To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN F. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rushville, in the county of Sheridan and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Covers for Coal-Hods or Similar Devices; and I do hereby 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.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in covers for coal hods or similar devices, and my object is to provide a cover which will prevent the accidental discharge of the contents of the receptacle.

A further object is to provide a hinge section which may be readily elevated for entering coal, ashes, or the like, into the receptacle.

A further object is to provide means for normally holding the hinge section in closed position.

And a further object is to provide means for permanently attaching parts of the cover to the receptacle.

Other objects and advantages will be hereinafter set forth and more particularly pointed out in the accompanying specification.

In the accompanying drawings which are made a part of this application,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a coal receptacle or hod, showing my improved cover attached thereto.

Fig. 2 is a vertical central sectional view through the receptacle and cover.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the cover removed from the receptacle, and

Fig. 4 is a similar view, showing a slightly modified form of cover.

Referring to the drawings in which similar reference numerals designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, I indicates the receptacle or hod which may be of the usual or any preferred construction and having a discharge mouth 2, the portion of the receptacle containing the mouth being flared and restricted in size so as to form a chute for the passage of the contents of the receptacle.

In emptying coal from the receptacle, it frequently occurs that the coal will discharge at the open edge of the receptacle and fall upon the floor, or when ashes are being removed in the receptacle that particles thereof are blown from the receptacle and scattered upon the floor, sometimes resulting in live coals being deposited in the building, causing a conflagration, and to obviate both these objectionable features, I provide a cover 3 for the open end of the receptacle, said cover comprising a stationary portion 4 and a hinging portion 5, said portions being connected together by any suitable form of hinge 6.

The stationary portion 4 is preferably tapered to correspond to the taper of the mouth piece 2 and the edges of the portion 4 are provided with depending flanges 7 which overlap the side walls of the mouth piece and are attached thereto in any suitable manner as by introducing rivets 8 or the like through the flanges and the contiguous portion of the walls of the mouth piece.

The hinging portion 5 is preferably curved to correspond to the curvature of the remaining portion of the receptacle, and is of slightly greater diameter than the diameter of the upper end of the receptacle whereby the edges of the portion 5 will project beyond the receptacle whereby, when the hail 9, employed for carrying the receptacle, is swung to operative position, it will bind against the edges of the hinging portion 5 and hold said hinging portion from swinging open while the contents is being emptied from the receptacle. In addition to providing the above means for holding the hinging portion in fixed relation with the receptacle, a latch 10 may be formed integral with the hinging portion and so constructed as to frictionally engage with the walls of the receptacle and thereby positively hold the hinging portion in closed position until such time as the hinging portion is manually elevated.

The stationary portion 4 normally rests flat across the top of the receptacle, but if desired, said stationary portion may be provided with an upwardly flared portion 11, as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings, whereby the contents of the receptacle will more readily discharge through the mouth 2 when the receptacle is tilted for emptying the same. In filling the receptacle with coal or other substances, the hail 9 is lowered into engagement with the stationary portion 4 when the portion 5 may be swung to an open position and the coal or other substances placed within the receptacle. The
portion 5 is then moved to a closed position when the receptacle is in condition to be transported from place to place, the raising of the bail holding the hinging portion 5 in lowered position until the bail is again thrown forwardly.

In view of the fact that the hinging portion is held in closed position by the bail, the receptacle can be readily tilted, by grasping the handle 12, to discharge the contents of the receptacle through the mouth 2, the stationary portion 4 and hinging portion 5 preventing the discharge of the contents of the receptacle at any other point around the receptacle other than the mouth thereof.

This device can be made in different sizes and sold separately from the receptacle as the stationary portion can be readily riveted to the walls of the mouth piece at any time or the attachment may be secured to the receptacle in the course of manufacture and sold in conjunction with the receptacle, and as the material forming the cover is preferably similar to that forming the receptacle, it can be produced at a very nominal expense.

Having thus fully described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. The combination with a receptacle having a flared mouth section, and a bail pivotally attached to said receptacle, of a cover formed of a stationary section, and a movable section hingedly connected to said stationary section, said movable section being of slightly larger diameter than the open end of the receptacle and having its side edges disposed in the path of movement of said bail whereby when the bail is moved rearwardly of the receptacle to the vertical, it will bind against the circumferential edge of the movable section to hold the removable section in closed position.

2. The combination with a receptacle having a flared mouth section, and a bail pivotally attached to said receptacle, of a cover formed of a stationary section, a movable section hingedly connected thereto, said movable section being of slightly larger diameter than the open end of the receptacle and having its side edges disposed in the path of movement of said bail whereby the bail, when swung rearwardly of the receptacle, will frictionally bind and hold the movable section in closed position, and means for normally holding the movable section closed.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HERMAN F. MILLER.

Witnesses:

ALDEN C. PLANTZ,

MARTHA E. GRUBB.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C."