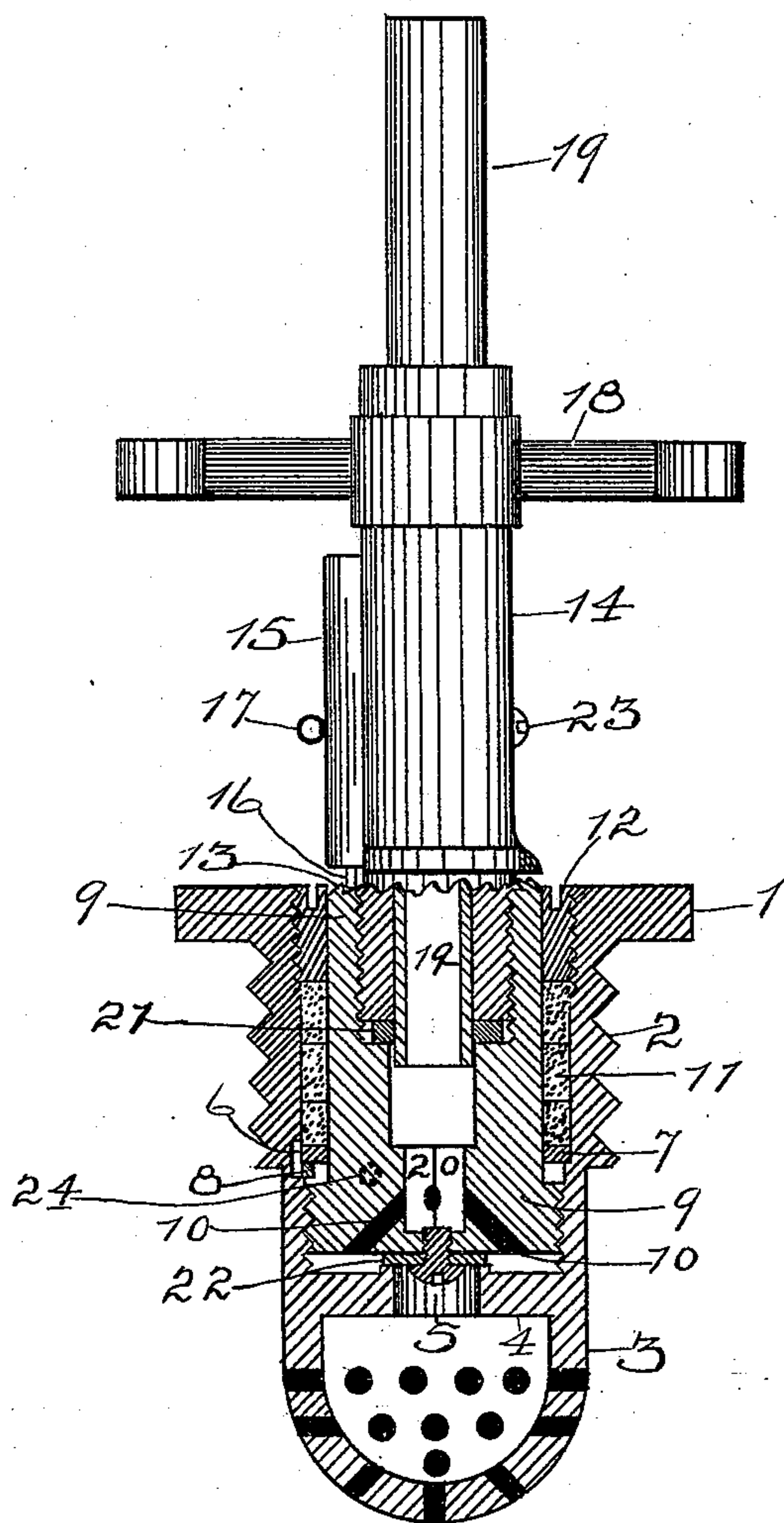


(No Model.)

W. E. DELEHANTY.  
ALE TAP.

No. 549,845.

Patented Nov. 12, 1895.



