

(No Model.)

J. W. WESTON.  
BARREL, TUB, PAIL, &c.

No. 303,242.

Patented Aug. 5, 1884.

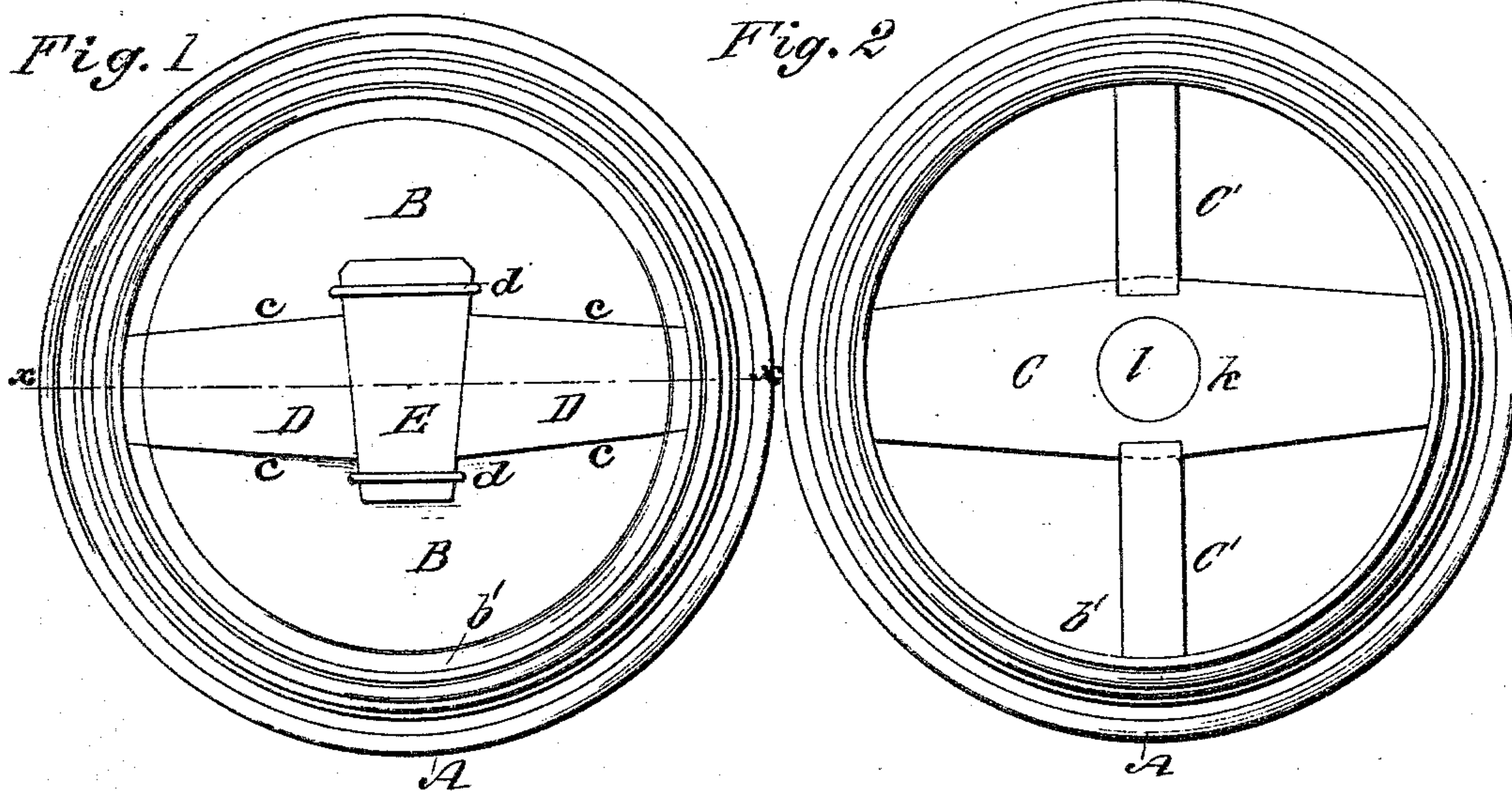
