

(No Model.)

W. GEISERT.

BEER VENT.

No. 345,583.

Patented July 13, 1886.

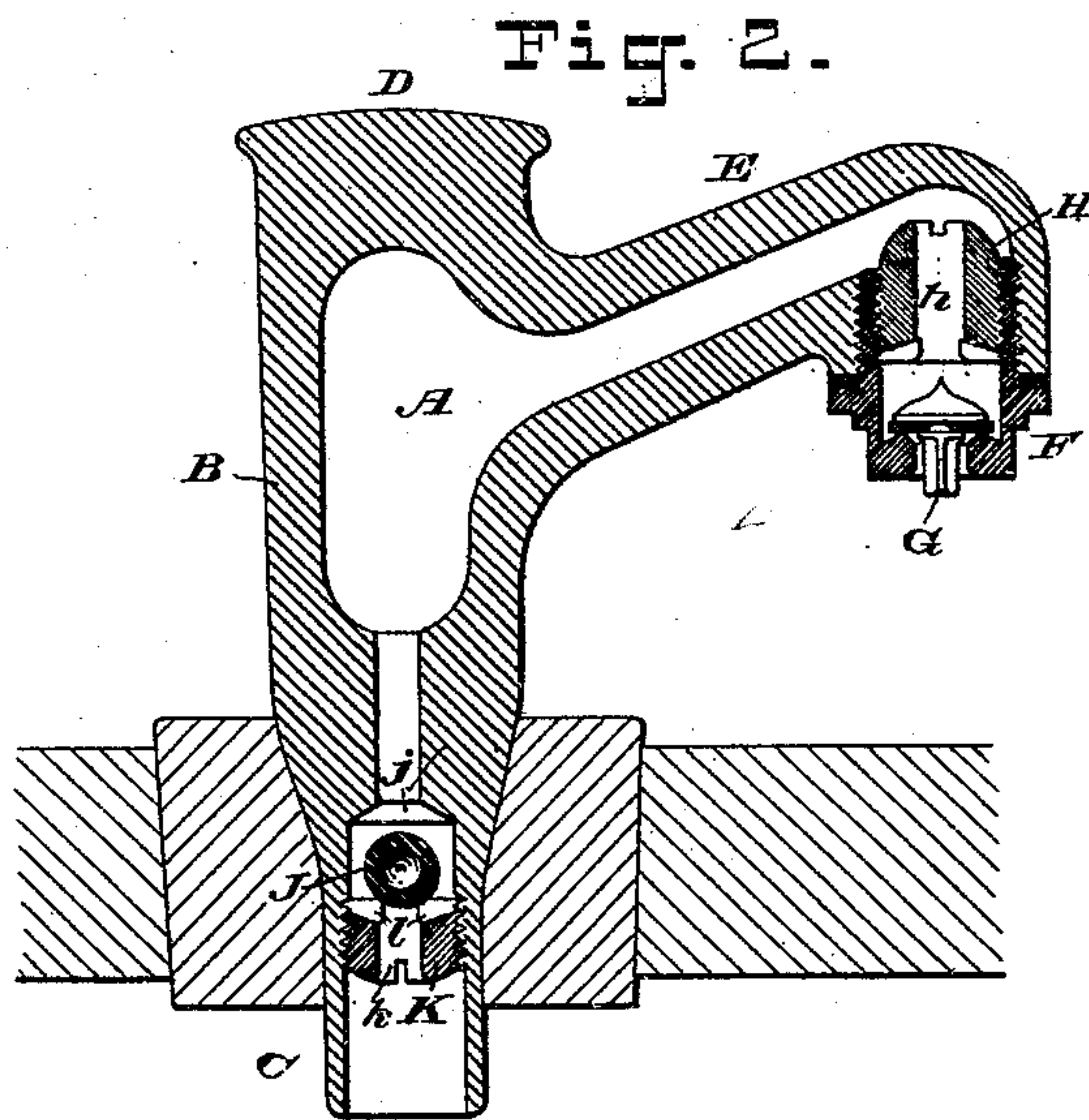
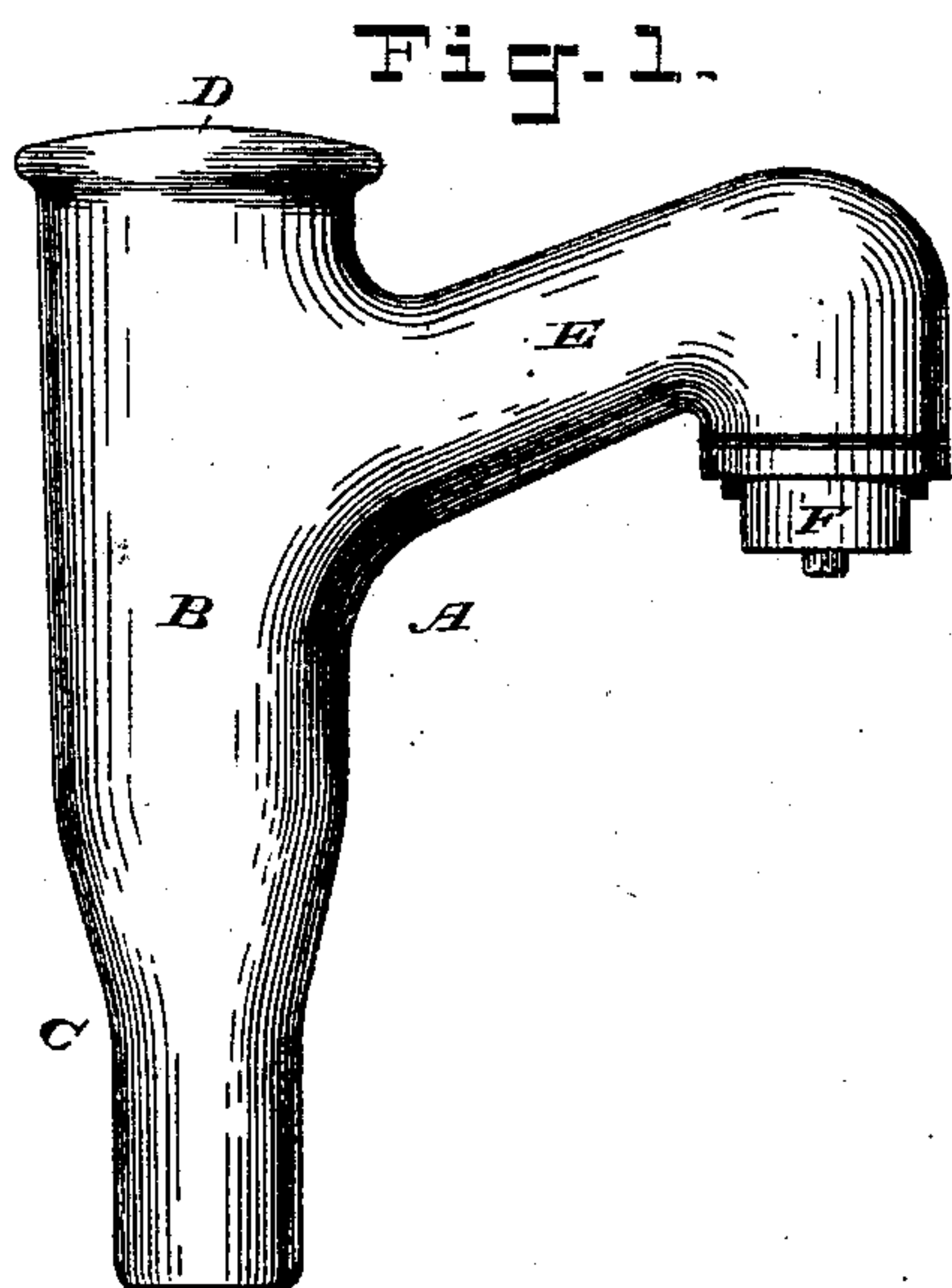


Fig. 3.

