(No Model.)

L. VAN VLECK.

BUTTER JAR.

No. 469,729. Patented Mar. 1, 1892.

Fig. 1.

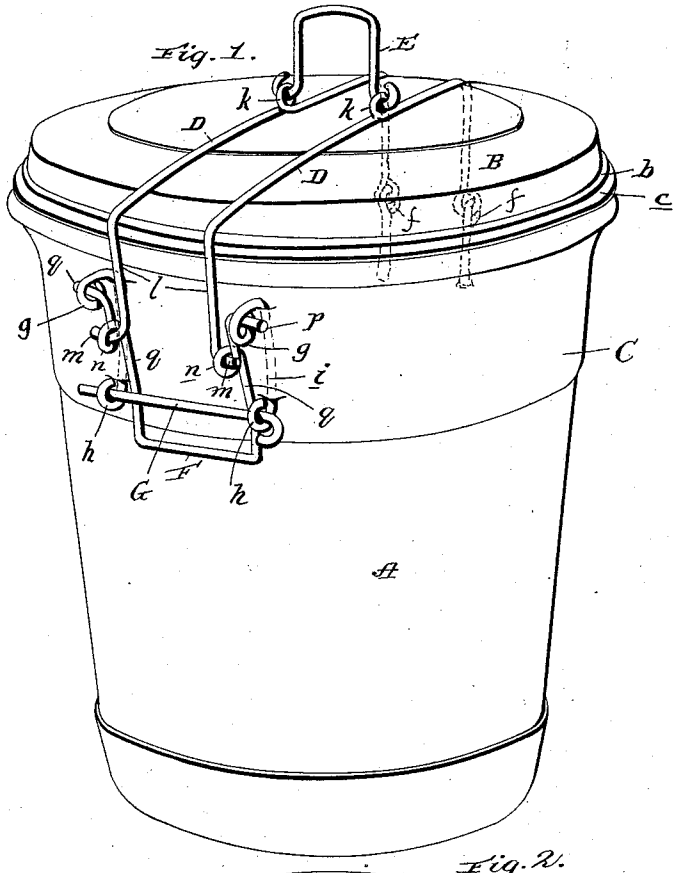
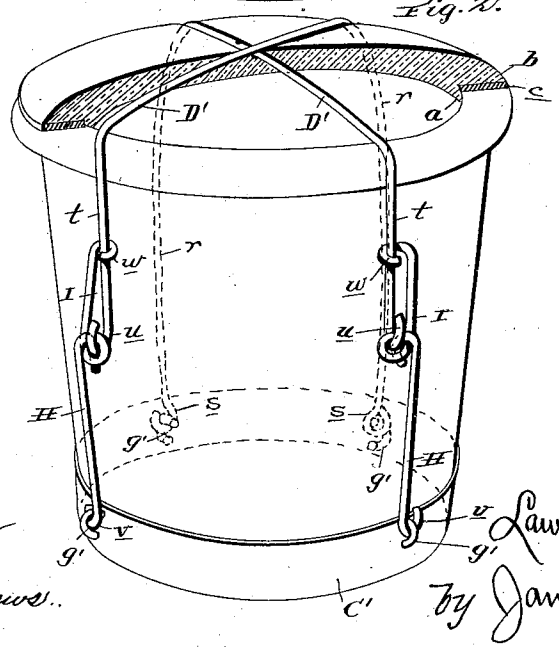


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAWRENCE VAN VLECK, OF CORRY, PENNSYLVANIA.

BUTTER-JAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 469,729, dated March 1, 1892.

Application filed September 18, 1891. Serial No. 406,163. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAWRENCE VAN VLECK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Corry, in the county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Butter-Jars; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention has relation to an improvement in butter-jars; and it has for its object to provide a cheap and effective means for fastening the tops or covers of such jars, to protect such jars from damage or breakage during transportation or while handling, and to adapt the fastening devices to serve the additional function of a hand-grasp or means for carrying large jars, the jars being so formed that the butter may be conveniently taken out as a whole.

Other objects and advantages will appear from the following description and claims, when taken in connection with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a butter-jar with my improvement applied; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a jar with the cover partly in section, with a modification of my invention applied, the same being illustrated on a small jar.

Referring by letter to said drawings, A indicates a butter-jar, which is formed from glass or other suitable material and flares gradually from its base to its mouth, so as to permit the butter being readily removed.

B indicates the cover, which is also preferably formed of glass, although it may be formed of other suitable material. This cover may be formed with a chime *a* to enter the mouth of the jar and a flange *b* to bear upon the top of the jar, with a gasket *c* interposed, so as to form a tight joint.