Witnesses  
J. F. Harris:  
A. M. Turner.

Inventor  
William E. Delehanty.  
By his Attorney  
H. M. Brown

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. DELEHANTY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## ALE-TAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 549,845, dated November 12, 1895.

Application filed March 25, 1895. Serial No. 543,042. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. DELEHANTY, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of New York, county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ale-Taps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which forms a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a new and improved ale-tap.

The drawing shows a vertical sectional view of the plug and its parts and a similar view of the lower end of the tap, the upper portion thereof being shown in side elevation.

The plug 1 is externally threaded, as shown at 2, in order that it may be screwed or attached in an opening in the beer keg or barrel, and its lower or inner end is preferably rounded or conical, as shown at 3, and has perforations forming a sieve, through which the beer is strained as it enters the chamber in the conical end. The plug 1 has a floor or partition 4, having an opening 5, and above this partition the inner walls of the plug are threaded for a predetermined distance, and above this threading on one side of the inner wall is a recess 6. The inner walls of the plug above this opening 6 are preferably plain until near the top, where they are again threaded. In the plug 1 is the valve 22 and the valve-stem 9, the stem having an annular threaded offset at its lower end, the threads thereon being arranged to mesh with the lowermost threading on the interior walls of the plug. In the annular recess surrounding the reduced portion of the stem 9 is a removable ring 7, having on its lower side an offset 8, which lies partly in the cavity 6 in the inner wall of plug 1 and prevents the ring from turning or rotating. The ring 7 is dropped into place, and above the ring is the packing 11, preferably in rings, and the packing is held firmly in place by the gland 12, which has keyways, preferably in its upper end, whereby it may be turned into position.

On the top surface of the stem 9 are teeth or their equivalents 13, so formed that the

spring-plunger 16 will slide over them when the tap is turned so as to turn the valve-stem 9 out of the plug 1, but so it will catch and hold fast between some two of them when the tap is turned in the direction to remove it from the stem or to force the stem downward and close the valve. The tap portion consists of a tube 14, having its lower end threaded and arranged to mesh with interior threading in the upper end of the valve-stem 9, and in tube 14 is a revoluble tube 19, having an annular channel, in which the inner end of the set-screw 23 rests, allowing the tube 19 to rotate freely in tube 14, but preventing it from being withdrawn therefrom. On the lower end of tube 19 is packing 21, arranged to form a liquid-tight joint with its seat, as shown. Tube 14 has handles 18, whereby it may be rotated and entered and taken from the end of the valve-stem 9. On the side of casing 14 is a tube 15, containing a spring and a plunger 16, actuated thereby, and having a finger-piece 17, whereby the spring-plunger is raised. On valve-stem 9 is a pin 24, (shown by the dotted circle,) which strikes against offset 8 on ring 7 as the valve 22 and the valve-stem 9 are raised, preventing the valve and stem from rising beyond a predetermined distance.

The operation is as follows: The plug 1, with the valve 22 and stem 9, ring 7, packing 11, and gland 12, form the plug portion of the device and are attached to the keg or barrel by turning plug 1 into an opening therein or in one of its heads, and always remains with the keg. The tap portion is left in the saloon or other place where it is desired to draw the contents of the keg and is attached to one end of the delivery-pipes. The keg being in position for drawing off its contents, the tap is screwed into the threaded opening in the upper or outer end of the valve-stem 9, and as it comes to a bearing spring-plunger 16 slides over the teeth 13 or their equivalents, and finally rests between some two of the teeth. The tap is now further turned in the same direction, which turns the valve-stem 9 with it, raising the valve 22 off its seat and until pin or stop 24 strikes against offset 8 on ring 7. The valve 22 will now be open, and the contents of the keg will flow through the strainer, past valve



22, through ports 10, which are formed in and through the valve-stem 9 and lead into the chamber 20, which is preferably triangular in shape, and from thence into tube 19 and through the delivery-pipes. When the contents of the keg are exhausted, the tap portion is turned oppositely, when spring-plunger 16 holds fast to the teeth 13 or their equivalents and compels the valve-stem 9 to turn downward until valve 22 is well seated, when finger-piece 17 is raised, releasing the plunger 16 and allowing the tap to unscrew and be separated from the plug portion.