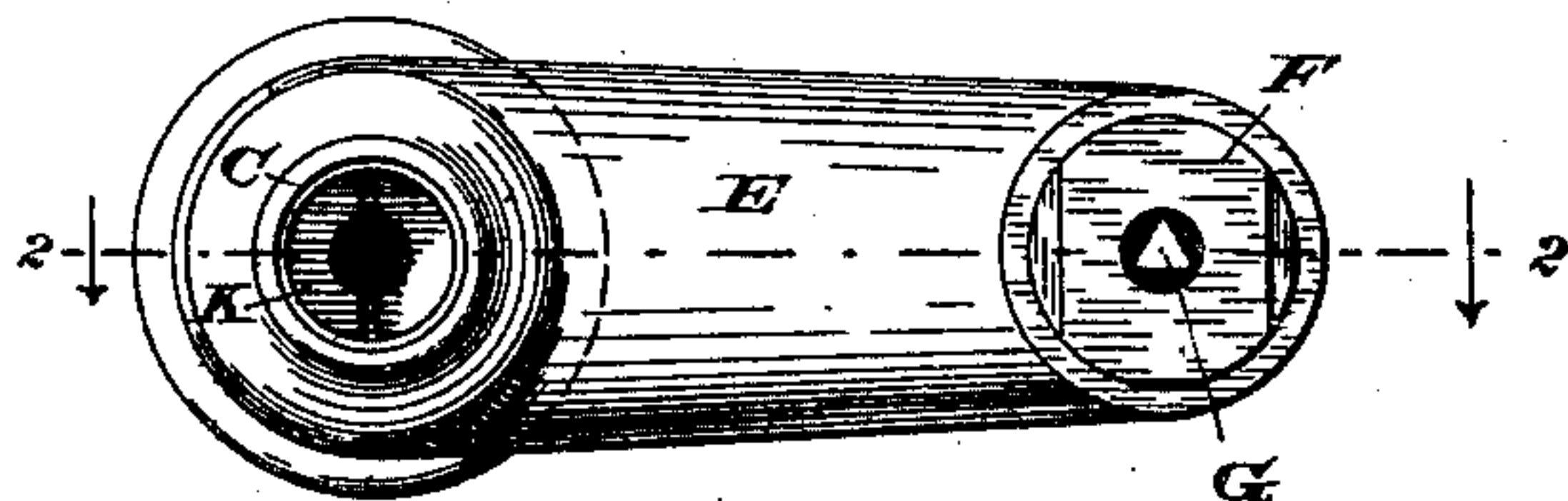


Fig. 4.

