

No. 641,108.

Patented Jan. 9, 1900.

G. R. HEMSTREET.  
BOTTLE FLOAT.

(Application filed Oct. 27, 1898.)

(No Model.)

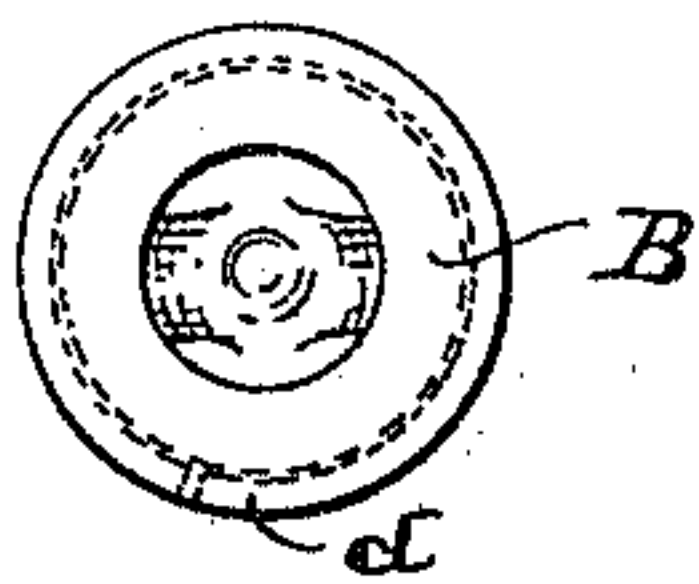


