(No Model.)

G. GEAR.

GUARD FOR EXCLUDING AIR FROM ICE CHAMBERS.

No. 271,623. Patented Feb. 6, 1883.

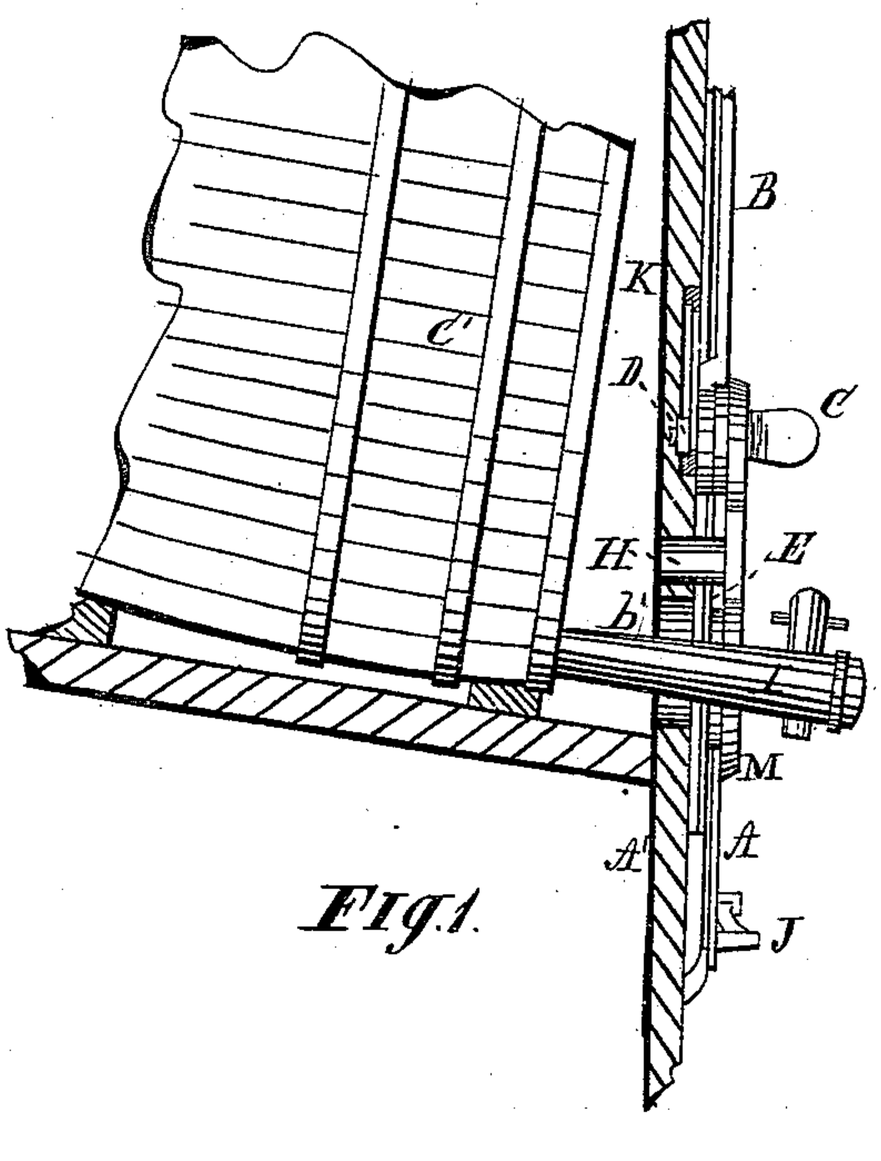

Fig. 1.

