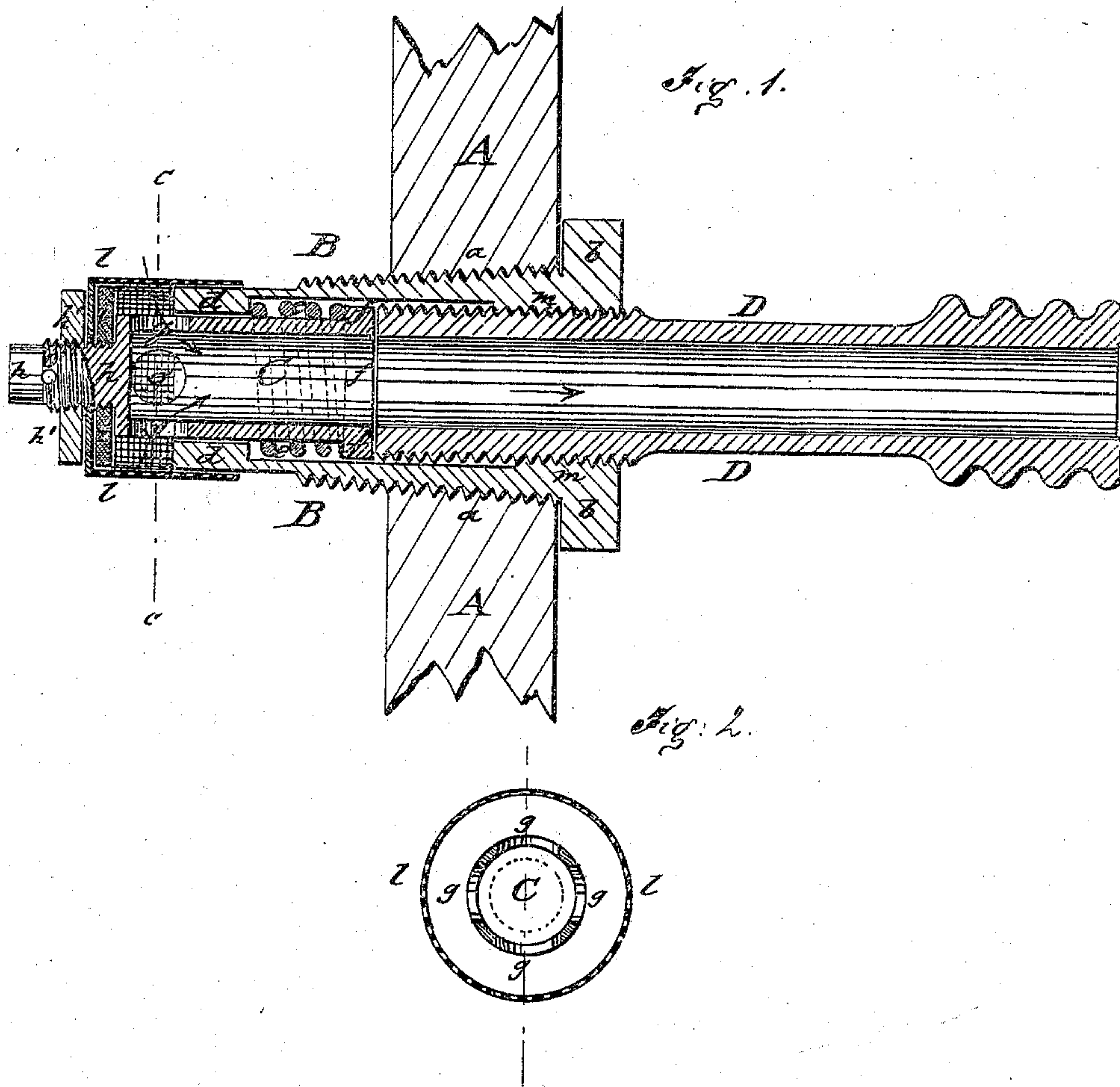


R. McCONNELL, W. TRUESDELL & F. MERTSHEIMER.
Self-Closing Faucet-Attachments.

No. 143,291.

Patented September 30, 1873.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT McCONNELL, WILLIAM TRUESDELL, AND FREDRICK MERTSHEIMER, OF OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SELF-CLOSING FAUCET ATTACHMENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **143,291**, dated September 30, 1873; application filed May 24, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ROBERT McCONNELL, WILLIAM TRUESDELL, and FREDRICK MERTSHEIMER, of Omaha, in the county of Douglas and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and Improved Self-Closing Faucet Attachment, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a vertical longitudinal section of our self-closing faucet attachment for barrels; and Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section on the line *c c*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of our invention is to provide an attachment for barrels, casks, or other vessels which is so constructed that the faucet or cock may be inserted with ease and safety by the most inexperienced person, drawing, thereby, the contents, and obviating the use of corks and the destruction of the barrel-head by the repeated driving in of the faucets now in use. The invention consists in the mode of combining parts to form a self-closing faucet, as hereinafter described and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawing, A represents the barrel, cask, or other receptacle, to which the faucet-tube B, of suitable metal, is applied by means of the outer screw-thread *a*, with conical inclination. The head *b*, of hexagonal or other shape, may be set flush into the barrel or project at the outside, if desired. An inside collar, *d*, at the end of tube B, serves as shoulder-rest for the spiral spring *e*, which coils around the tubular valve C, resting, with its other end, against shoulder *f* of the same. Apertures *g* at end of valve C allow the liquid to pass out through tube B when that end projects outside of tube B. Solid extension *h* of valve C, of smaller diameter than the same, is threaded, and holds, by nut *h'*, the soft rubber disk *i* and the strainer *l* on the end of tube B. The rubber disk *i* is of the same diameter as the tube end, the strainer *l* fitting

closely over the same. By the joint action of spiral spring *e* and nut *h'* disk *i* is pressed firmly against the end of tube B, closing the same effectively, so that no liquid can escape. The inside of tube B near the head *b* is provided with a female thread, *m*, into which screws the end of faucet D.

The faucet D is turned in far enough to strike valve C, forcing the same back, so that disk *i* is carried toward the inside of the vessel, and the apertures *g* of valve C pass to the outside of tube B. The liquid enters, therefore, through strainer *l* and apertures *g* into the valve C and the faucet D, as indicated by arrows in Fig. 1, and may be drawn off at pleasure.

The strainer *l* prevents any impurities to pass out with the liquid, and may be cleaned from time to time by unscrewing the tube A from the barrel after it has been emptied.

By means of a hole and pin, O, through end of extension *h* of valve C, the connection of the parts is still further secured.

On shipping the barrels, the cavity of tube B may be closed with a prepared wax and sealed in suitable manner to prevent the contents being tampered with.

On withdrawing the faucet the valve attachment closes upon the tube B, and the barrel is ready for refilling. The ease and rapidity by which barrels may be tapped by the use of this attachment recommend it over the methods at present in use.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The self-closing faucet attachment formed by the combination of tube B, valve C, spiral spring *e*, disk *i*, strainer *l*, and nut *h'*, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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Witnesses:

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