

J. E. McBeth,

Bung.

N^o 61,348,

Patented Jan. 22, 1867.

Fig. 1.

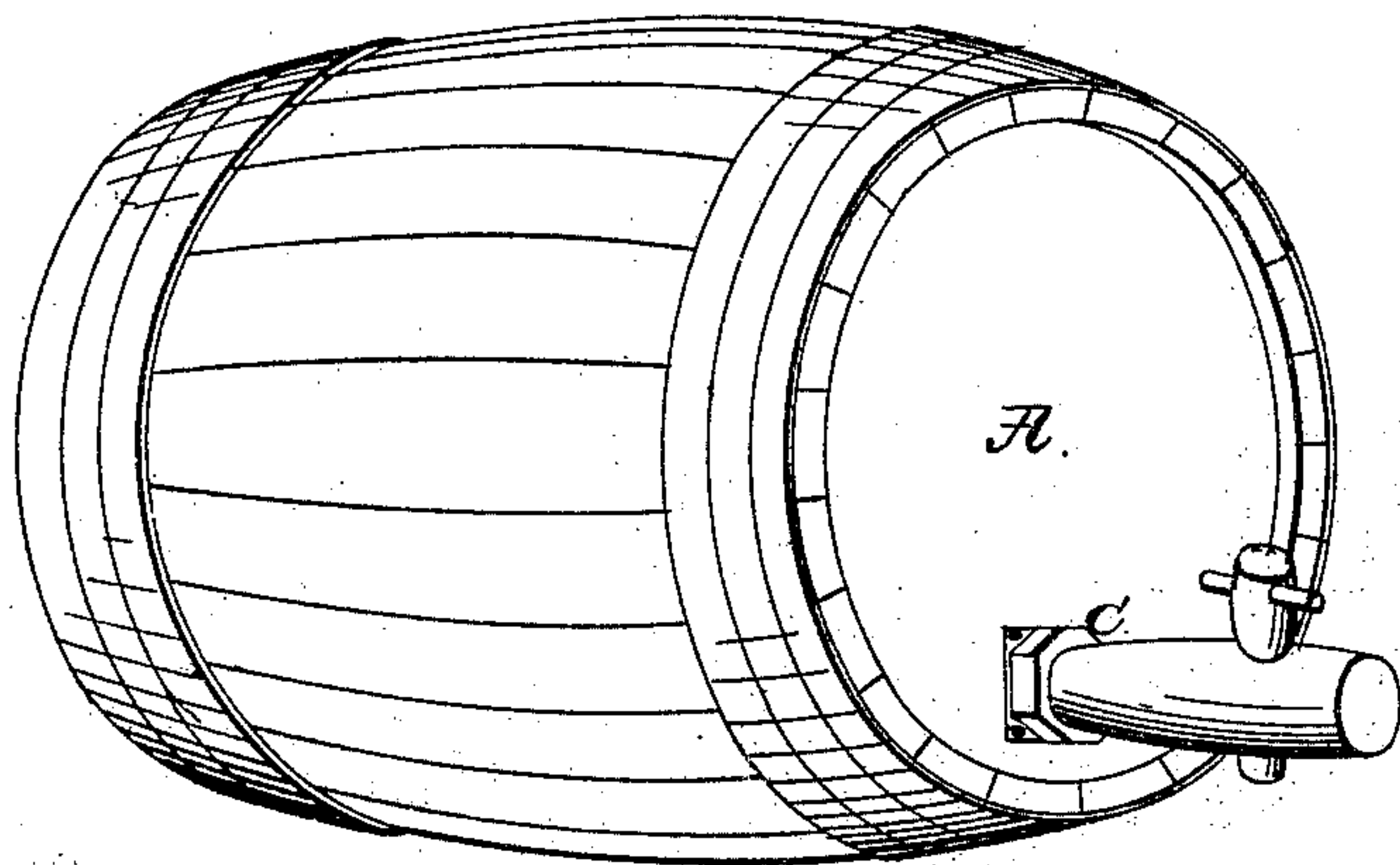


Fig. 2.