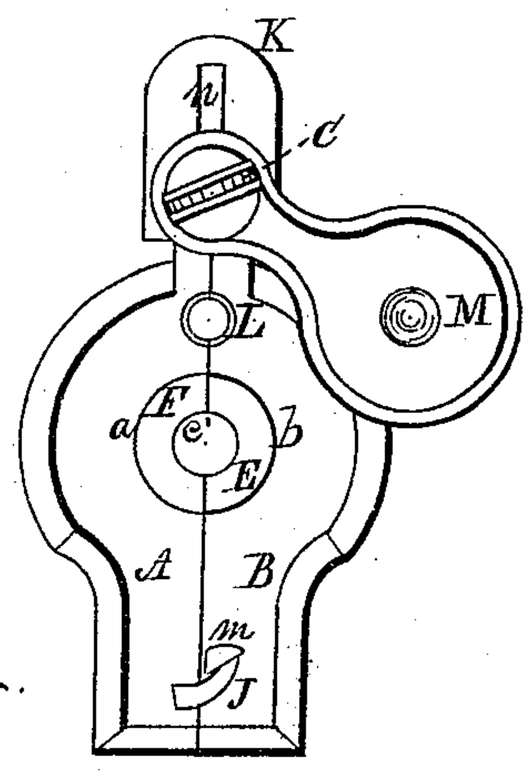

Fig. 2.

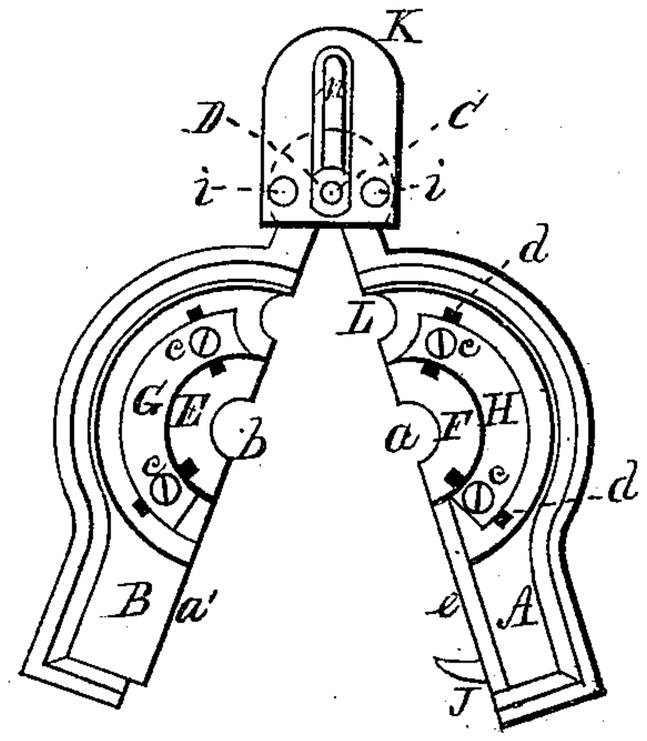

Fig. 3.

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GILES GEAR, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

GUARD FOR EXCLUDING AIR FROM ICE-CHAMBERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,623, dated February 6, 1883.

Application filed September 6, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GILES GEAR, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and Improved Guard for Excluding Air from Ice-Chambers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and complete description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

The special use of the above-said guard is to prevent air from passing into an ice-chamber by closing the space around the faucet projecting through the door of the chamber, so that the ice therein may not be exposed to the warm air from the outside, and thus be prevented from rapid melting.

A further and more full description of the invention is as follows, being illustrated by the accompanying drawings, which make part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows a side view of the guard, partially in section. Fig. 2 is a front view. Fig. 3 is a view of the back of the guard.

Like letters of reference denote like parts.

It is desirable that kegs and barrels of beer while on draft should be kept cool. To this end they are placed in a chamber and surrounded with ice. To avoid opening the door of the chamber and allowing the warm air from the outside to enter, access is obtained to the barrel by making the faucet of considerable length, so that it may extend from the barrel to the outside of the chamber. The hole in the door through which the faucet passes being of large size—that is to say, much larger than the body of the faucet—there is more or less space between the faucet and the sides of the hole through which it passes, thus allowing the warm air from the outside to enter and melt the ice. This opening is sometimes stopped with rags or paper, which present an unsightly appearance, and for that reason are frequently not used and as often thrown away for being unclean.