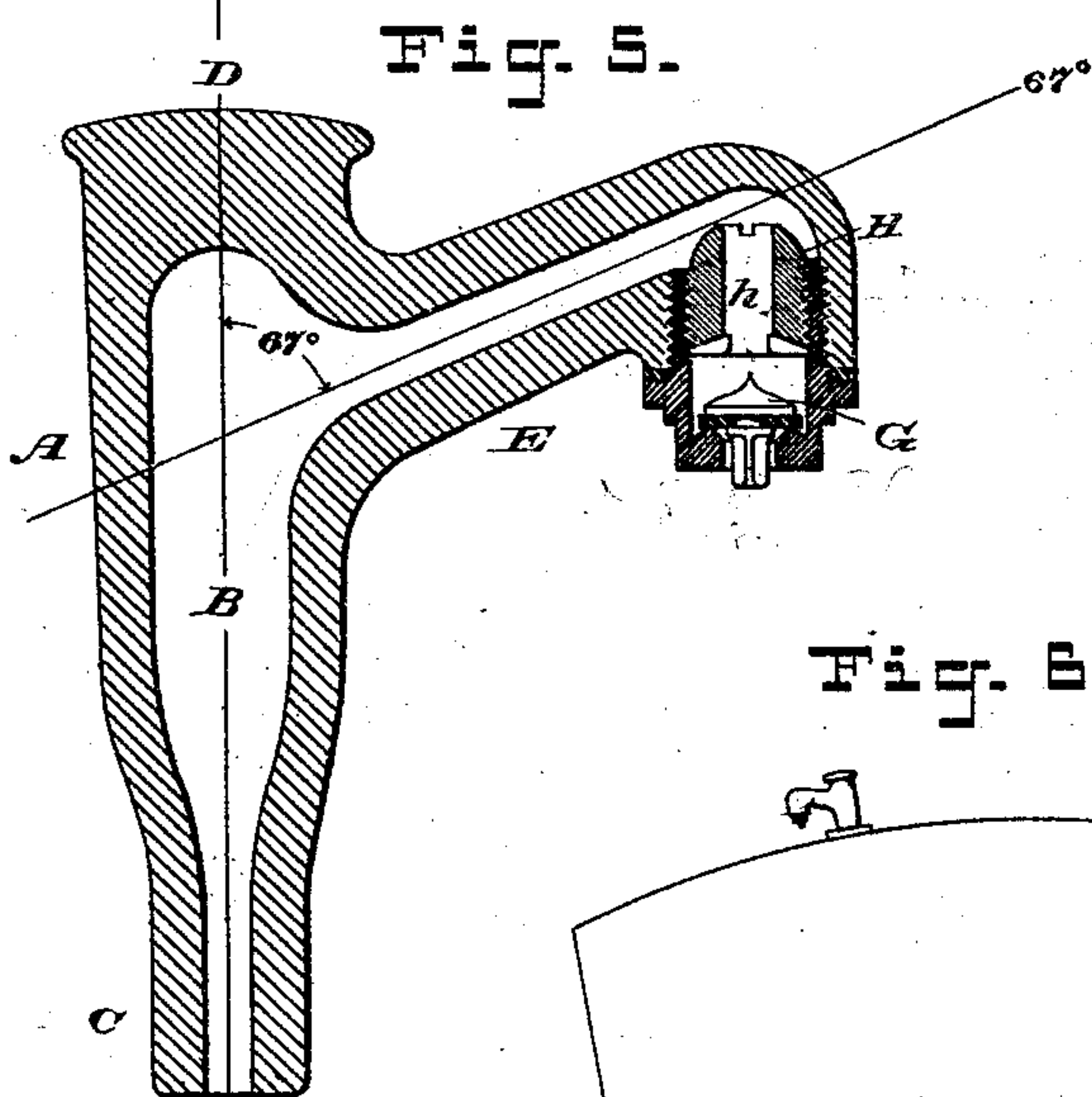
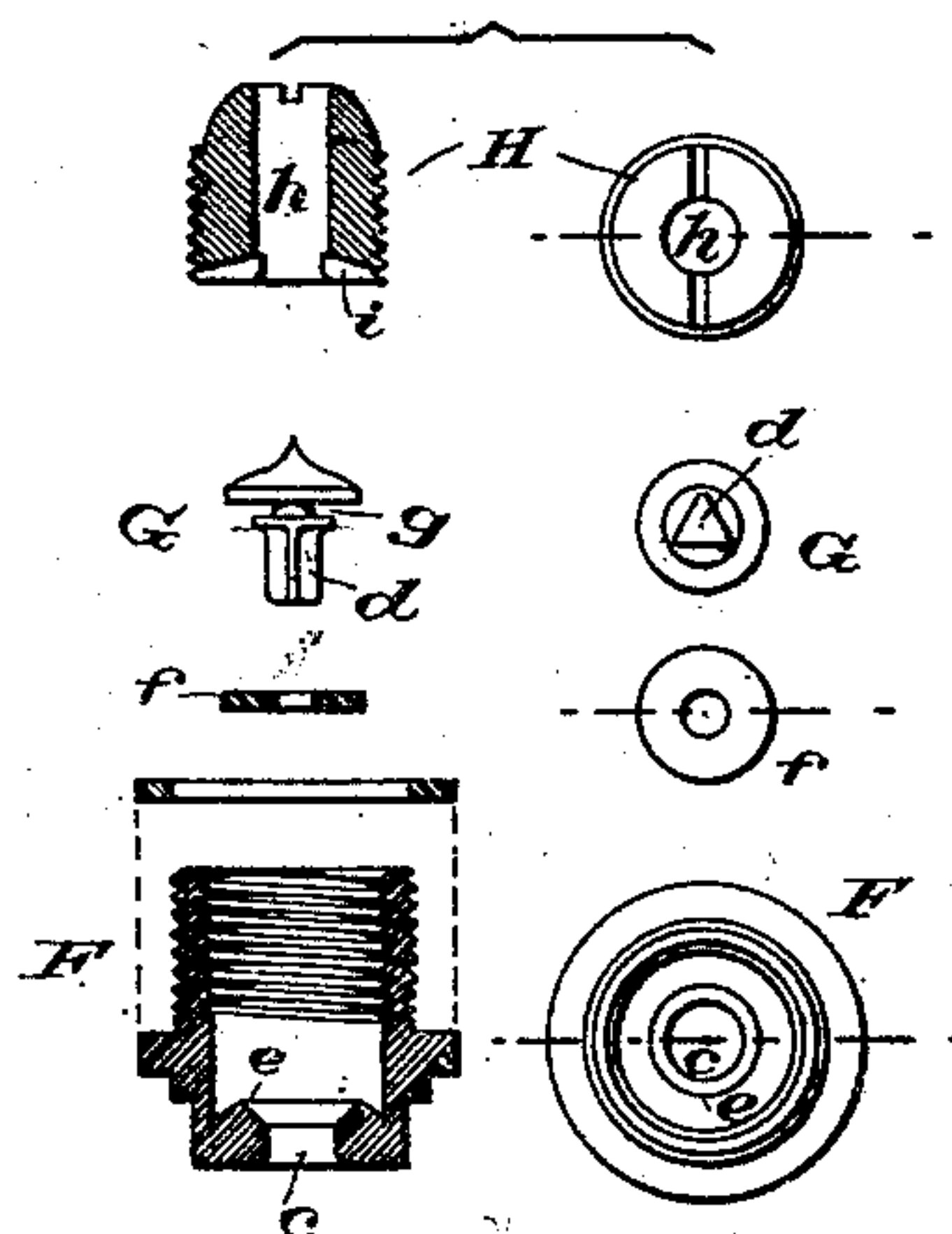