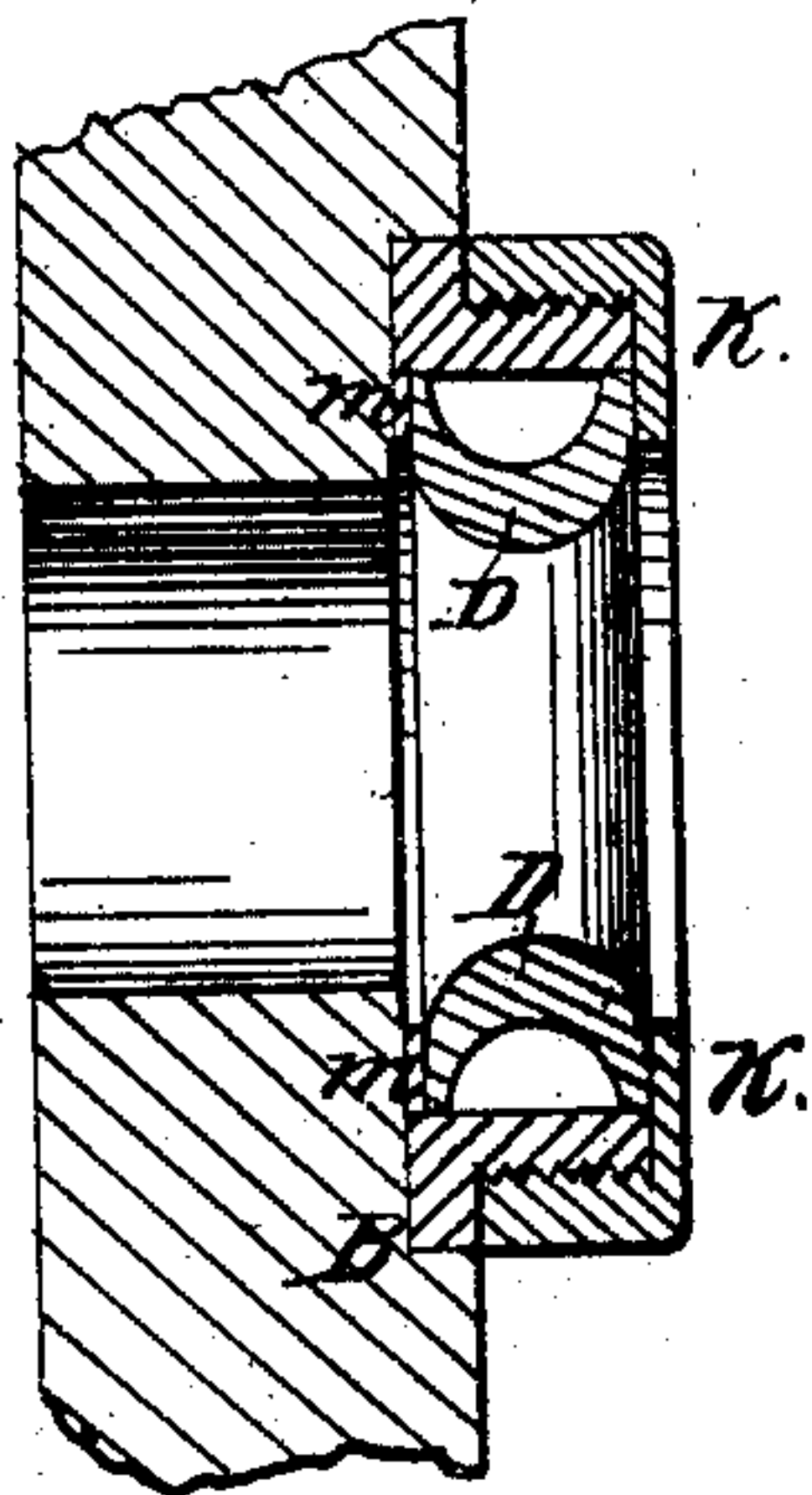
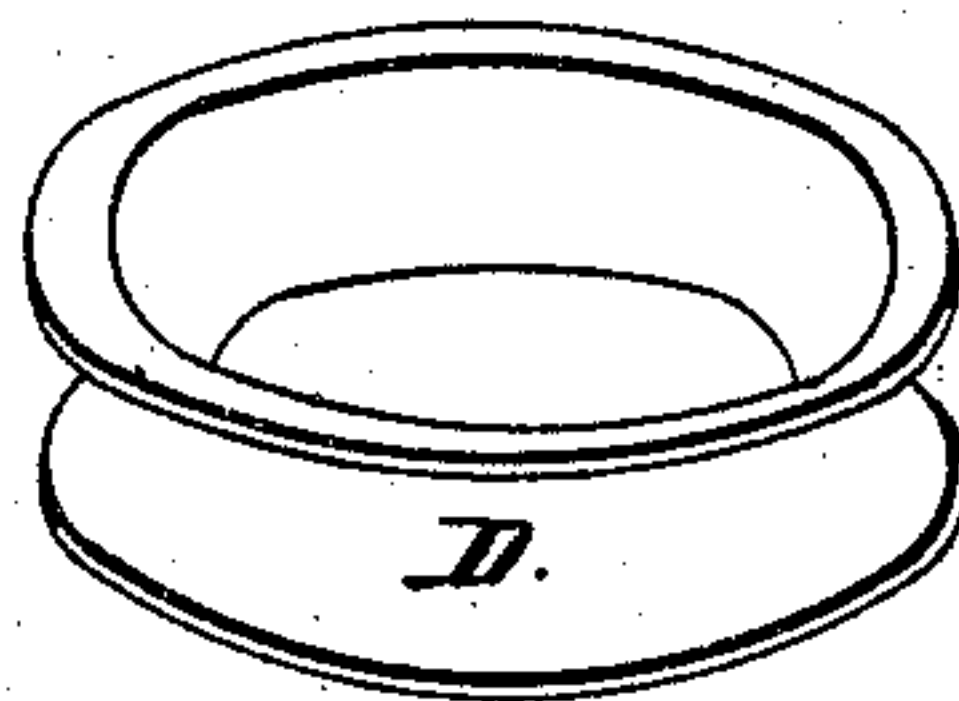


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

D. Lilliker
J. Henry Hill

Inventor:

James E. McBeth
by his Attorney—
Thos. H. Dodge

United States Patent Office.

