

No. 733,580.

PATENTED JULY 14, 1903.

E. J. GORMAN.
COVER FOR RECEPTACLES.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 22, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1

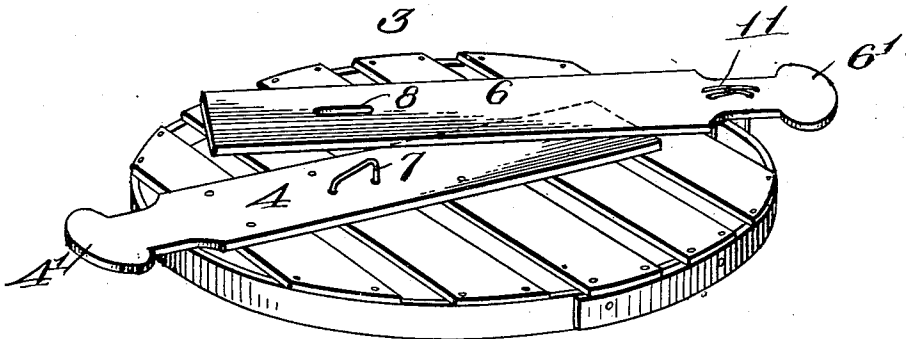
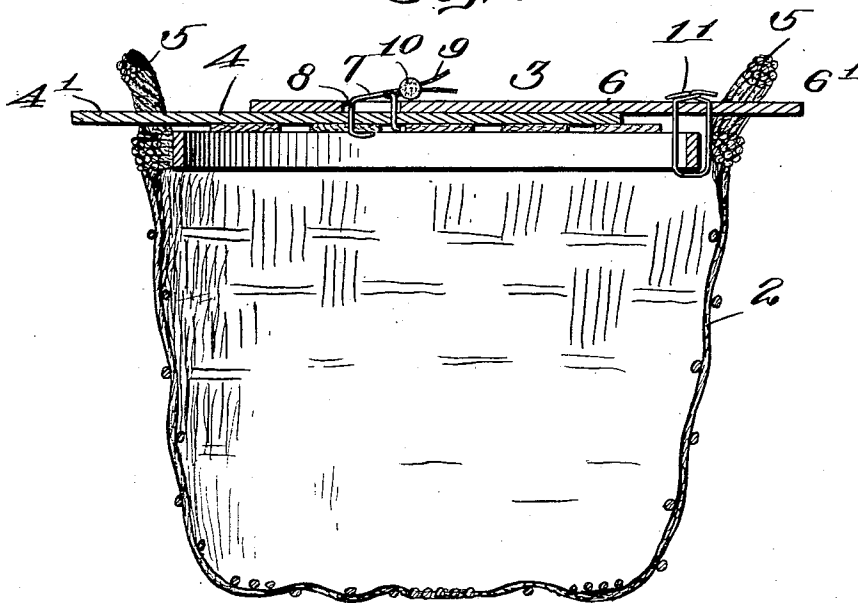


Fig. 2



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COVER FOR RECEPTACLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 733,580, dated July 14, 1903.

Application filed November 22, 1902. Serial No. 132,468. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD JAMES GORMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Adrian, in the county of Lenawee and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Covers for Receptacles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a cover for receptacles of various kinds—such as baskets, barrels, pails, and the like; and the object of the invention is to provide a simple article of this character which can be readily and inexpensively made and easily applied.

The improved cover is provided with a fixed arm and a movable arm adapted to fit upon said fixed arm, the outer ends of the arms extending beyond the outer edge of said cover, and means for holding the movable arm against endwise movement relatively to the fixed one. The outer ends of the arms are adapted to extend through keepers upon the receptacle, which keepers may be the handles of said receptacle. The fixed arm of the cover is passed through a keeper of the receptacle, and the movable arm is passed through the other keeper as the cover is put into place, and when the movable arm is fitted against its companion it is held against endwise movement relatively to the latter, whereby the cover will be securely held in position. In the present case the fixed arm is provided with a staple or its equivalent adapted to extend through and snugly fit in a slot in the movable arm, and when the latter is in its effective position a wire or the like is passed through the staple and its ends sealed, whereby the cover cannot be removed without breaking the seal. The breaking of the seal by unauthorized persons will indicate that the contents of the receptacle which the cover tops have been tampered with.

The invention is shown in one simple embodiment thereof in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved device. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central section of the same applied to a basket.

Like characters refer to like parts in both figures.

The improved cover may be used in con-

nection with different kinds of receptacles for containing various articles of merchandise—such as fruit, oysters, butter, &c.—and in the drawings I have shown the same as topping a basket 2.