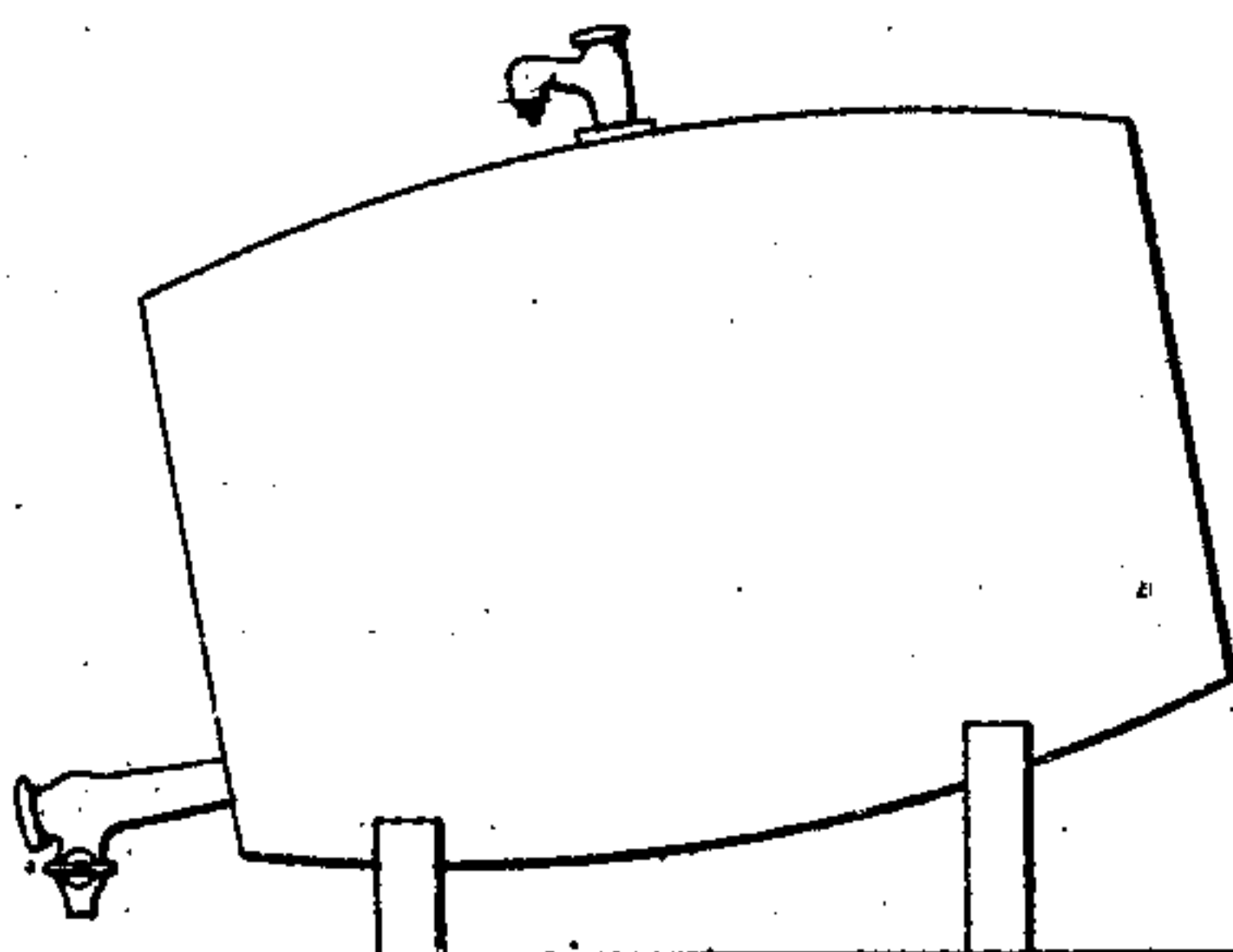