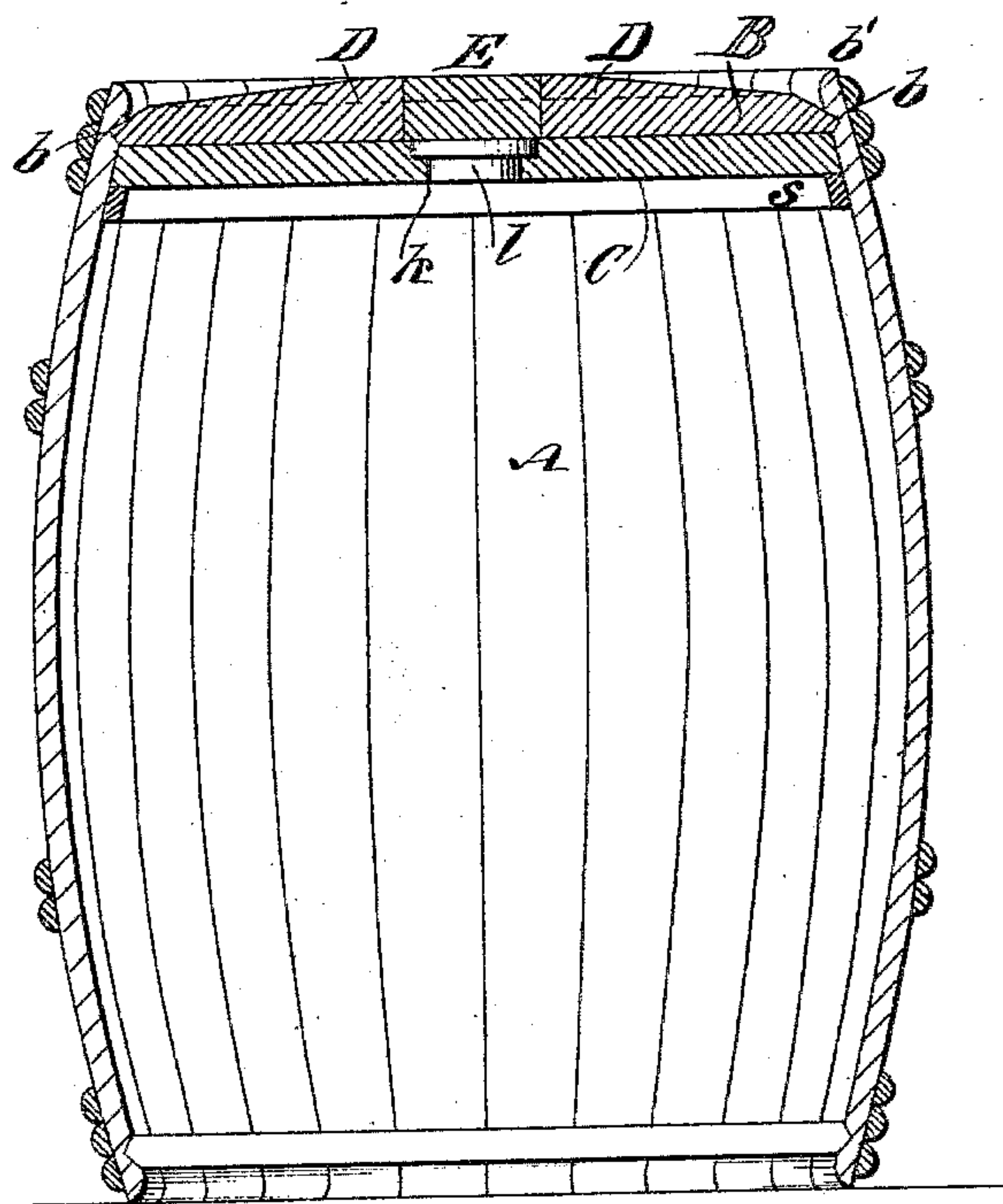


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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OF SAME PLACE.