Fig. 2

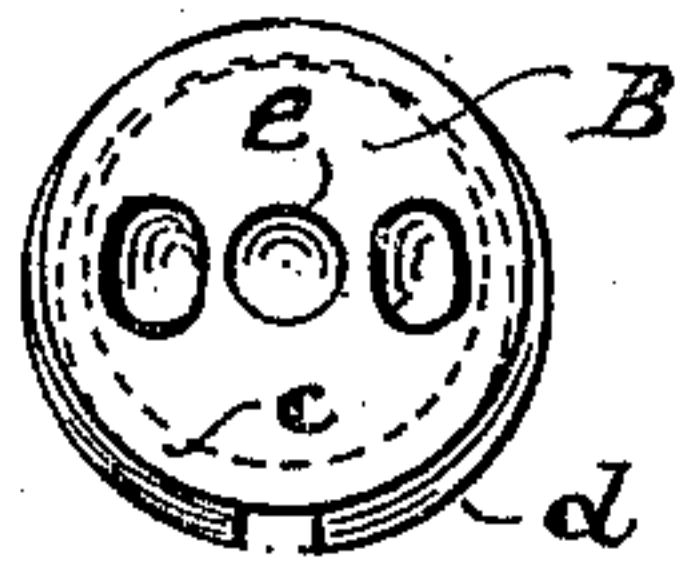


Fig. 3

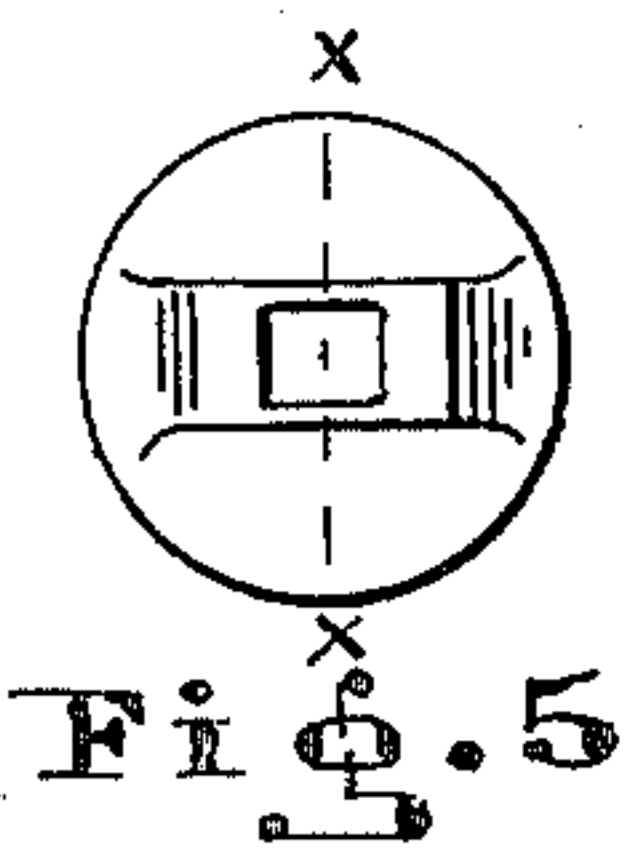
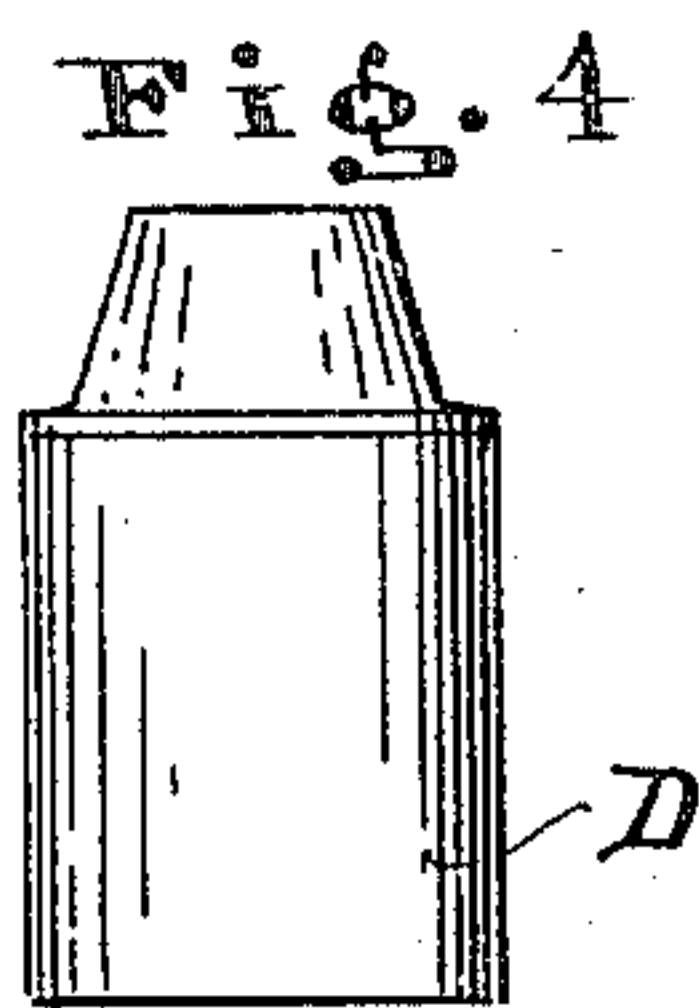


