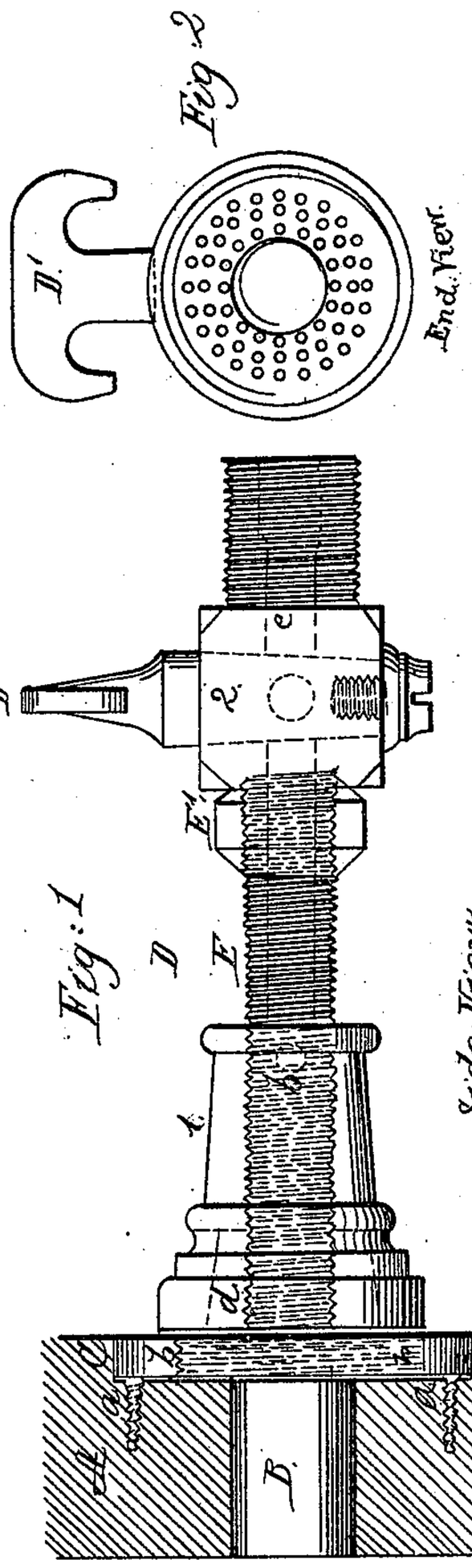
T. MARSH.

BEER FAUCET.

No. 62,864. Patented Mar. 12, 1867.



Witnesses:
W. B. Vincent
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Inventor:
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THOMAS MARSH, OF SMITHFIELD, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, JOHN BALCHOM, AND S. PERRY, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 62,864, *dated March* 12, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEER FAUCETS.

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, THOMAS MARSH, of Central Falls, (Smithfield,) in the county of Providence, State of Rhode Island, and United States of America, have invented a new and improved Apparatus "for Tapping Beer Casks and other like vessels containing liquids under pressure;" and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings, making a part of the same, is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

Figure 1 is a side view.

Figure 2 is an end view.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal section.

Figure 4 is a longitudinal section of a modification of the invention.

The invention herein described can be advantageously used for tapping a cask which contains beer or other fluid confined under pressure. The common method of tapping a beer cask, employed, is, first, to force inward, to the distance perhaps of half the thickness of the head of the cask, the plug which is always inserted in a hole made in one of the heads for this purpose, and then placing the faucet or spigot upon its end against the plug so partially driven in, with a well-directed blow replug the hole with the end of the faucet, and at the same operation expel into the interior of the cask the former plug which filled the hole. It often happens that the pressure exerted by the beer is so great as to be able to resist the introduction of the faucet, especially if the latter is not exactly fitted to the hole, in which case the contents of the cask will escape. The invention described is intended to afford a convenient and certain means for tapping a cask in place of the means above described.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents a head of a beer cask, and B the plug which fills the tap-hole. Around this plug there is to be placed a ring or collar, C, made by preference of cast iron or of some metal, which ring may be countersunk in the head, or not, as is most convenient, and which is secured to the head by screws *a a*, or other convenient means. The interior is furnished with a screw-thread, *b*, and its diameter should be sufficient to receive the end of the faucet. D is the faucet, having a longitudinal passage, *c*, through its axis, and provided with a stop-cock, D′. It differs, however, from the ordinary faucet in this, that it is made in two parts, (1 and 2,) which are connected by means of the screw spindle E, and the joint between the two is furnished with a compressible and elastic packing, E′. The portion 1 is made by preference with a chamber, *d*, near its base, and has a teat, *e*, provided with a thread which fits the thread of the collar C. The screw spindle E, which is attached to the portion 2 of the faucet, is furnished with one or more radial apertures, *f*, which extend from its surface into the delivery passage *c*, and will, when in connection with the chamber *d*, furnish an outlet for the contents of the cask into such passage. The base of this chamber may be covered by a filter, as shown at fig. 2. When a cask is to be tapped the portion 1 of the faucet is secured fast to the collar C, and the portion 2 is in the position shown in fig. 1. By turning this portion 2 the screw spindle E will be made to press against the end of the tap-plug, and will exert sufficient force to expel it into the interior of the cask by the time that the two parts of the faucet are in the relation shown at fig. 3, when the rubber packing will have been sufficiently compressed to pack the joint between the two portions, and the aperture *f* will have entered the chamber *d*, and connected the interior of the cask with the delivery passage *c*. The contents of the cask can now by means of the stop-cock be drawn off at pleasure.

I am aware of the existence of William Pinkerman's faucet, patented August 18, 1863; but I think there is a patentable difference between that device and my own. Pinkerman's invention is a combined stopple and faucet. A stopple forms no part of my invention. His stopple arrangement must be attached to every barrel the brewer fills, whereas by the use of my faucet a common wooden stopple is all that is necessary to be inserted in each barrel the brewer fills, and my tapping mechanism need only be attached to such barrels as are on draught at the retailer's. A great saving must therefore result from the use of my invention instead of Pinkerman's. A modification of my invention is shown at fig. 4, in which the end of the same spindle E is provided with a cutting bit, F, which enables the apparatus to bore out its own tap-hole in a way readily understood

from the drawing. In all other respects the arrangement and operation and construction are the same, except that the screw spindle may be shorter than in the other case by the length of the bit.

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

1. The faucet composed of the two parts 1 and 2, the part 1 to be attached to the barrel at any time after the filling and before the tapping of the same, and to act in combination with the part 2 in forcing out the common wooden plug, the use of which is rendered unobjectionable by my invention, and which it is no part of my design to supersede.

2. The combination of such faucet with a collar, C, affixed to the cask, such parts in combination constituting an apparatus for tapping a cask, substantially as described.

3. Combining with the apparatus described in the first clause, a cutting bit, F, substantially as described for the purposes specified.

THOMAS MARSH.

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