Particular attention is called to the fact that plunger 16 may be omitted, if desired, and my device will work well without it, as when the tap is turned into the valve-stem 9 and comes to a bearing and raises the valve-stem until pin 24 strikes offset 8 the stem can rise no farther, nor farther turn or rotate, and if the tap is then further strongly turned upon the threading will jam quite fast, so that when the tap is turned oppositely, so as to turn the valve-stem 9 down and seat the valve 22, there will be sufficient "hold" to the threading to seat the valve tightly; but I have made use of the spring-plunger 16 in order to provide against any wear to the threading, which wear might, after long use, cause the threading to not jam fast enough to operate in seating the valve 22; but I do not make use of the plunger 16, thereby intending to convey the idea that it is necessary to the proper working of my device, but I have used it as a precaution against any excessive wear to the threading. The triangular chamber 20 is made triangular so that when the tap is removed a triangular key may be inserted and the valve 22 be raised or opened or closed more tightly without the use of the tap, as may be desired.

What I claim is—

1. An ale or beer tap consisting of a chambered internally threaded plug arranged to be securely fastened in an opening in a keg or barrel, and having an opening leading into the chamber in the plug that the contents of the keg may flow into said chamber, and having a chambered internally threaded valve stem carrying a valve in the chamber in the plug, arranged to be moved and open or close the valve at will, and having ports leading from the chamber in the plug to that in the valve stem, and having an externally threaded tubular tap, the threads of which mesh with the threads on the interior of the chamber in the stem, and an outlet pipe passing through the tubular tap arranged to form a tight joint with the chamber in the valve stem and forming an outlet for said chamber, the valve stem being also externally threaded, said threads meshing with the threads on the wall of the chamber in the plug and arranged so that on turning the tap to a bearing in the chamber

in the stem and continuing to turn the tap the valve will rise and open, and on turning the tap in the opposite direction the valve will fall and close and on continuing to turn the tap, the tap with the exit pipe will be removed from the chamber in the valve stem substantially as described.

2. An ale or beer tap consisting of a chambered internally threaded plug arranged to be fastened in an opening in a keg or barrel, and having an opening leading into the chamber in the plug, and having a chambered internally threaded valve stem carrying a valve in said chamber in the plug, arranged to move and open and close the valve at will, and having ports leading from the chamber in the plug to that in the valve stem, and having an externally threaded tubular tap, the threads of which mesh with the threads on the interior of the chamber in the stem, and an outlet pipe passing through the tubular tap arranged to form a tight joint with the chamber in the valve stem and forming an outlet for said chamber, the valve stem being externally threaded, said threads meshing with the threads on the wall of the chamber in the plug and having a stop device in connection with the valve stem arranged so that when the valve stem rises the stop device will prevent the valve stem jamming fast substantially as described.

3. An ale or beer tap consisting of a chambered internally threaded plug arranged to be securely fastened in an opening in a keg or barrel, and having an opening leading into the chamber in the plug, and having an internally threaded chambered valve stem carrying a valve in the chamber in the plug, arranged to be moved and open and close the valve at will, and having ports leading from the chamber in the plug to that in the valve stem, and having a tubular tap and a tube passing through the tap arranged to form a tight joint with the chamber in the valve stem and forming an outlet for said chamber, the valve stem being arranged so that on bringing the tap to a bearing in the chamber in the stem and continuing to turn the tap the valve will rise and open, and on turning the tap in the opposite direction the valve will fall and close and the tap with the exit pipe be removed from the chamber in the valve stem, and having ratchet teeth or their equivalents on the exposed portion of the valve stem and a catch arranged to catch therein and hold fast when the tap is turned in the direction to remove it from the valve stem and to be released from said teeth at will, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM E. DELEHANTY.

Witnesses:

JOHN J. MURRAY,  
JAMES J. MCGRATH.