

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM E. LEDMUN, OF BRIDGEVILLE, DELAWARE.

Letters Patent No. 100,420, dated March 1, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN FUNNELS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. LEDMUN, of Bridgeville, in the county of Sussex, and State of Delaware, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Funnels; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and correct description of the same, sufficient to enable others skilled in the class to which my invention appertains to fully understand and construct the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings which make part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of my improved funnel;

Figure 2 is a perspective view, showing the attachment of the lower to the upper part; and

Figure 3 is a sectional bottom view of the upper part.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

The nature of my invention consists, first, in constructing a funnel in two parts, the funnel proper and the spout, which are easily attached to each other or detached from each other for the purpose of cleansing; secondly, in the means of shutting off the flow of liquids, or letting the same on.

A, in the drawings, represents the funnel proper, provided near its lower end with a straight vertical rim, B.

To the lower narrow end of the funnel A is secured a short metal block or piece, C, extending outwardly to one side.

On this extending part is pivoted a lever, D, the inner shorter part of which is of a rounded shape, so as to cover the opening of the funnel completely, and prevent the discharge of fluids from the same when the lever is in position, as shown in dotted lined in fig. 3, but when in position as shown in black lines, same figure, the lever is clear of the opening of the funnel, and allows a free discharge of fluids from the same.

On the block C are two pins, *c c'*, which engage with the notches *d d'*, on the inner part of lever D, to prevent the latter from moving too far either way. Thus, when the lever has closed the opening of the funnel, the pin *c* catching in notch *d*, prevents the lever from moving further in that direction, and when the lever is moved free from the opening, the notch *d'* bears against pin *c'* with a like result.

The spout of the funnel is formed in a separate piece, E, having a straight vertical rim, F, fitting snugly over rim B of the funnel.

In this rim F is formed an L-shaped slot, G, into which fits and slides a pin or projection, *g*, which forms one of the means of securing.

On the inside of rim B of the funnel, is secured a

bent spring, H, provided at its free end with a thumb-piece, I, which passes through the rim, as already shown in fig. 3.

On the spring near its free end is formed a tongue, J, which passes through rim B and through rim F, and at a point opposite or nearly opposite to the slot G. By pressing on the thumb-piece I, the tongue J is pressed inwardly and out of the corresponding opening in rim F. This forms the other of the means of securing the spout to the funnel. The rim F has a part of its circumference exerted, as shown in fig. 2, to allow for the play of lever D, the lower edge of the rim B and the upper edge of the exerted part forming a sort of slot for the lever to move in.

I provide the inside of the funnel A with projecting points, *a*, to measure certain quantities by, the projecting points being easier seen and kept in sight than lines or other marks engraved into the surface of the funnel.

The operation of my improved funnel is as follows:

The parts all being connected, as in fig. 1, the spout of the funnel is placed in or over the vessel to be filled, and the lever D moved so as to close the opening of the funnel. The liquid is then allowed to run from the cask or other vessel into the funnel, until the desired quantity, as indicated by the point *a*, has been reached, when, on moving lever D so as to free the opening of the funnel, the measured liquid is allowed to flow through spout E into the vessel to be filled. Should it become desirable to clean the opening of the funnel and the inner part of the lever, the spout E is removed from the funnel by pressing the thumb-piece I, and thus releasing rim F from tongue J and giving spout E a short rotary movement around rim B, so as to bring projection *g* directly under the vertical part of the slot G, when, by moving spout E vertically from rim B, it will at once become detached.

The great advantage of my improved funnel is that it is formed in two parts, by means of which it can at any moment be cleansed without trouble, especially where one funnel has to serve in measuring out different liquids. Its construction is simple and its manufacture inexpensive.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A funnel constructed in two parts, A and E, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.
2. In a movable funnel, the lever D, when arranged between the funnel A and spout E, substantially as and for the purposes described.

WILLIAM E. LEDMUN.

Witnesses:

JOHN D. TRUITT,
E. L. WAILES.