Fig. 5

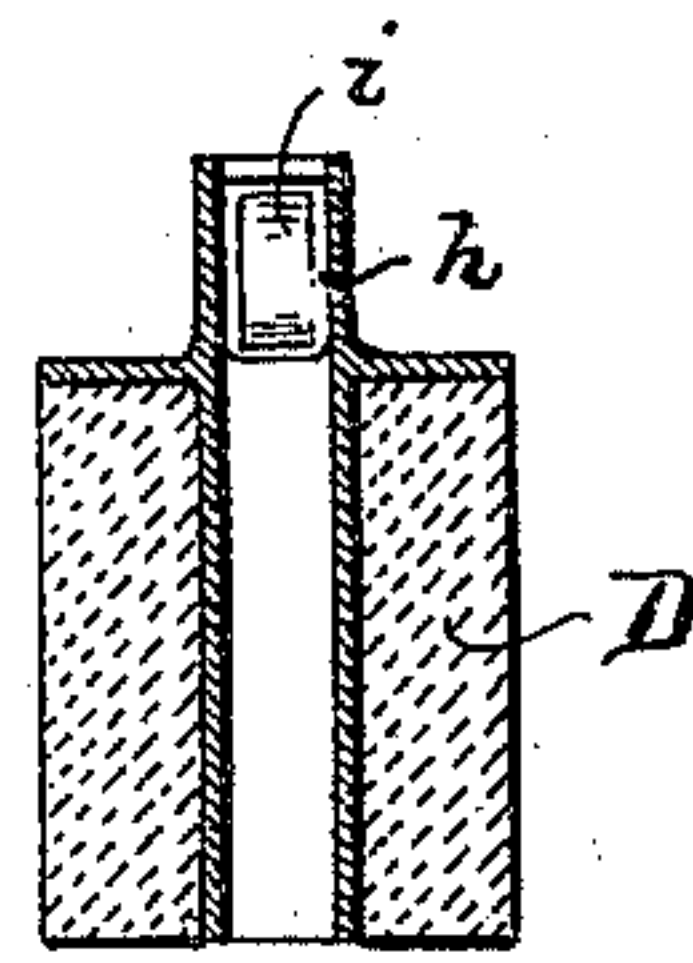


Fig. 6

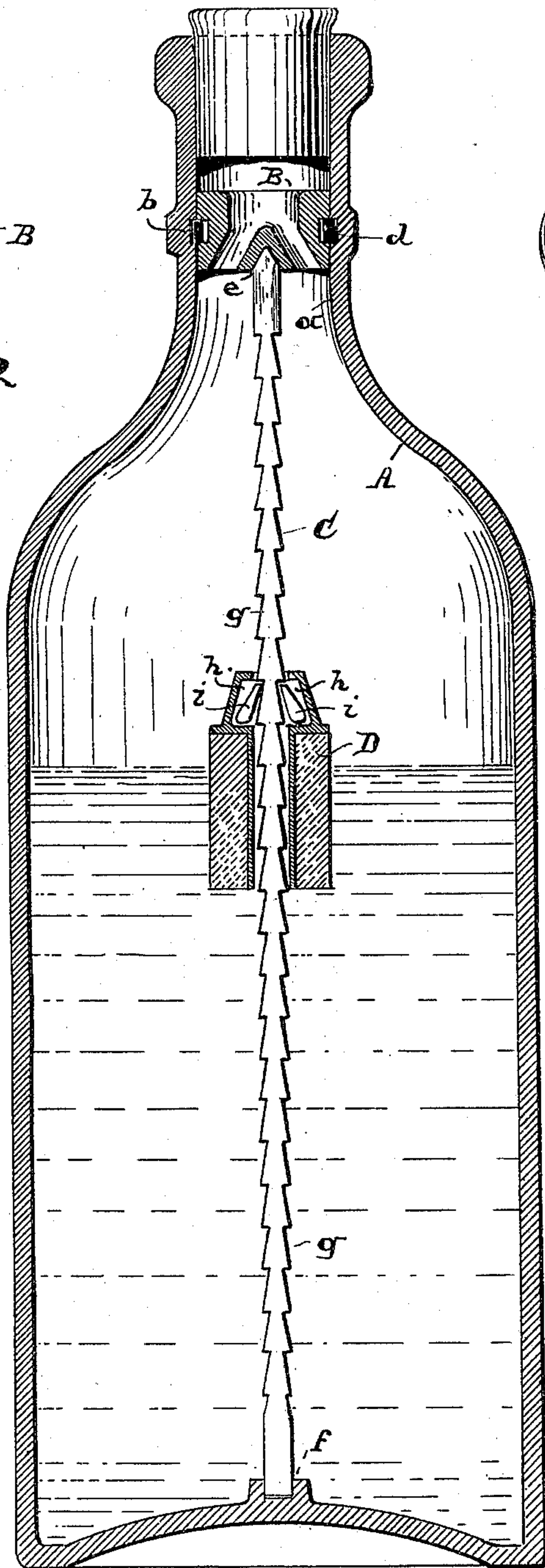


Fig. 1

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE R. HEMSTREET, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## BOTTLE-FLOAT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 641,108, dated January 9, 1900.

Application filed October 27, 1898. Serial No. 694,662. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE R. HEMSTREET, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bottle-Floats, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in means used in connection with bottles when the latter are intended to be proof against refilling without detection.

The object of my invention is to provide positively-operating yet simple and inexpensive means in connection with or within such bottles which practically prohibit refilling of same for the reason that same would be detected. I attain this object in the manner and by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a vertical sectional view of a bottle provided with a float which cannot rise after once having reached the bottom of the bottle. Fig. 2 is a face view of a collar used in connection therewith. Fig. 3 is an underside view of same. Fig. 4 is a detached exterior view of the float. Fig. 5 is a face view of same; and Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view of the float on line *x x*, Fig. 5.

