

J. M. SPAHN.
Vent-Plugs.

No. 156,441.

Patented Nov. 3, 1874.

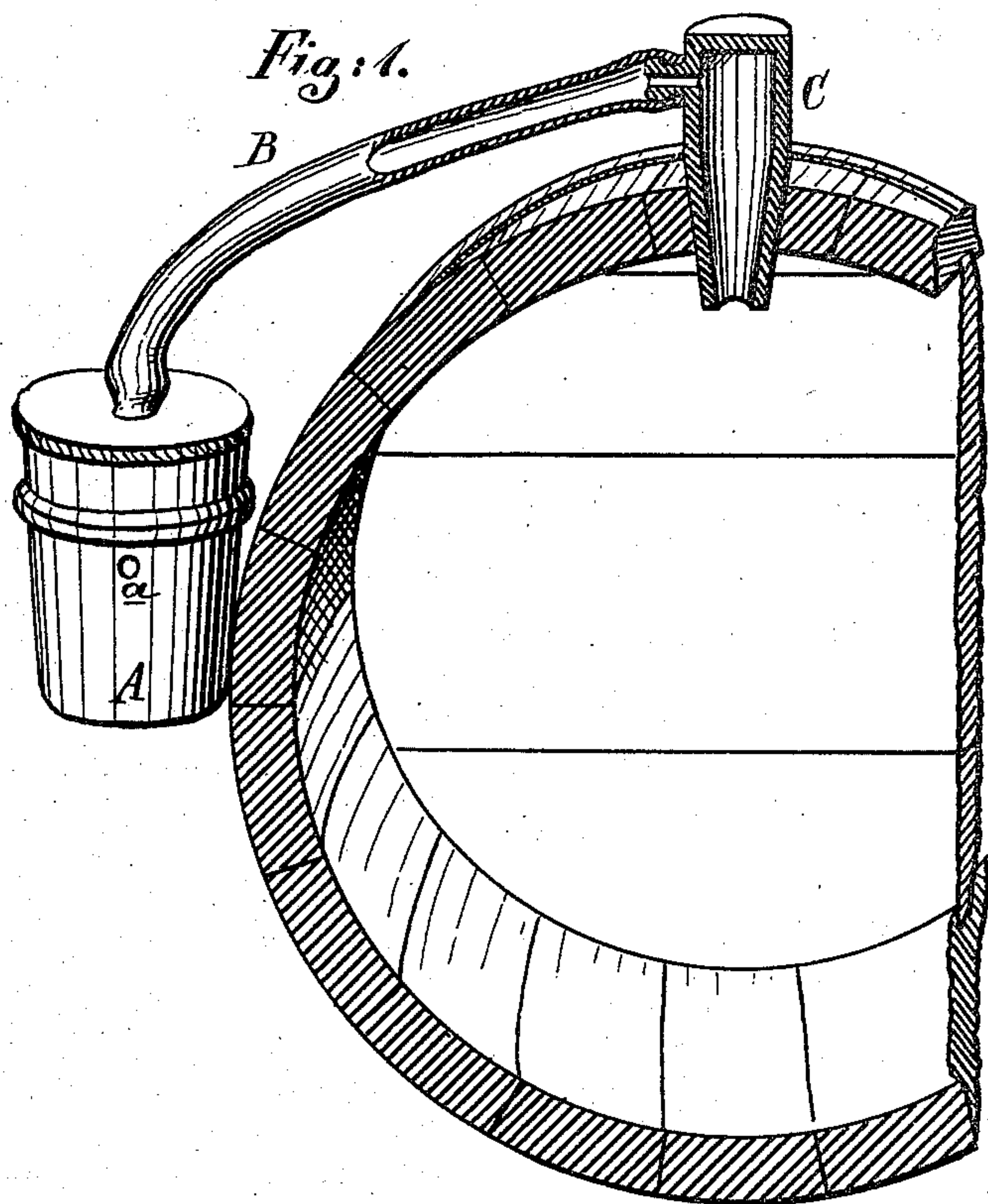
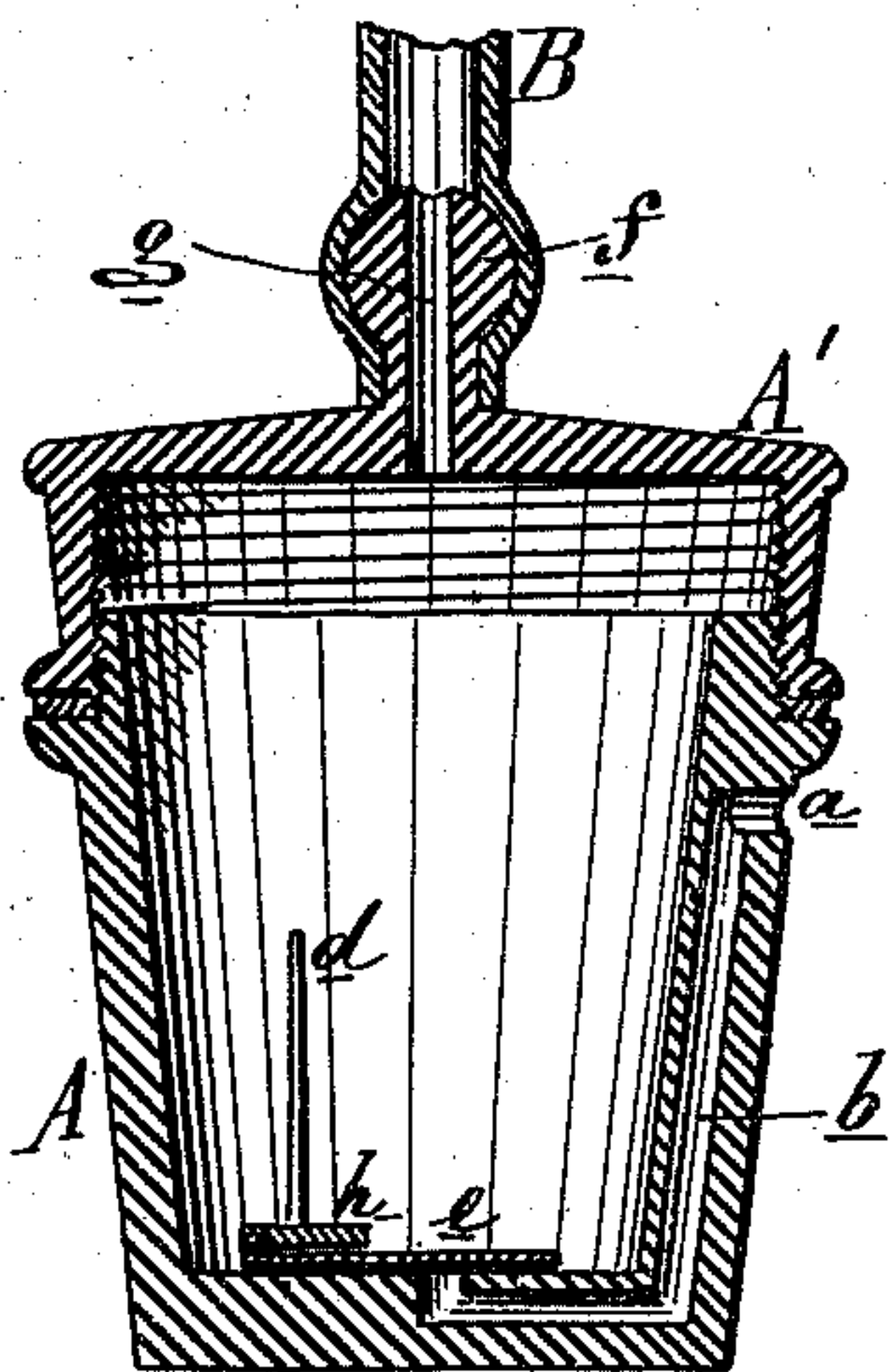


