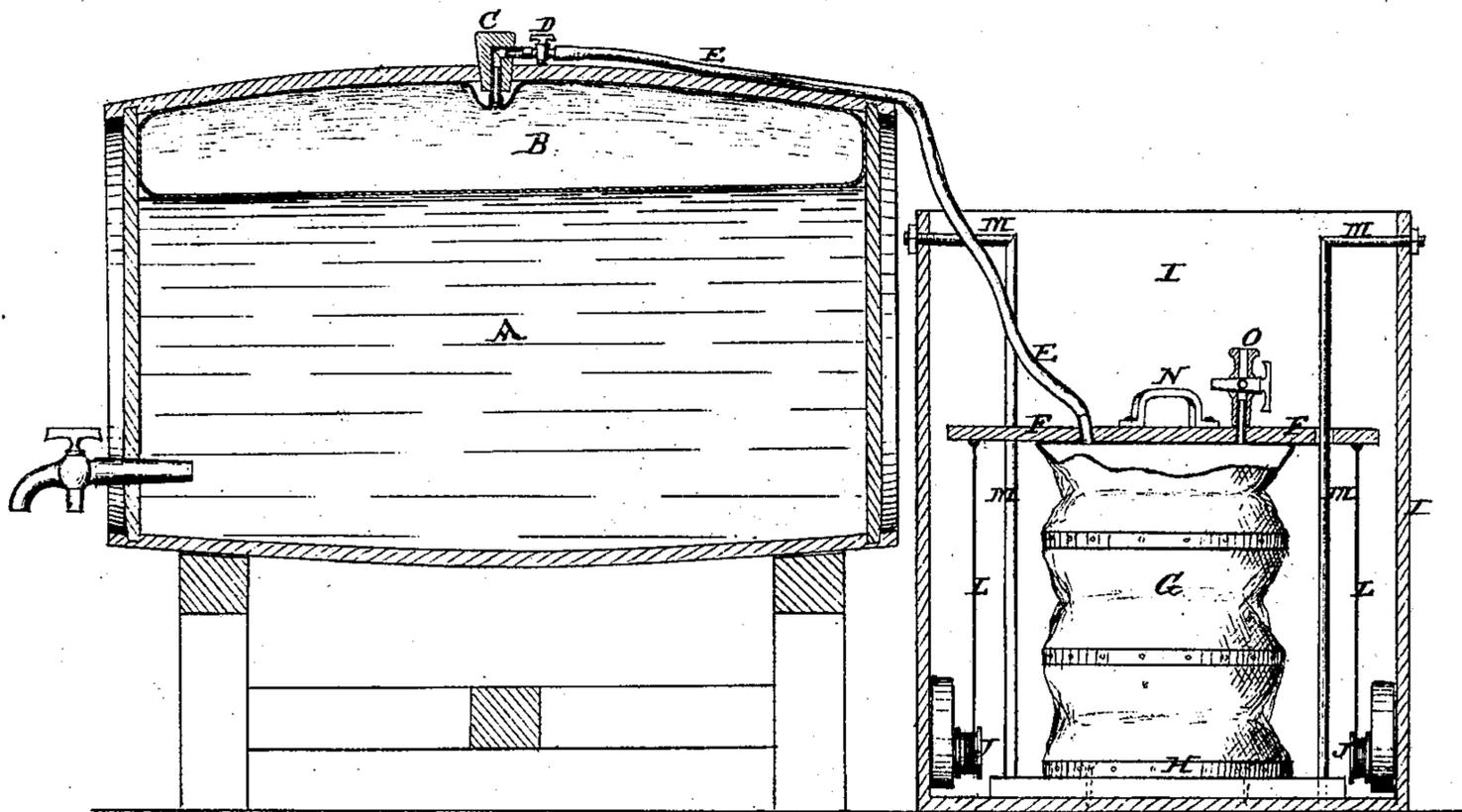


C. Pohlmann,

Preserving Beer.

No. 103498.

Patented May 24, 1870.



Witnesses
H. J. Smith
J. H. Phillips

C. Pohlmann, Inventor.
By Alex. A. C. Klauke & Co.
His Attorneys.

United States Patent Office.

