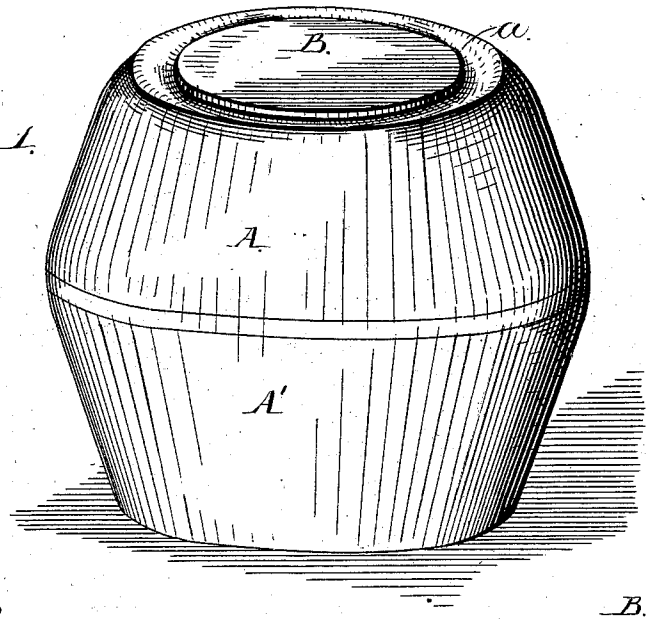


Fig. 2.

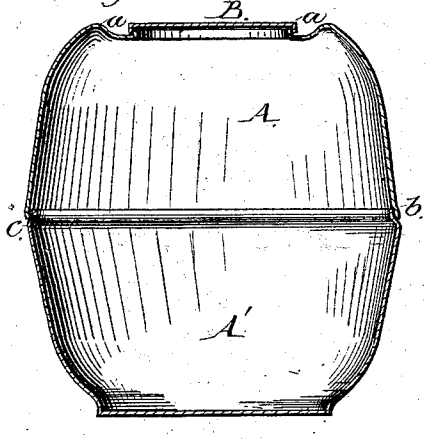


Fig. 3.

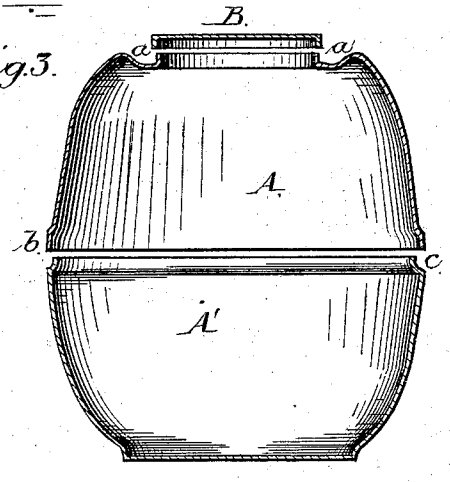
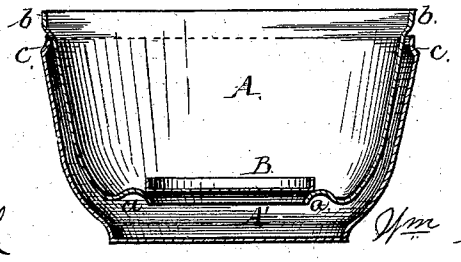


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM COLLINGS, OF AFTON, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,831**, dated June 24, 1879; application filed February 25, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM COLLINGS, of Afton, in the county of Union and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Cans; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved can; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the same; Fig. 3, a sectional view of parts forming the can before being secured together; Fig. 4, a sectional view of the parts for forming the cans nested together for transportation.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in the class of knockdown sheet-metal fruit-cans, having for its object simplicity in construction, while increasing their durability, obviating their being drawn in by contraction or cooling of the contents placed therein, and convenience in packing them for transportation.

The invention consists in a knockdown sheet-metal bilge fruit-can, consisting of two bowl-shaped sections, the upper section provided with a top annular groove and a flanged cover, and said sections provided with exterior and interior flanges, the flange on one section fitting within the flange of the other section, all as will be hereinafter fully described.

In the drawings, A A′ represent the two essential parts or bowl-shaped sections of my improved can, stamped up from sheet metal, substantially in the form shown in the annexed drawings, and forming, when secured together, a bilge-can, conforming somewhat to the shape of the ordinary bilge-barrels.

The half-section A, forming the upper part of the can, is provided with the usual mouth and annular top groove, *a*, for the reception of the usual flanged cover B, to be secured therein by cement, in the usual manner.

The parts or sections A A′ are respectively provided with an annular exterior flange, *b*, and interior flange, *c*, the flange of one section fitting inside of the flange of the other section, so that the flange of either section rests against the flange of the other section when secured or soldered together, thus leaving a plane exterior surface, as shown in Fig. 2.

By my improved construction of can the sections forming the same can be nested together or packed, as shown in Fig. 4, with the cover placed on the inside thereof, thus economizing in space, and consequently reducing the cost of transportation; and the half-sections, when soldered together, form a can with but one seam, which, being at the center, is easily accessible for cleaning, while, the ends being made or pressed rounding, there is no possible chance for the fruit or juice to adhere thereto.

The shape of the can is such as to protect it from being jammed or injured by being sprung out of shape, and its being made larger at the center prevents its being drawn in by contraction or cooling of the contents after being heated in hermetically sealing the can. Less labor is required in finishing the can, it only requiring placing of the two half-sections together and soldering the seam at the center, when the can is complete.

I am aware that sheet-metal cans composed of two parts, united together so as to form only one central seam, are old, and such I do not desire to claim, broadly, as my invention; but

I claim as my invention—

The herein-described knockdown sheet-metal bilge fruit-can, consisting of the bowl-shaped sections A A′, the upper section provided with a top annular groove, *a*, and flanged cover B, and said sections having exterior and interior flanges, the flange of one section fitting within the flange of the other section, as specified.

WM. COLLINGS.

Witnesses:
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