To avoid the use of said rags and to exclude the air from the chamber more effectually is the purpose of this invention, which consists of a guard composed of a pair of arms, A and B, Fig. 2, having their upper ends jointed to each other and secured by a thumb-screw, C, which passes loosely through the ends of the arms and screws into a nut, D, Fig. 3. Further attention will be called to this part of the device. On the inner edge of each of the arms is made a semicircular notch, respectively, *a* and *b*, Fig. 2, which, when the two arms are brought together, as shown in said Fig. 2, form a circular hole, of which *a* and *b* is the boundary-line. On the inner side of each of the arms, and in conformity with the semicircular notch, is arranged a flexible packing, E and F, Fig. 3, secured to the arms, respectively, by plates G and H, attached to the arms by set-screws *c*. In the packing are slotted holes *d*, through which said screws pass, so that the packing may be adjusted radially to adapt it to the body of the faucet I, Fig. 1, so that it may fit closely around it, as seen in said Fig. 1, thereby closing so much of the hole as may not be taken up by the faucet passing through it.

The inner edge of the lower end of the arm A is rabbeted, as seen at *e*. The corresponding end of the arm B has a projection, *a'*, adapted to fit in the rabbet *e* when the two arms are closed, as seen in Fig. 2. The arms, when closed, are fastened by a clamp consisting of a finger, J, fixed to the face of the arm A and projecting therefrom over onto the arm B, where it engages a nib, *m*, against which the finger impinges tightly enough to hold the two parts together, as seen in Fig. 2. In the plate K is a slot, *n*, through which the stem of the set-screw C passes into the nut D, above referred to. On the inner side of the slot is a rabbet in which the nut fits, and is thereby prevented from turning, when working the screw, for a purpose presently shown.

The application of the above-described guard is as follows:

As shown in Fig. 1, A' represents a vertical section of the door of an ice-chamber, having therein a hole, *b'*, through which the faucet passes into the barrel C', supposed to be in the ice-chamber behind said door, and from which the beer or other liquor is drawn through the faucet on the outside of the chamber. To prevent the air from passing into the chamber through the aperture around the faucet is the purpose of the above-described guard, which is made fast to the outside of the door by means of the plate K, which is let into the door, as

seen in Fig. 1, and fastened by screws inserted in the holes *i*. In attaching the guard to the door it is so adjusted that when the arms are closed, as seen in Fig. 2, the hole *c'*, formed by the two sections of packing, will be in central relation with the hole in the door, as seen in Fig. 1. The barrel is first placed in the proper position in the chamber, after which the door is closed, and the two arms are spread apart from over the opening in the door, as seen in Fig. 3, for the admission of the faucet, which is inserted through the hole in the door to the tap-hole of the barrel. The end of the faucet is driven into the tap-hole, forcing the cork into the barrel. The space in the door around the faucet is closed up by bringing together the two arms A and B, as shown in Fig. 2, thereby causing the packing E and F to close tightly around the faucet and exclude the air from the chamber, thereby avoiding the use of rags or paper for keeping out the air, as aforesaid.

L is a hole for the admission of a pipe for ventilating the barrel, and is also provided with a packing, as shown in the drawings. That the lower side of the hole in the guard may not be in the way of the faucet on tipping the barrel so the contents may all be drawn off, said guard can be lowered, so as to adapt the hole therein to the position of the faucet, by loosening the screw C, which will allow the guard to be moved upward or downward, as the case may be. The two arms can be opened or expanded to any desirable height and retained so expanded by the set-screw, and when they are closed and no faucet in use the hole may be wholly covered by the cap M.

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

In a device for excluding air from an ice-chamber for beer or other liquors on draft, the combination of the arms A B, pivoted to each other by a set-screw forming a pivotal joint, with said set-screw inserted in the slot of the plate K and movable therein for adjusting the arms, packing E, and clamps at the lower ends of the arms, and provided with an adjustable cap or cover for opening and closing the faucet-opening, arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GILES GEAR.

Witnesses:
J. H. BURRIDGE,
H. W. MATHER.