Fig. 6.



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BEER-VENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 345,583, dated July 13, 1886.

Application filed April 28, 1886. Serial No. 200,459. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM GEISERT, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improved Beer-Vent, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the class of beer-vents which are constructed with a shank to drive into the bung and a branch in the end of which a valve is placed.

The principal aim of the invention is to provide a vent the valve of which will not become stuck to its seat by the foam or beer getting access to it.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is a side elevation of my improved vent. Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof, showing it applied to the keg. Fig. 3 is an under-side plan, and Fig. 4 shows in detail the separate parts of the vent-valve and its seat. Fig. 5 is a section of a modification, and Fig. 6 is a diagram of a keg standing on the rack with my improved vent applied to it.

The outer shell, A, of my improved vent consists of a straight body and an inclined arm or branch. The body B has a tapering shank, C, to drive into the bung, and a thickened head, D, as usual. The branch E extends laterally upward from the body at about the angle shown, and its end, which turns down, is fitted with the vent-valve. In this pendent end is screwed the valve-chamber F. (Shown detached in Fig. 4.) The valve G is placed in the hollow of the chamber D, and a plug, H, is screwed into its upper end, thus confining the valve in place. The chamber F has a hole, e, through its bottom, in which hole works loosely the triangular stem d of the valve, and it is formed with a V-shaped seat, e. The valve G is a disk with a flat under surface, which is faced by a soft-rubber washer, f, which comes against the V-edged seat, and is held in a groove, g, Fig. 4, in the valve-stem. The plug H has a hole, h, through it, and a groove or notch, i, on its under side, leading into this hole. When the valve G is carried up by an inflow of air, it strikes the plug H; but the flow of air is not cut off, since the air may pass through the groove i to the hole h. Any pressure within the keg forces the valve G down upon its seat, and the V-edged seat, in-

denting the rubber washer, makes a tight joint. At the same time there is only a small contacting surface, so that there is but little liability of the valve becoming stuck to the seat.

