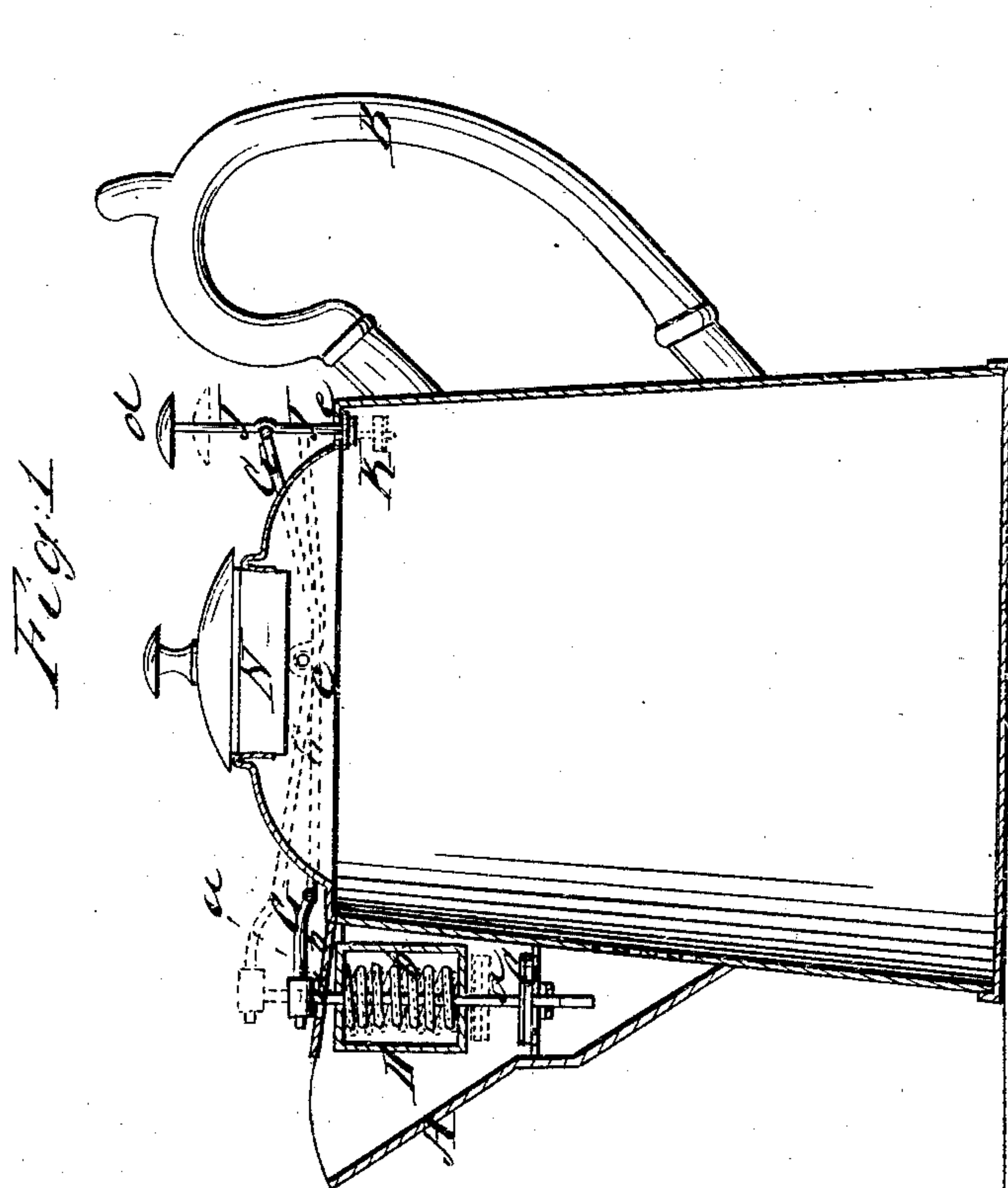


*L. Hermance,*

*Beer Pitcher*

*N<sup>o</sup> 27,904.*

*Patented Apr 17, 1860.*



*Witnesses;*

*R. S. Spinner  
J. W. Coombs*

*Inventor*

*L. Hermance  
per Munroe &  
Attorney.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

L. HERMANCE, OF SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK.

## BEER-PITCHER.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 27,904, dated April 17, 1860.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, L. HERMANCE, of Saratoga Springs, in the county of Saratoga and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Beer-Pitchers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a vertical diametrical section taken through my improved pitcher, showing the arrangement of valves therein, and the manner of operating them with the same hand that grasps the pitcher by the handle. The valve arrangement is shown in two positions.

The object of this invention is to obtain a pitcher for holding beer or cider which will be kept air-tight when not in immediate use for the purpose of preventing the contents from becoming "flat" or "dead" after long standing in the pitcher. The invention not only provides for keeping the interior pitcher air-tight, but it provides for facility in pouring out the liquid from the pitcher.

For this purpose, my invention consists in arranging at the base of the spout of the pitcher a valve which is acted upon by a spring for keeping it down tightly in its seat, and in connecting with this valve a suitable lever which passes around the outside of the pitcher top is pivoted to each side of the same, and connected with a second valve which closes a vent hole in the pitcher top, the whole being arranged as hereinafter described so as to be operated simultaneously by the pressure of the thumb of the hand holding the pitcher.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand my invention I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the drawings, A represents the spout of the pitcher, and B, the handle of the same. The bottom of the spout is formed as represented and is closed by a valve C, which is tightly seated on a plate soldered

in the spout so as to prevent the admission of air into the pitcher from the spout. The valve stem *a*, passes up through a tube D, inclosing a helical spring *b*, which acts upon the valve for keeping it well seated. The stem *a* passes up through the top of the cylinder and through the cap *b*, of the spout, and its top end is provided with a thimble through which passes the end of a circular lever G, which lever is pivoted at *c*, to the pitcher top and extends back, and is bent up slightly, as represented, so that this may be depressed for raising the valve C. At the rear end of the lever G, it is suitably attached to a short upright wire rod J, having on its top end a button *d*, and passing through a nut hole *e*, in the pitcher top, its lower end is provided with a small valve K, which closes the vent hole from the inside upward. N is a cover which is made to fit air-tight into the pitcher top.

Now it will be seen from this description that by depressing the valve rod J, the two valves will open and allow the contained liquid to flow from the spout, at the same time the air will be admitted through nut hole *e*, and press on the liquor in the pitcher, causing it to flow freely from the pitcher at the spout. Then by relieving the pressure of the finger from the button the spring *b*, will return the valves to their seats and prevent air from entering the pitcher.

This arrangement is exceedingly simple; it can be applied to any ordinary beer pitcher for a trifling expense, and is not liable to get out of order, while it will prevent the injurious effects of air on the liquor.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

The combination of valves C, D, with a pitcher, when arranged in the manner and for the purposes herein described.

L. HERMANCE.

Witnesses:

SIMON TERWILLIGER,  
MARTIN HERMANCE.