

U. C. ROUMILLAT.  
Bottle-Stopper.

No. 222,158.

Patented Dec. 2, 1879.

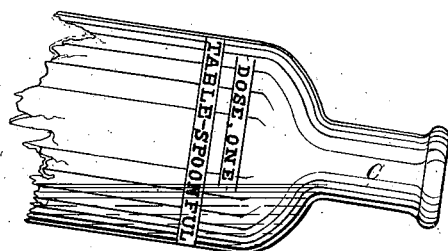


Fig. 1

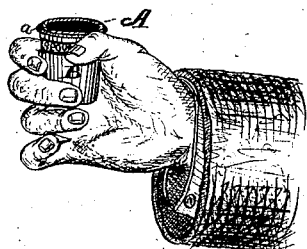


Fig. 2.

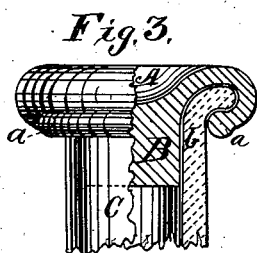


Fig. 3.

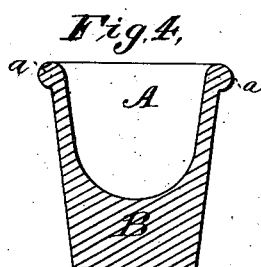
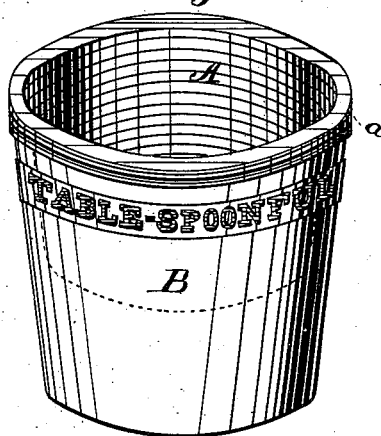


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

A. G. Skylesman.  
L. S. Kane.

U. C. Roumillat  
INVENTOR

By

E. H. Johnson & Co.,  
ATTORNEYS,

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ULYSSES C. ROUMILLAT, OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD OF HIS RIGHT TO GEORGE G. BAHNTGE, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOTTLE-STOPPERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 222,156, dated December 2, 1879; application filed September 4, 1879.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ULYSSES C. ROUMILLAT, of Florence, in the county of Darlington and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Bottle-Stoppers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings are perspective representations of my invention. Fig. 3 is a part sectional view of the stopper inserted in the neck of a bottle and turned over upon it; and Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the stopper.

Heretofore stoppers of vulcanized rubber have been made hollow, and with a shoulder. A stopper of this construction requires a tool for the insertion and withdrawal of the stopper into and from the bottle-neck. Also, a rubber cap for sealing bottles and jars has been so constructed that only the edge of the central projection touches the inner edge of the bottle-neck, and is required to be held in when the edge is turned down to clasp the outside of the bottle-neck. Also, a rubber stopper having a space for a cork core, and provided with an elastic cap arranged to turn down around the neck of the bottle, but not braided on its edge, and not firm enough to maintain its form, even if turned up to be used as a cup, has been used as a bottle-stopper.

These devices or stoppers do not fulfill the conditions of my stopper, and are unlike in construction.

This improvement relates to a device in which I combine a bottle-stopper, a measurer, and a cap for the bottle, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

The novelty consists in a stopper formed of elastic and flexible material, of such shape as to enter and gripe the neck of the bottle, said stopper being chambered in its upper portion and beaded at its upper end, the chambered portion being sufficiently strong to maintain its form when used as a cup, and being capa-

ble of reversion, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

On the accompanying drawings, B represents the bottle-stopper, which is made of some flexible material, such as rubber or its equivalent, the upper part of which is provided with a chamber or recess, A, the sides of which terminate in a bead, *a*, at the upper open end.

The chamber or recess A, I propose to make so as to hold a definite amount—as one tea-spoonful, one table-spoonful, &c., or other usual doses; and the quantity which it will contain may be molded on or in the side of the stopper when it is manufactured.

The method of attaching or securing my improved combined bottle stopper, measurer, and cap, is as follows: The stopper is inserted in the neck of the bottle to a sufficient depth, the sides of the chamber A are pressed over its neck, and the bead *a* upon the chamber portion of the stopper grasps the collar or shoulder *b* upon the neck of the bottle and prevents the stopper from coming out. When in this position it also forms an auxiliary stopper, which will prevent the contents of the bottle being lost should the lower part of the stopper be too small, or defective.

The bead *a* on the upper part of the stopper is for the purpose of giving greater stiffness to the upper part of the chamber A, and renders the grasp upon the neck of the bottle more secure when it is turned down upon it.

By the use of this device kid and other devices used to cover the cork and retain it in place are dispensed with; and in packing bottles provided with the herein-described device the lids of the boxes may be pressed down upon them without driving the stopper into the bottle, and the sides of the stopper have sufficient elasticity to prevent breakage, and will hold the bottle firmly in place against displacement.

If desirable, the lower portion and sides of the stopper may be coated with some material to prevent the rubber from coming in contact with the contents of the bottle.

The quantity of material in a bottle-stopper

constructed as hereinbefore described is considerably less than that contained in rubber corks of the same size, and the saving of the rubber is an important item in reducing the cost of manufacture.

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

A stopper consisting of a piece of elastic and flexible material, and thus adapted in form to enter and gripe the neck of the bottle, chambered in its upper portion and beaded at its

upper end, the chambered portion being sufficiently strong to maintain its form when used as a cup, and being capable of reversion, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

ULYSSES C. ROUMILLAT.

Witnesses:

J. I. ROACH,

THOS. H. GIBBES.