Fig: 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH M. SPAHN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN VENT-PLUGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **156,441**, dated November 3, 1874; application filed August 18, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH M. SPAHN, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented an Improved Beer-Vent, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to provide a self-acting vent for beer-casks, which supplies air to the cask as needed, and that will prevent the escape of any of the gases; and it consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the various parts, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

Figure 1 is a sectional perspective view of the apparatus as applied to a beer-cask. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the valve-case.

In the drawing, A represents a metal cup, having a screw-cap, A'. At one side, near the top of the cup, is an air-inlet, *a*, communicating with a passage, *b*, cored in one side and the bottom. In the bottom of the cup is a pin, *d*, to which is secured a thin rubber valve, *e*, by a washer, *h*, the free end of the valve covering the air-inlet *b*. On top of the cap A' is a bulb, *f*, through which and the cap is

cored an angular passage, *g*. Over the bulb *f* is stretched one end of a flexible hose-pipe, B, whose other end is stretched over a lateral nipple in a vent-plug, C, which is driven into the bung-hole of the cask.

As the contents are drawn off, creating a partial vacuum in the cask, the pressure of the atmosphere lifts the valve *e* from its seat, allowing air to flow in until an equilibrium is established, when the valve seats itself, preventing the admission of more air to flatten the beer, while it also prevents the escape of gas and the volatile flavoring of the beer.

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

The cup A A', having the passages *a b g*, pin *d*, washer *h*, and valve *e*, arranged and constructed as described, in combination with the flexible tube B and vent-plug *c*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOSEPH M. SPAHN.

Witnesses:

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