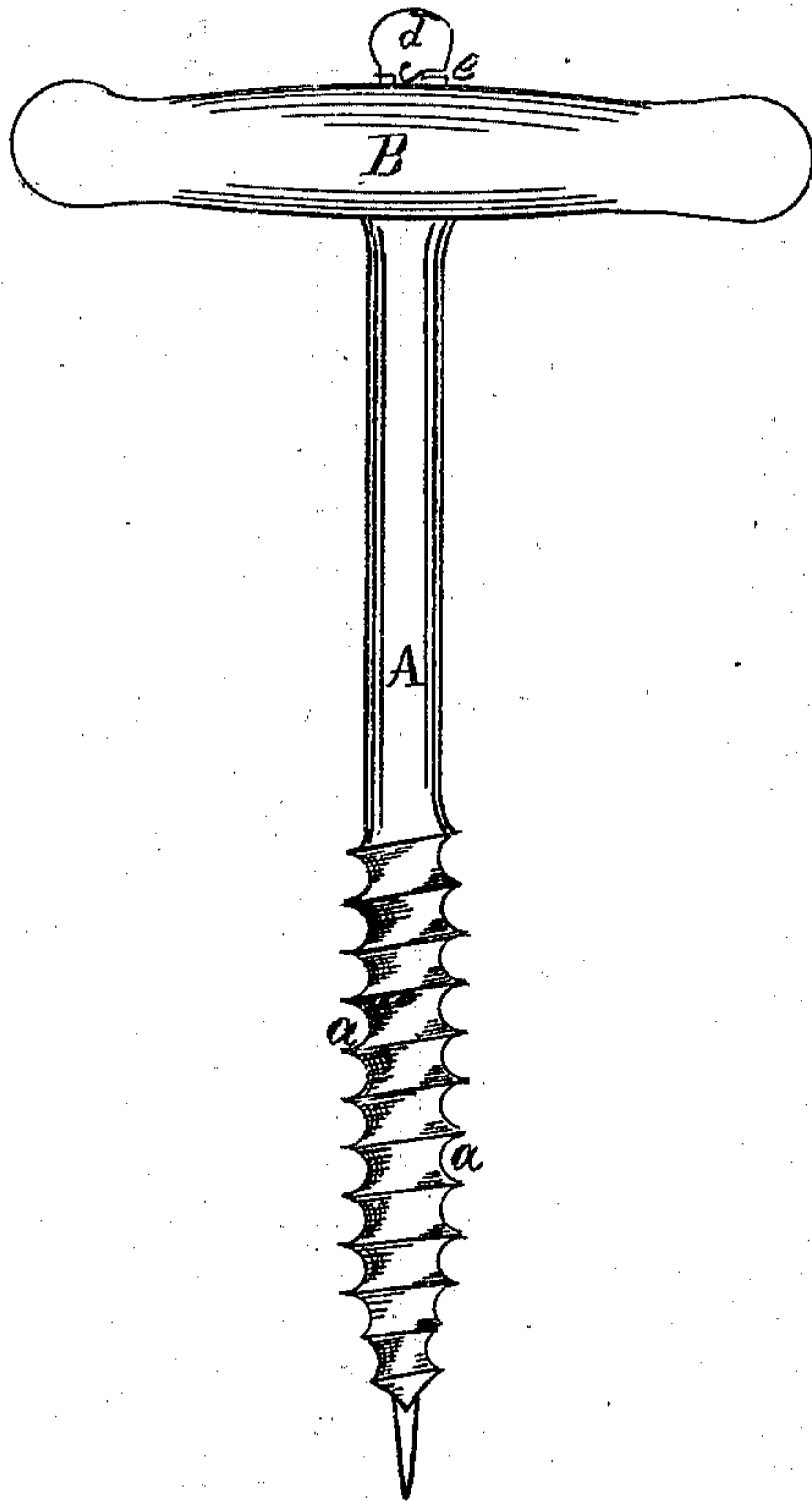
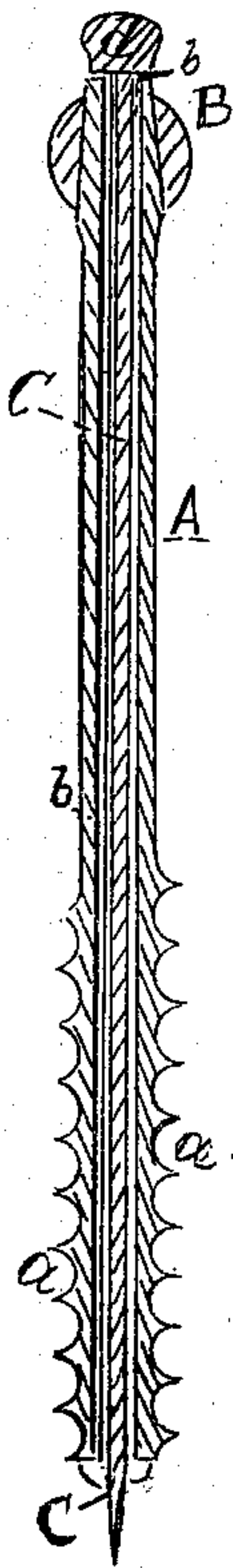