The improved cover is denoted in a general way by the numeral 3 and is shown as being of circular slatted construction, the spaces between the slats providing for the entrance of air into the receptacle. I do not of course limit myself to making the cover of any particular material or shape, although the circular slatted form is a desirable one.

Upon the upper side of the cover I fasten by some suitable means, as nails, the arm 4, which extends diametrically of the cover, and the outer end of said arm, it will be seen, projects beyond the outer edge of the cover, so that said projecting end can be passed through one of the handles 5 of the basket 2. In the case of a barrel the arm of course might extend through a slot in the barrel near its upper edge. Fitted flatwise upon the fixed arm 4 is a movable arm 6, the outer end of which, like the other arm, extends beyond the outer edge of the cover a distance equaling that of the fixed arm. It will be understood that the projecting end of the fixed arm is adapted to be inserted through one handle or keeper of the receptacle, while the corresponding end of the movable arm is adapted to project through the other handle or keeper. In order to prevent the movable arm 6 from becoming separated from the cover, it is connected thereto by a staple 11, which straddles the rim of the cover and the legs of which extend upward and through perforations in said arm 6 and are bent down on the upper side of the latter. The said movable arm, therefore, is united to the cover by a connection which is in the nature of a hinged one.

In applying the cover the cover is held at an angle to the basket, and the outer end of the fixed arm is passed through one of the handles 5 of the basket 2, while the outer end of the movable arm is passed through the other handle, and the cover is then placed upon or in the receptacle. The cover being in place, the movable arm 6 is fitted against the companion arm 4, where it is held against endwise movement relatively to said fixed

arm, by reason of which the cover is securely held in place.

Any suitable means may be provided for holding the movable arm against longitudinal movement with respect to the fixed one. For this purpose I illustrate a staple 7 upon the upper side of the fixed arm at a suitable point in its length, which is adapted to project through and closely fit an elongated slot 8 in the movable arm. As the staple closely fits the slot, the movable arm, when the parts are in their working positions with respect to each other, can have no movement relatively to its mate, so that the cover is securely maintained in place. When the arms are fitted together in the manner set forth, with the staple extending through the slot 8, the staple is adapted to receive a wire 9, the ends of which can be brought together and sealed, as at 10. The shipper of the receptacle will apply a cover thereto and seal the same in place, and if the seal be destroyed when the receptacle reaches the consignee this will indicate at once to the latter that the contents of the receptacle have been tampered with. In other words, such contents cannot be removed without breaking the package or its cover or destroying the seal. In case the receptacle reaches the consignee in proper condition the contents of the receptacle can be readily reached by first breaking the seal 10 and removing the wire 9 and then raising the movable arm 6 from the fixed arm 4, whereby the cover can be lifted from place.

The outer ends of the arms 4 and 6 terminate in the handles 4' and 6', respectively, which project through the basket-handles 5 and which facilitate the handling of such basket.

The fixed arm 4, it will be remembered, is fastened to the cover 3 by means of nails or their equivalents, and the movable arm 6, which fits flatwise against said fixed arm, is arranged to cover the said nails or equivalent devices when in its normal position, by virtue of which when said cover is in place upon or in a receptacle said nails cannot be reached,

so that the unauthorized removal of the arms by taking out the nails cannot be accomplished.

The invention may be variously modified within the scope of the following claims.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A cover for a receptacle having an arm fixed to the upper side thereof, a second arm loosely connected with the cover and arranged to fit flatwise upon and being movable relatively to the fixed arm, each arm extending beyond the outer edge of the cover, and the movable arm covering the fastening devices which unite the fixed arm to the cover, and means for holding the movable arm against endwise movement relatively to the fixed arm.

2. A circular slatted cover for a receptacle having a fixed arm upon its upper side, a movable arm arranged to fit flatwise upon said fixed arm, each arm extending beyond the outer edge of the cover, a staple upon the fixed arm, the movable arm having a slot to receive said staple, the latter serving to prevent endwise movement of the movable arm with respect to the fixed arm, and a second staple for loosely connecting the movable arm to the rim of said cover.

3. A circular cover for a receptacle having a fixed arm upon its upper side, a movable arm arranged to fit flatwise upon the fixed arm and to cover the fastenings which unite the fixed arm to the cover, said arms extending diametrically of the cover and projecting beyond the outer edge thereof, a staple connected with the cover and embracing the movable arm, and a second staple upon the fixed arm, the movable arm having a slot to receive said staple.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDWARD JAMES GORMAN.

Witnesses:

G. O. WRIGHT,

WALLACE WESTERMAN.