It is very important in a beer-vent to prevent the sticky foam from the beer from gaining access to the valve. When the vent is first driven, there is a pressure in the keg, and the foam is forced up into the passage of the vent, where it presently condenses. If it cannot then run back and can get to the valve, it is liable to cement the valve to its seat, so that later, when the pressure in the keg is exhausted, the valve will not open to admit air. In order to prevent this result, I form the branch E to ascend from the body A at a considerable angle, as shown, and make the hole h through the plug H at the highest point, so that from the margin of this hole there is a constant slope to the body B, even when the vent is tilted to the greatest extent that it is customary to tilt beer-kegs while drawing from them. This inclination should not be less than seventy degrees from the axis of the body B; but it may be much steeper, even to sixty degrees or less. The angle shown is about sixty-seven degrees, as indicated in Fig. 5. Consequently the condensed foam will drain back into the keg, no matter in which direction the branch is turned in driving the vent. The proper method in driving vents of this character is to turn the branch back toward the upper end of the keg; but many careless or ignorant bar-tenders habitually turn it toward the front, this being the most convenient way, since the branch serves as a handle in driving. With my vent the condensed foam will drain back into the keg, even when the vent is driven in this way.

I am aware that vents have been made with the branch extending at right angles; but these will not drain properly unless they are driven with the branch turned to the rear. If turned as shown in Fig. 6, the condensed foam will run into the valve-chamber and frequently cement the valve fast. I am aware, also, that vents have been made with two branches meeting in the manner of an eye or loop, with the vent-valve at their point of junction in the axis of the shank. I make no claim to vents of this character. In my vent the valve is placed at

the extremity of an arm extending laterally and upwardly from the main body of the sheet.

The stem *d* of the valve *G* should project below the chamber *F*, so that by pressing it with the finger the valve may be unseated and any excess of pressure in the keg may be permitted to escape. This is desirable in places where the beer is drawn rapidly, for which purpose I use the construction shown in Fig. 5. For use in saloons, where the beer is drawn slowly, and where it is desirable to retain the pressure, I use the construction shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The shank *C* is hollowed out at the bottom, forming a seat, *j*, beneath which is a rubber ball, *J*, which is held in place by a plug, *K*, screwed into the shank beneath it. This plug has a nick on its under side to receive a screw-driver, a hole, *k*, through it, and a cross-groove, *l*, in its upper side, the function of the latter being to permit air to flow down around the ball-valve. When the vent is first driven, the pressure within the keg instantly presses up the ball against its seat, thus preventing escape of pressure, and keeping the foam from getting up into the branch *E*. When the pressure is reduced, the ball drops back, after which the vent operates the same as though no ball were used.

I claim—

1. A beer-vent the shell of which is formed with a body or shank adapted to be driven into the bung, and a branch extending laterally therefrom at an upward inclination, as shown and described, in combination with a valve-chamber screwed into the upper end of said branch and projecting above the interior thereof and communicating therewith by an opening the margins of which slope away from it, substantially as set forth, whereby the condensed foam will drain away from said opening back into the keg.

2. A beer-vent consisting of a shell, *A*, a vent-valve, *G*, and a check-valve, *J*, adapted to be seated upwardly by a pressure in the keg, combined substantially as described.

3. A beer-vent consisting of a shell, *A*, formed with a seat, *j*, and having a plug, *K*, screwed into its shank, in combination with a ball, *J*, and a vent-valve, *G*, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM GEISERT.

Witnesses:

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GEORGE H. FRASER.