Sam^r McComb Imp^r in Corkscrews
Assigned to Himself & Lafayette Farrington

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PATENTED
NOV 26 1867



Witnesses
J. H. Lyon
T. H. Beecher

Inventor
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL McCOUN, OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
AND LAFAYETTE FARRINGTON, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVED CORK-SCREW.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 71,316, dated November 26, 1867.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL McCOUN, of Stamford, in the county of Fairfield, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Cork-Screw; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms part of this specification.

My invention consists in constructing a cork-screw with a vent-passage through its stem, in such manner that the said vent-passage may be opened so soon as the instrument is inserted through the cork, whereby the pent-up gases will have a chance to escape, and thus obviate much annoyance now occasioned by the "popping" of the corks of champagne, cider, beer, &c., bottles.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a cork-screw constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section thereof, taken on the plane of the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

A designates the shank or stem of the cork-screw, and B its handle. Around the lower portion of the stem there is cut a deep thread, *a*, similar to that on an ordinary screw. A hole or bore, *b*, is drilled or otherwise made longitudinally through the stem A, and transversely through the handle B, thus forming a clear passage from one end to the other of the instrument. This bore is intended to answer for a vent-hole, to let the gases escape from the interior of a bottle of champagne, beer, cider, or other liquid, when the cork-screw is screwed down, so that its lower end will be below the end of the cork which is in the bottle.

C is a pointed rod, which is fitted to slide into and through the bore *b*, in such manner that its point will project below the lower end of the cork-screw, and thus answer as a point for the same. This rod is secured in place, in the present instance, by a beveled projection or catch, *c*, on the head *d* of the rod *c*, which catch fits into a notch, *e*, cut in the upper end of the stem A or top of the handle B, in such manner that, whenever the instrument is turned in the direction for driving it through

the cork, the rod will be held so securely as not to be able to turn independently of the stem A.

I will here remark that I do not limit myself to the closing of the vent-hole or bore *b* by means of the rod C, as herein specified, as the end of the cork-screw might be made so as to preclude the contingency of pieces of cork entering the bore, and a valve or the like might be employed for closing the vent-hole or bore above the point where the cork-screw enters the cork. Nor do I limit myself to the application of this part of my invention to a cork-screw having a screw-thread cut upon it in the manner specified.

It is well known that much embarrassment occurs in uncorking bottles of champagne, beer, cider, &c., by the confined gas forcing the corks suddenly from the bottles, and also by the effervescent part of the wine or other liquid flying out before the mouth of the bottle can be brought properly over the wine glass or goblet.

My invention entirely remedies these difficulties and embarrassments. So soon as the cork-screw has been screwed down through the cork, the rod can be withdrawn, (or the vent-hole or bore opened,) and the gases will escape, and if the liquor effervesces, on its coming in contact with the air, such ebullient part can be allowed to run off through the vent or bore, after which the cork may be drawn, and the bottle emptied leisurely and with comfort.

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

1. A cork-screw provided with a bore or vent-hole, substantially as and for the purposes herein specified.

2. The combination of the rod C with a cork-screw, provided with a bore or vent-hole, *b*, substantially as and for the purposes herein specified.

SAMUEL McCOUN.

Witnesses:

EDWIN HOYT,
LAFAYETTE FARRINGTON.