

O. J. Livermore,

Can Opener.

No 55,878.

Patented June 26, 1866.

Fig. 1.

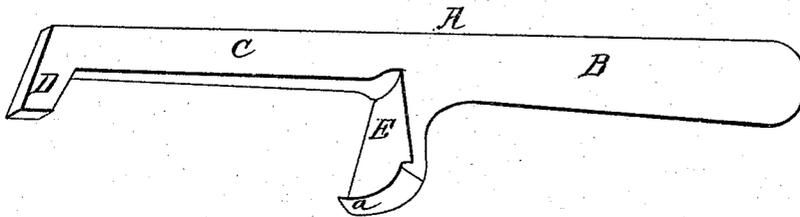
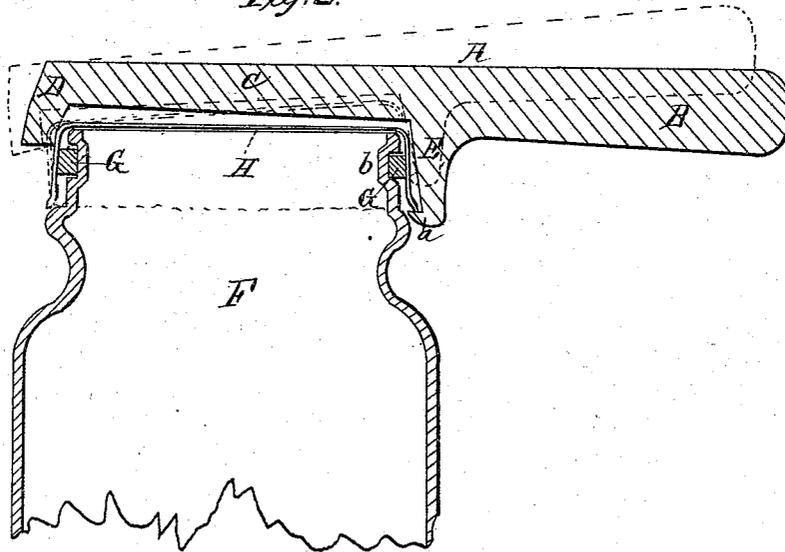


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

Thos. H. Dodge  
M. L. Miller

Inventor:

O. J. Livermore

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

O. J. LIVERMORE, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF  
AND CLARK, SAWYER & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVED CAN-OPENER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 55,878, dated June 26, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, O. J. LIVERMORE, of the city and county of Worcester, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved can-opener, and Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal central section of the can-opener when applied to use in opening or removing the cover from a can, the upper part of the latter being shown in section to illustrate more fully my invention.

In the drawings, A represents my device, in which B is the handle, C the part which passes over the top of the can, having an inclined lip, D, projecting down from its lower side. A curved projecting piece, E, extends from the center, and is provided with a sharp angular edge or lip, *a*, all as shown in the drawings.

In Fig. 2, F represents the upper part of one of Lyman's patent cans, G the rubber or elastic ring or packing, which fits into the groove *b*, formed on the outer surface of the can, as indicated in the drawings.

H represents the cover, which is usually made of tin.

One great objection to the use of the above-described can, known as "Lyman's patent can," is that the cover H cannot be conveniently removed; and although a groove is made in such a manner that a pin or some sharp-pointed instrument can be inserted under the packing-ring G to admit air, in practice it is found that the cover H often adheres so closely, by reason of corrosion and other causes, that it cannot be removed without the use of considerable

force, even after the air has been admitted within the can, as above stated.

In trying to remove the cover under such circumstances persons without proper conveniences at hand for the purpose often injure their fingers and nails. The difficulty of opening it is urged as a strong objection to the can, which otherwise is regarded as one of the best for preserving fruit from the air.

By my invention all of the above objections are obviated, while it is not absolutely necessary to admit the air in order to remove the cover, though it can be removed more easily by first admitting the air.

The operation is as follows: Handle B is clasped by the hand and the device placed upon the cover H with the angular edge *a* under the edge of the cover upon one side of the can, while the inclined lip D rests upon the upper outer edge of the cover, all as shown in the drawings in black and yellow lines, Fig. 2. Handle B is now raised, which causes the inclined lip D to force the cover down and toward the can on that side, while the angular lip *a* elevates the other side of the cover, as shown in red lines.

It will thus be seen that covers to this class of cans can be easily and safely removed by the aid of my device.

Having described my improved device, what I claim therein as of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent as a new article of manufacture, is—

A can-opener constructed substantially as above described.

O. J. LIVERMORE.

Witnesses:

THOS. H. DODGE,  
H. L. FULLER.