

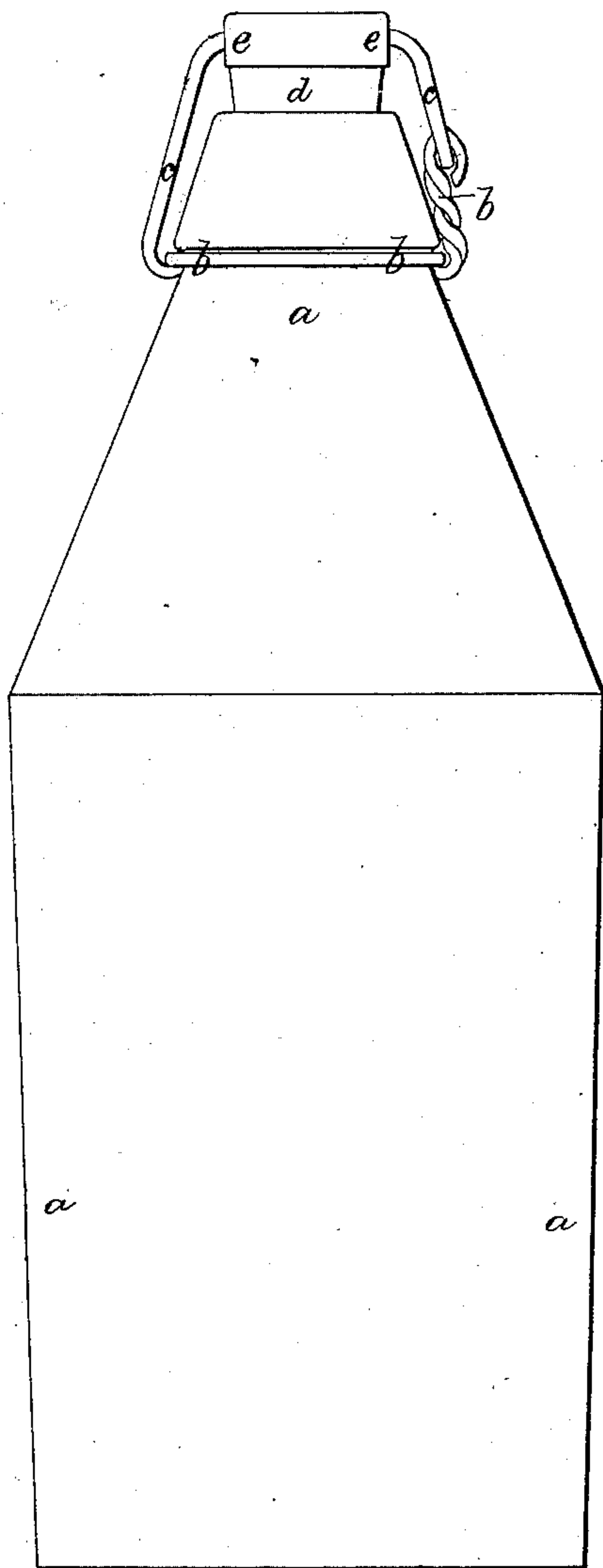
*Beard & Fairbanks*

*Stopper Fastener*

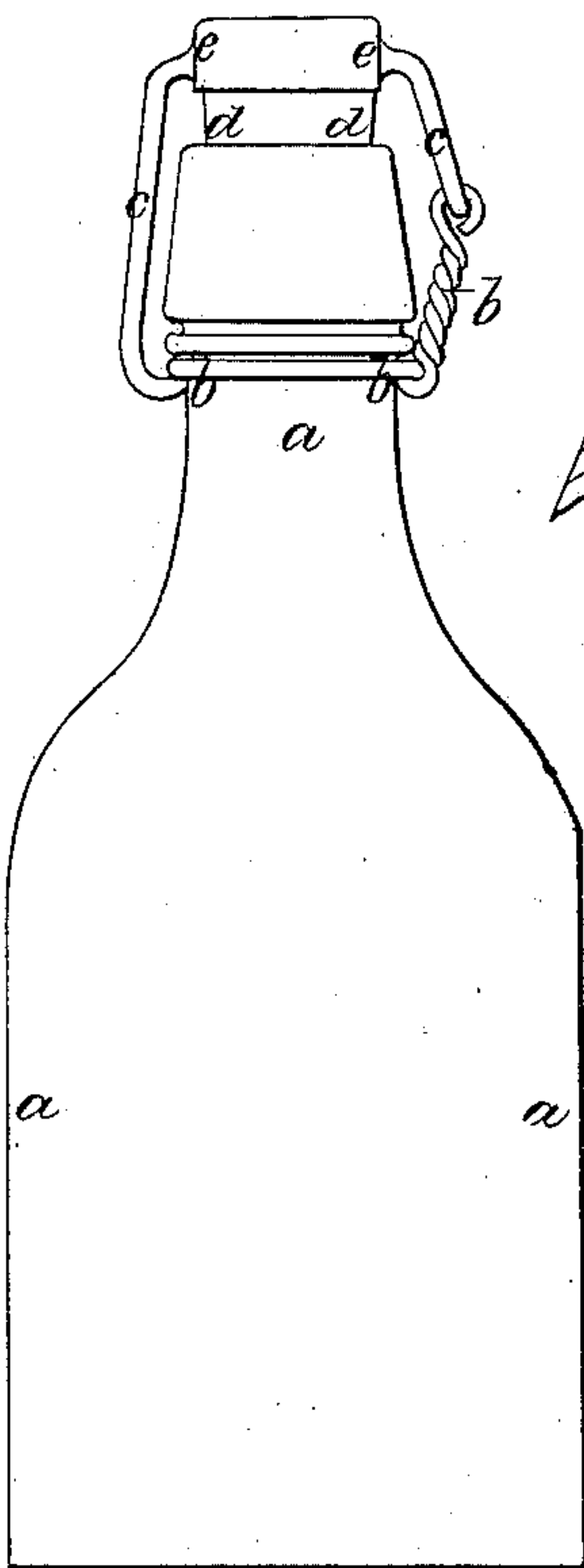
*N<sup>o</sup> 56,319.*

*Patented July 17, 1866.*

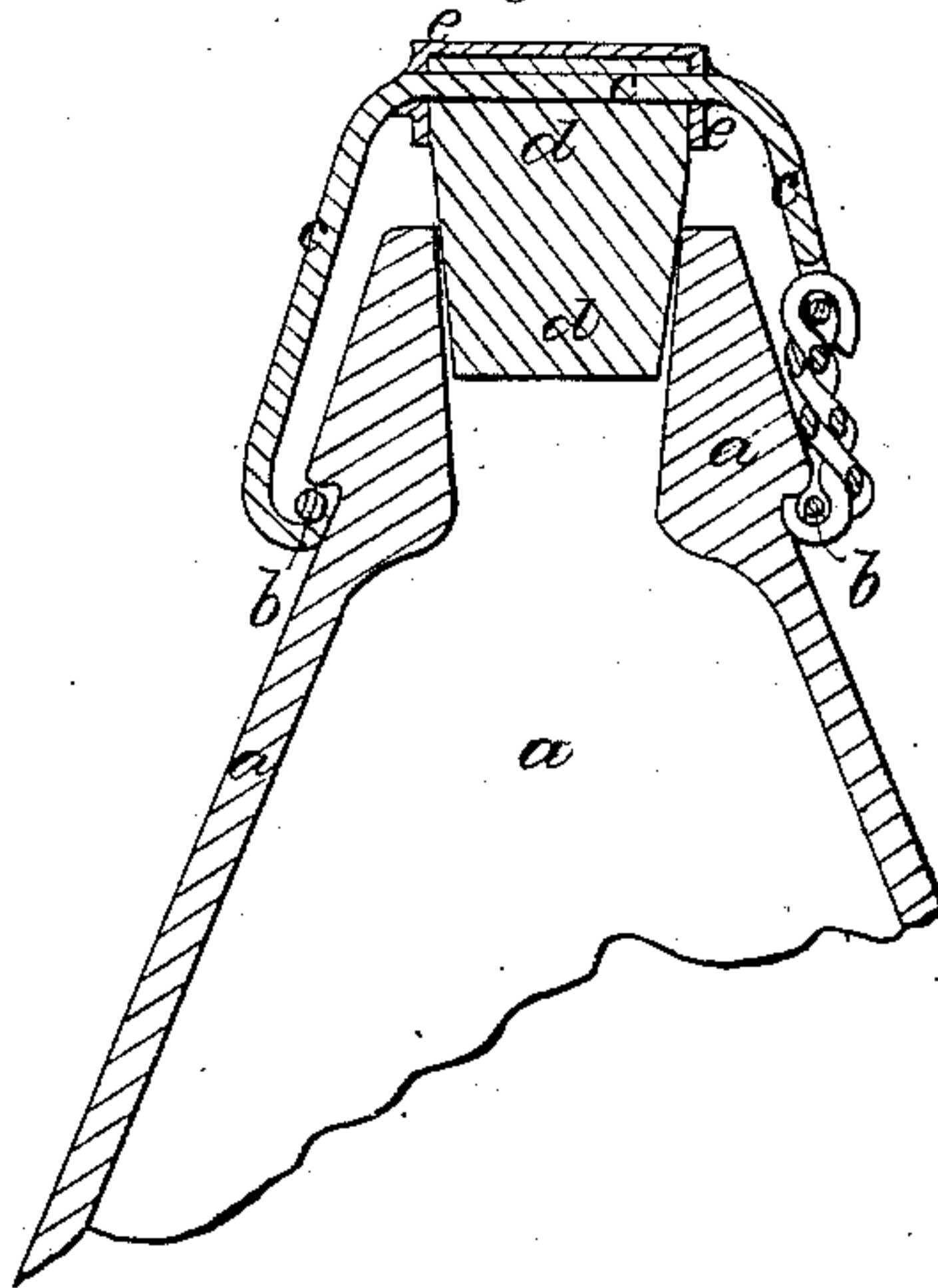
*Fig: 1.*



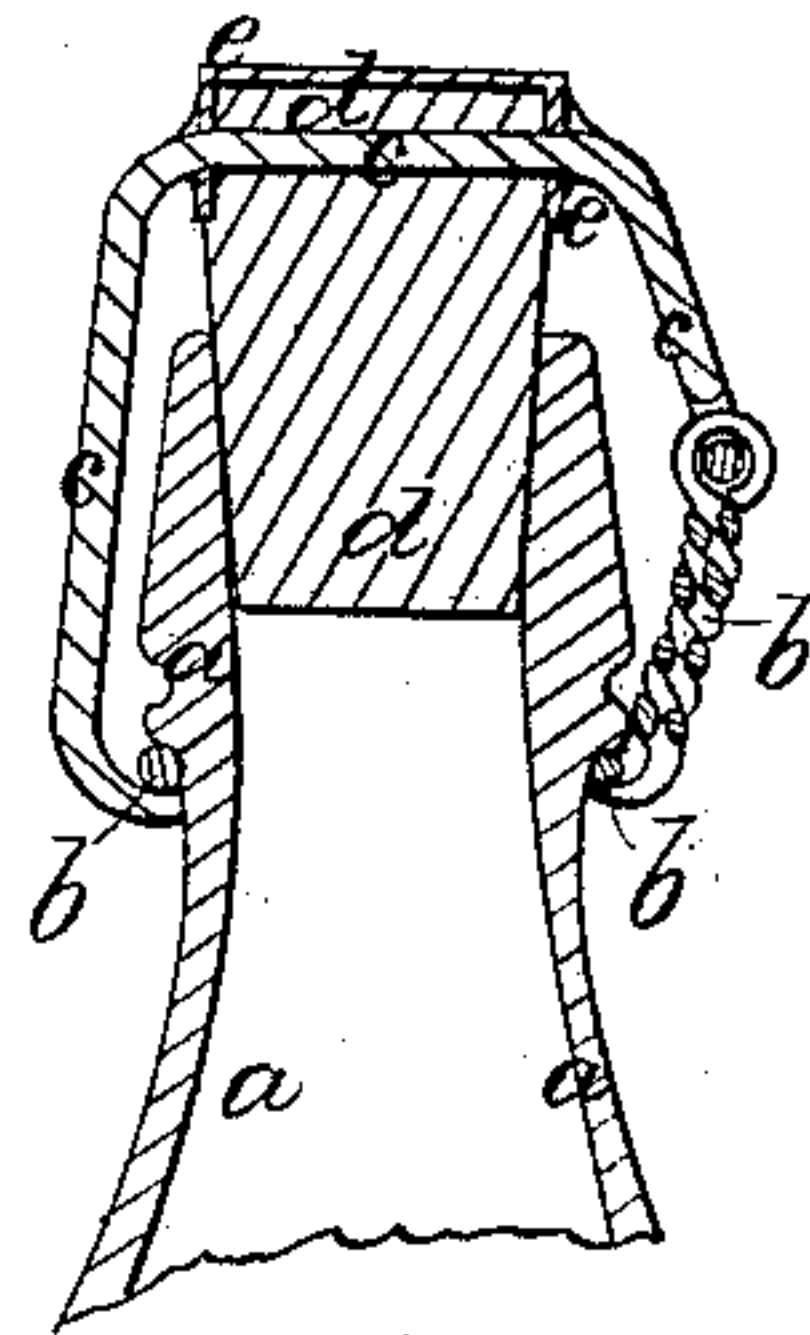
*Fig: 2.*



*Fig: 3.*



*Fig: 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH BEARD AND MOSES FAIRBANKS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVED BOTTLE-STOPPER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 56,349, dated July 17, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOSIAH BEARD and MOSES FAIRBANKS, both of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corks or Stoppers for Bottles, &c.; and we do hereby declare that the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying plate of drawings, hereinafter referred to, forms a full and exact specification of the same, wherein we have set forth the nature and principles of our said improvements, whereby our invention may be distinguished from all others of a similar class, together with such parts as we claim and desire to have secured to us by Letters Patent.