Like letters of reference denote like parts in the drawings and specification.

With producers of distilled liquors, patent medicines, compounds, &c., it has become customary to adapt trade-marks or labels under which goods are introduced to the trade and consumer.

It is essential for the protection of the producer or distributor that goods sold by him in bottles under a certain trade-mark should reach the consumer in the original state or as the genuine article, and for the satisfaction of the consumer it is desirable that he should know and be able to see whether or not the goods offered to him are the genuine article intended to be sold solely or only in bottles bearing certain signatures, trade-marks, or labels.

In order to enable detection, I provide a float or floating device in connection with bottles containing choice or expensive goods, such as brandies or medicinal compounds, &c. The construction and arrangement of said floating device in a bottle are such as to

admit of a natural descension thereof in accord with the withdrawal of the contents therefrom. However, when the bottle is once emptied and the float has reached the bottom of the bottle, then by no means or manner can said float be raised or lifted therefrom. Neither could said float be lifted in the intermediate positions between neck and bottom.

In the drawings, A indicates a bottle. B is a collar which is retained in locked condition within the neck of said bottle. C is a notched bar which is retained in vertical position between and by the collar and the bottom of said bottle. D is the float, adapted to slide upon said bar in the manner as presently described.

In the neck *a* of the bottle is an annular recess *b*, and around the collar is a recess *c* for reception of the expansion-ring *d*. (See Figs. 1, 2, and 3.) Upon insertion of the collar within the neck of said bottle, as shown in Fig. 1, the ring forms an interlocking medium of the collar with the neck or bottle proper. At the same time the bar is held in place in and between the cavities *e* and *f* of the collar and the bottom of the bottle. The bar may either be angular or rounded; but for the whole length it is notched substantially as shown at *g g*.

The float D may be made of any material suitable for the purpose. Furthermore, it may be varied in form, consist of one piece only, or be made of composite material. The essential feature, aside from the buoyant nature thereof, consists in the formation of suitable pockets *h h* therewith and the application of pawls *i i* therein, which automatically engage in under the shoulder of the notches *g g*. (See Fig. 1.) The pockets *h h* so inclose said pawls as to admit of but lateral play only sufficient to allow of a disengagement from the notches and a consequent descension of the float as same is caused by withdrawing from the contents of the bottle. The confined condition of the pawls assures at all times of an engagement or contact with the bar, whether the bottle is held in horizontal, vertical, or any intermediate position. As long as the float remains in buoyant condition it is evident that the contents therein are in the original state or of genuine quality. Floats of this kind can be so proportioned or made so



sensitive that refilling of the bottle is made impossible without sending the float to the bottom of the bottle. If the float is at the bottom of the bottle and the latter is filled or  
5 partially so, then there is positive proof that such a bottle has been refilled. Therefore an intending purchaser could not be deceived if he observes the position of the float.

Bottles provided with a floating device, as  
10 above described, will not admit of tampering with the contents thereof without detection. Fraudulent use of same is thus excluded.

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

15 1. A bottle having a permanently-secured collar in the neck thereof, provided with a plurality of passages, a notched bar held between said passages and the bottom of said bottle, and a float containing pawls which admit only of descension of said float in the  
20 manner as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a bottle containing a floating device, said device being held secure between the bottom of said bottle and a recessed collar  
25 provided with passages and an expansion-

ring in joint engagement with said collar, and a recess in the neck of said bottle all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a bottle the combination of a floating  
30 device comprising a notched bar, a float with automatically-operating pawls engaging said bar and a collar provided with passages and being interlocked with the neck of said bottle and receiving said bar between said pas-  
35 sages and a support in the bottom of said bottle, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a bottle, a float containing pawls, a notched bar into which said pawls engage for  
40 the purpose of locking said float, a collar provided with passages and receiving the bar between the same and a support in the bottom of said bottle, as set forth.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand  
45 in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

G. R. HEMSTREET.

Witnesses:

GEO. LAMINTZ,

BERNH. F. EIBLER.