CHARLES POHLMANN, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

Letters Patent No. 103,498, dated May 24, 1870.

IMPROVED APPARATUS FOR PRESERVING BEER.

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, CHARLES POHLMANN, of Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Apparatus for Preserving Beer and similar liquids; I do hereby declare the following to be a full and correct description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which makes part of this specification, and which represents a sectional side elevation of an apparatus with my improvement attached.

The nature of my invention consists in an elastic bag, formed in a shape to accommodate itself to the inside of a barrel, to which it is applied, in such a manner that, when the bag is filled with air, and supplied with air under pressure, the bag will gradually expand, and exert a pressure upon the liquid in the cask in which it is placed.

It further consists in a novel apparatus for supplying the bag with air under pressure.

A in the drawings represents a barrel filled, or nearly so, with any suitable liquor—for instance, beer.

B is an elastic bag, preferably made of thin India rubber, or such other material as will readily expand without danger of breaking.

This bag is securely attached to the lower end of a bung, C, which, above the barrel, is provided with a short pipe, extending laterally from the bung, and provided with a stop-cock, D.

The bung C is provided with an opening, which connects the tube just described with the inside of the bag B.

Attached to the stop-cock D is an elastic tube, E, which passes through the top plate F, and connects with the interior of a bellows, G.

This bellows consists of a circular piece of elastic material, preferably India rubber, provided with a bottom, H, which is securely fastened to the floor or bottom piece of any casing within which the bellows may be placed.

In the drawing, I have shown the bellows placed in a casing, I, on the inside of which, at opposite sides, and near the bottom, are secured springs J, which are connected by ropes or chains L, through which top plate guide-rods M pass, the guide-rods being secured at bottom and top of the casing.

On the top plate F of the bellows is secured a handle, N; and through the top plate passes a stop-cock, O, connecting with the interior of the bellows.

The operation of my device is as follows:

A keg of beer having been tapped, the bung is knocked out, the bag B closely folded, passed through the bung-hole into the keg, and the bung C knocked tightly into the bung-hole. The stop-cock D being

closed, and the stop-cock O opened, the bellows are filled with air by raising them by means of handle N, the springs J being unwound as the bellows are raised. The stop-cock O being now closed, and the stop-cock D opened, the springs J, pulling down the top plate F of the bellows, forces the air, through pipe E and bung C, into the bag B, which expands as far as the liquid will allow. As the beer is gradually drawn from the keg, the pressure of the air from the bellows causes the bag to expand, and exert a continual pressure upon the liquid until the same is entirely discharged from the keg.

In thus keeping a continual pressure upon the liquid within the keg without the air coming in contact with the same, the strength of the beer cannot escape, thus preventing it from becoming flat.

By this means, a keg may be tapped in the evening, a few glasses withdrawn, and the beer remaining in the keg will be as fresh the next morning, or at any time for weeks thereafter, as when first tapped.

When a keg is emptied, the bellows will be down, or nearly so. By raising the bellows, the stop-cock D being open, and O closed, the air will be withdrawn from the bag B, which latter, after being emptied, and the stop-cock D closed, may be withdrawn from the empty keg, and placed into a newly-tapped one. By merely opening the stop-cock D, the pressure will be exerted anew on the bag B, the bellows having been filled with the air from the bag before removal from the empty keg.

In practice, I prefer making the bellows somewhat larger than the keg or barrel on which it operates, so as to always have a full and strong pressure of air.

The bag B will have to be made of such size as to fill, when fully expanded, the keg or barrel to which it is applied.

Having thus described my invention,

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

1. The combination of the elastic bag B with the automatic air-pressure apparatus G, substantially as and for the purpose specified.
2. The elastic bag B, closely fitting the keg or barrel when expanded, when used with a pressure of air, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
3. The combination of the bag B, bung C, stop-cock D, elastic tube E, bellows G, and stop-cock O, when so arranged as to permit the air from the bag to be withdrawn again into the bellows—that is to say, a continuous use of the same air, as described.

CHARLES POHLMANN.

Witnesses:

ALEXR. A. C. KLAUCKE,
JOHN W. MCGILL.