The present invention is particularly applicable to those stoppers which are made of rubber or other elastic gum and which are so arranged as to be permanently attached to the bottle or other vessel in which they are to be used; and it consists in forming the cork or stopper with a metallic cap so arranged as to fit over and secure the top of the cork or stopper and to hold in place a rod or wire that is made to pass through both the cap and stopper, one end of the rod being attached to a wire which passes round the neck of the bottle or other vessel used, and the other end being made so as to engage with or be disengaged from the said wire.

We will now proceed to describe in detail our improvements, which are represented in the accompanying plate of drawings, Figures 1 and 2 being elevations, and Figs. 3 and 4 vertical sections, of bottles used for different liquids.

*a a a* in the drawings represent a bottle, to the neck of which is attached a wire, *b b*. Affixed to one side of the wire *b b*, so as to turn thereon, is one end of a rod or wire, *c c*. This rod or wire *c c* extends up the side of the cork

or stopper *d d* and passes through a metallic cap, *e e*, to which it is secured. The cap *e e* is formed so as to fit over and hold the top of the cork or stopper *d d*, through which the rod or wire *c c* also passes. The rod *c c* then extends down the opposite side of the cork or stopper *d d*, and is finished at the end in a curved or hooked form, so that when the cork or stopper *d d* is pressed down into the bottle *a a* or other vessel the hooked end of the rod *c c* is made to catch upon the wire *b b* in such a manner as to securely hold the cork or stopper *d d* in place. By exerting a still greater pressure upon the top of the cork or stopper *d d* the rod *c c* is loosened and easily disengaged from the wire *b b*, and the cork or stopper *d d* readily withdrawn from the bottle *a a*.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the metallic cap *e e* not only protects the top of the stopper *d d* from abrasion, but also holds the fastening band or rod *c c* in place and prevents the latter from tearing through the top of the stopper, which might otherwise occur. Moreover, this mode of attaching the stopper to the bottle obviates the necessity of perforating the former in the direction of its length, which mode of fastening, we are aware, has been used, but is objectionable on account of its permitting the escape of gas in fermented liquids.

Having thus described our improvements, we shall state our claim as follows:

What we claim as our invention, and desire to have secured to us by Letters Patent, is—

A protecting cap, in combination with the stopper and fastening-wire passing through both the said cap and stopper, as described.

JOSIAH BEARD.

MOSES FAIRBANKS.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH GAVETT,

SAML. M. BARTON.