## BARREL, TUB, PAIL, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 303,242, dated August 5, 1884.

Application filed January 12, 1884. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES W. WESTON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barrels, Tubs, Pails, and other like Receptacles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention consists in novel means of securing the heads on barrels, close or headed tubs, pails, and other like vessels, irrespective of the purpose for which said receptacles are designed to be used, and has for its object the ready opening and closing of such receptacles without injury to the head or body of them, also without removing the hoop or hoops around the chine when removing the head, and without cutting through the chine for the passage of certain keys which close or secure the head; also, whereby a very perfect or air-tight and strong closing of the head is secured.

To these ends the invention consists in a combination of tapering or wedge-shaped keys with each other and with a separated head-section; also, in the combination therewith of an inner support or follower, and in certain special constructions of said parts, substantially as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 represents a plan or upper end view of a cask or barrel with its head closed and secured in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, a top or upper end view of the barrel with the head-sections and their securing keys or wedges removed, and Fig. 3 a longitudinal section on the line *x x* in Fig. 1 of the barrel with its head closed.

A indicates the body of a cask or barrel, or it may be any other receptacle designed to have an air-tight or close-fitting head within it. The head is composed, mainly, of opposite side sections, B B, which fit within the usual croze, *b*, and are of such width and so constructed on their adjacent marginal surfaces *c c* as to form or leave a reverse or double-tapering space between them of greatest width in the center of

the head of the barrel, and contracting uniformly toward opposite sides thereof.

C C' is a support or follower arranged immediately beneath the head-sections B B, and held in position either by resting upon a hoop or ring, *s*, arranged within the body of the barrel, or by a series of inner staves, or in any suitable manner that will admit of said support or follower being lifted out when filling or emptying the barrel. The one portion, C, of this support, which extends across the barrel, is of such width as to provide for the adjacent marginal portions *c c* of the head-sections B B to rest upon or overlap it.

D D are two reversely-arranged tapering keys or wedges placed within the reverse or double-tapering space between the head-sections B B, and of such length as that when fitted to their places a space is left between their adjacent butts or wider ends, which are also made tapering to receive a cross tapering key or wedge, E, between them. By driving in this intermediate key, E, which may pass under staples *d d* in the head-sections B B, to prevent said key from dropping out, and to bind the whole head firmly down, the wedges D D are driven apart and caused to bind against the opposite sides of the barrel, or to enter the croze *b* therein, thus firmly closing and securing the head.

The support C C' serves to stiffen the barrel, as well as to form a follower for fitting the head-sections B B and wedges D D to their places, and to prevent said head-sections and wedges falling into the barrel, as well as to assist in making the head air or water tight, and the whole combination forms a very perfect, strong, and close fitting head, easily opened on withdrawing the intermediate key or wedge, E, and as easily or rapidly closed again. By the combination and arrangement in relation with the head-sections of the several wedges, as here shown, there is no necessity to cut through the chine *b'* of the barrel to enter the wedges, nor to remove the hoops around the chine when opening the barrel.

If desired, the support or follower beneath the heads may have a sampling-aperture, *k*, in it, under cover of the intermediate wedge, E, and closed by a plug or stopper, *l*, accessible on withdrawing said wedge.



Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a barrel-headed tub or pail or other  
5 like receptacle, the combination, with the separated head-sections B B, constructed to leave a double or reversely tapering space between them, of the reversely-arranged tapering keys or wedges D D and the intermediate cross-key,  
10 E, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the separated head-sections B B of a barrel or other like receptacle,

and the wedges D D E, of a removable support or follower beneath said head-sections and keys D D, essentially as shown and described. 15

3. The combination of one or more staples, d, with the separated head-sections B B, the wedges D D and E, and the removable support or follower C C', substantially as specified.

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Witnesses:

A. GREGORY,  
C. SEDGWICK.