

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CASPER MÜLLER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WINE AND CIDER PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **172,338**, dated January 18, 1876; application filed December 22, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CASPER MÜLLER, of the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wine and Cider Presses, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to an improvement in wine and cider presses, using the old method of compression by means of a screw, but otherwise new in its construction.

The advantages of this press are the use of a long or short lever that may be turned all the way round; or, if there be not sufficient room for that, a quarter or half turn may be made with the same ease and power as with a full turn. By means of this quarter or half turn arrangement of the lever the press may be placed in the corner of a room or building, thus saving space and allowing the use of a much longer lever, thereby giving greater power than could otherwise be had, as there are no posts or stay-pieces to support the screw from the sides of the tub, as is the case with nearly all other presses in use. It is more easily packed and less likely to injure the operator.

The size of the press may be varied according to circumstances, and may be worked either by hand or horse power.

To describe more fully my invention I refer to the following description: *a a* are the sides of the tub, which has from the center of the bottom a vertical screw, *c*, and running round upon the inside of the tub are strainers *b b b b*, which are made with wood perforated with holes, and with cleats on one side, so as to keep them a short distance from the sides of

the tub. Within these sides is placed the mash or cheese, and above the necessary flooring to receive the strain of compression. *d d* is a plate having on its upper side the circular channeled cap *e e*, within which turns the lower end of nut *g*, which is threaded to screw *c* upon the upper part of the lower side of nut *g*. At *g'* and *g'* are placed, at regular intervals, braces *i*, forming points of resistance to the turning of the double ratchet-faced collar *m*. This collar turns upon the outside of the nut *g*, and has on both ends ratchet or triangular teeth, one side of which is parallel with the sides of braces *i*, the other being inclined from the top of one tooth to the base of the next. By this means the lever attached to the collar *m* through eyes *y y* may be moved forward and turn the nut *g*, and be turned in the opposite direction without moving nut *g*. By reversing the collar *m*, which brings the power of resistance on the opposite side of braces *i*, the nut *g* may be turned in the opposite direction, similarly as before. The pin *y'*, passing through the collar *m* into nut *g*, answers the same purpose as reversing-collar *m*, except that only full turns of the lever can be made.

I claim—

1. The double ratchet-faced collar *m*, lever-eyes *y y*, nut *g*, braces *i*, plates *e e* and *d d*, in combination with screw *c*, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. In combination with collar *m*, nut *g*, and screw *c*, the tub *a a a a* and strainers *b b b b*, as described and above set forth.

CASPER MÜLLER.

Witnesses:

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