JAMES E. McBETH, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
AND J. W. CHAMBERLAIN.

Letters Patent No. 61,348, dated January 22, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUNGS FOR BEER BARRELS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JAMES E. McBETH, of the city of New Orleans, parish of Orleans, and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Beer Bungs or Faucet Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a beer barrel having my improved bung or faucet holder attached thereto.

Figure 2 is a transverse section of the bung or faucet holder with a portion of the head of the barrel; and

Figure 3 shows the India-rubber ring which serves as a packing for the faucet.

The same letters indicate like parts in all the figures.

The object of my invention is to enable the faucet to be inserted without allowing the beer to squirt out. Great inconvenience arises from the present method of putting in the faucet, and more especially to individuals who purchase for private consumption. Very often the whole or best portion of the beer is thus wasted, at the same time, in very many cases, emptying the contents of the barrel over the party so trying to insert the faucet. To prevent this, numerous devices are employed, such as wrapping up the head of the barrel with a sack, a piece of cloth or carpet, and with little or no success.

In the drawing, A is the head of the barrel; B is the case, and consists of a flat piece of brass or other metal with an aperture in the centre, through which the stem of the faucet passes into the barrel. Around this aperture is a rim projecting outwards, and having a flange on the lower side and at right angles to the rim, as seen in fig. 2. Upon this rim a screw-thread is cut, upon which is screwed the cap C, (figs. 1 and 2.) C is the cap to the case B, and is of size to fit on to the said case, and having also a flange on the upper side thereof. The case B is fastened to the head of the barrel by means of wood screws, as shown in fig. 1. D (figs. 2 and 3) is an India-rubber ring, made concave on the outside and convex on the inside, as shown in fig. 3; it is made of suitable size to fit in between B and C when screwed together, as shown at D (fig. 2.) The apertures through B and C are larger than the aperture through the head of the barrel, in order to allow for worn-out or irregular holes in worn barrels, and also to more readily allow the cork to be put in, as at present done; also to allow the conical faucet to be driven as far down as may be necessary. When B and C are screwed together they hold the rubber ring directly over the hole in the head of the barrel. The rubber ring D is so formed as shown, and is of such a size, that immediately upon the point or small end of the faucet being inserted it will grasp the same tightly, preventing any escape of the beer or other fluid, and upon the faucet being driven down the rubber will expand, falling back into the reserved space created by the concave formation of the ring between B and C; and upon the faucet being withdrawn the rubber ring D will immediately return to its original size and position. Were the rubber not so formed, it would be very difficult to drive the faucet down, while the rubber, having no space to fall back upon, would become compressed, would lose its elasticity, and be rendered worthless. The rubber ring is prevented from being driven down into the barrel by means of the flange *m* on B, and from being driven out, together with the faucet, by the force of the beer, or from being lost in transportation, by means of the flange *k* on C. The rubber ring is made thicker than the depth of the case, so that it can be made perfectly air-tight by screwing the cap C well down on B. The inside of the rubber ring being considerably smaller than the hole in the head of the barrel, the cap has to be taken off, and the rubber ring taken out, in order that the hole in the head of the barrel can be corked up, as at present done; the rubber ring is then replaced and the cap C re-affixed; the barrel is then ready to have the faucet driven in; and when the whole is thus together, it is below the chimes of the barrel, and is thus protected from injury in transportation. The faucet is driven down on the cork in the ordinary manner.

My invention will recommend itself in the point of great economy, as it saves both the barrel and the faucet, as in the present method the faucet has to be driven in so hard, in order to obtain a firm hold, that it enlarges and wears out the hole, and in taking it out it has to be knocked about from side to side in order to loosen it, so that in a short time it is rendered worthless; while by my invention the faucet is held firmly in its place by the rubber ring independent of the head of the barrel, and can be taken out by the hand. Another advantage is, that by my invention the faucet can be put in while the barrel is lying down. It is obvious that

should it be found necessary to sell this article to the consumer instead of to the manufacturer of beer, the method of attaching to the barrel may be modified, and without affecting the main character or nature of my invention.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The rubber ring D, substantially in the manner and for the purposes described.
2. I claim the combination of the parts B and C, substantially in the manner and for the purposes described.
3. I claim the combination of the parts B, C, and D, substantially in the manner and for the purposes described.

JAMES E. McBETH.

Witnesses:

WM. McDUFF,
HENRY ABEL.