The jar is provided just below the annular shoulder *e* with a band C, made of sheet metal or other suitable material. This band is provided at a suitable point on its outer side with two eyes *f*, as shown in dotted lines, and said band is provided on its outer side at diametrically-opposite points with two similar eyes *g*, the band being furthermore provided below the eyes *g* and in closer relation to the band with eyes *h*. These eyes, for the sake of cheapness, may be formed from a piece of stout wire having its opposite ends bent or turned into eyes, as shown, and its straight or body portion *i* suitably fixed to the band, such as by solder or the like; or in some cases the band may be slitted and the body portion of the wires arranged in the slits, so that the eyes will project therefrom.

D D indicate wires. These wires are bent about midway of their length to form eyes *k* to receive the bail or grasp E, which has its opposite ends terminating in hooks to engage the eyes *k* and serves as a means for carrying the jar when the fastening has been made. The wires D have their opposite ends bent downwardly, as shown at *l*, and the downward branches at one end are bent and linked into the eyes *f* on the band C, while the ends of the opposite branches *l* terminate in lateral hooks *m*.

F indicates a locking-lever. This lever is composed of wire and of a loop or bail form, having eyes *n* turned in its parallel or side branches *q*, and its ends terminating in outwardly-directed branches or hooks *p* to enter the eyes *g*, fixed on the band C. The eyes *n* are designed to receive the hooks or outwardly-directed ends *m* of the branches *l*, and the eyes *h* are designed to receive a locking-pin G, which confines the locking lever or bail in position when the top has been fastened.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings I have shown the cover locked or fastened on the jar. To remove the cover or top, the pin G should first be withdrawn, the lever F then raised, and the branches *l* pressed toward each other until the hooks *m* have been disengaged from the eyes *n*, when the wires D are free to be raised from the top and the top removed from the jar.

In Fig. 2 of the drawings I have shown a construction by which the band C may be omitted and a band C′ or protecting-jacket placed at the bottom of the jar and extending partly up its sides, which is preferred on small jars. This band or protector C′ is provided at suitable points on its outer side with eyes *g′* to receive the fastening devices. The fastening devices in this instance comprise

wires of a form substantially as shown, having one end bent downwardly at r and terminating in a hook s, to engage one of the eyes g' of the band C', and the opposite end of the wire, which is of less length than the branch r, as shown at t, is bent downwardly on the opposite side of the jar and terminates in a hook or eye u.

H indicates a link, which is also formed from wire and has a hook at its lower end (shown at v) to engage one of the eyes g', and I indicates a locking-lever which is hinged at one end to the eye of the branch t, and from this hooked end is formed a bend or curve, as shown, and said lever receives the upper end of the link H, so that they may have a sliding connection. The lever I has its upper end terminating in the catch or hook w, which is designed to engage the branch t of one of the fasteners. It is preferred that two wires D' be used and arranged crosswise or at right angles to each other over the top of the jar, although in some cases a single wire may be used.

To remove the fastening and take off the cover it is simply necessary to disengage the hook w of the lever I from the branch t of the wire D', which movement will allow the lever I to turn at its hinge or pivoted connection with the branch t, and consequently loosen the connection between the lever I and the link H, thus allowing the wire D' to be removed from the top of the jar.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The fastening for butter-jars formed from two similar pieces of wire formed with eyes about midway of their length and having eyes at one end and outwardly-directed hooks at their opposite ends, in combination with the bail or hand-grasp having hooks at its opposite ends engaging the intermediate eyes of said wires, the band and jar receiving said band, the eyes fixed to said band on opposite outer sides, the loop-lever having eyes in its parallel branches and its ends terminating in hooks, and the locking-pin adapted to be inserted in two of the eyes in the band and hold the loop-lever in a locked position, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with a butter-jar, of a band secured thereto carrying two sets of eyes on one side and one set of eyes on the side diametrically opposite the wires, having their opposite ends bent downwardly and one end hooked into the eyes on one side of the band and their opposite ends terminating in hooks, the loop-lever having eyes intermediate of its length and terminating in hooks to enter eyes in the upper side of the band, the fastening-wires having their terminal hooks adapted to enter the intermediate eyes in the loop-lever, and the locking-pin adapted to enter the lower eyes in the band and confine the loop-lever against the band, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

LAWRENCE VAN VLECK.

Witnesses:
W. W. MASON,
A. V. HUNT.