

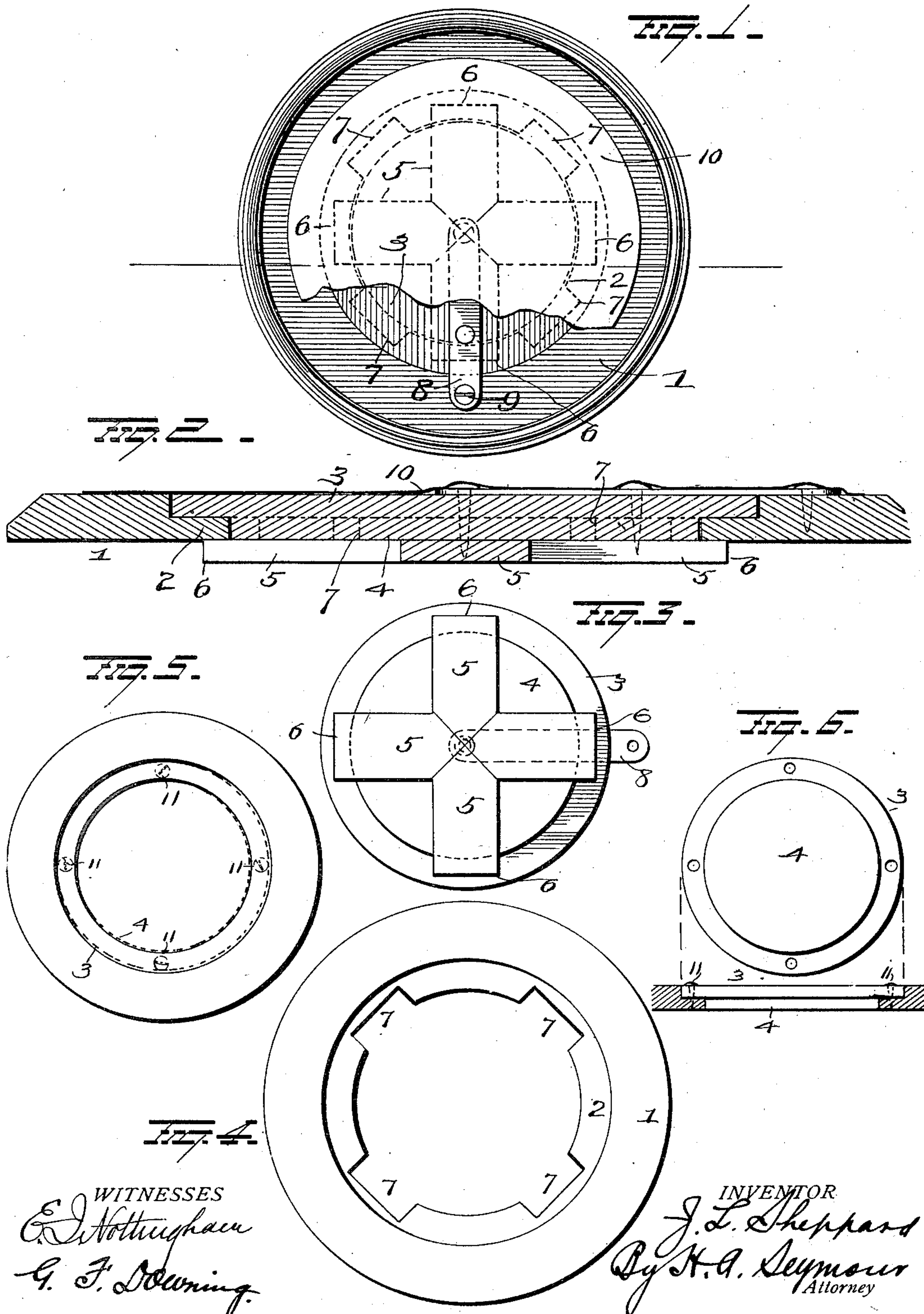
No. 697,027.

Patented Apr. 8, 1902.

J. L. SHEPPARD.  
DRUM OR BARREL HEAD.

(Application filed Oct. 3, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. SHEPPARD, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

## DRUM OR BARREL HEAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,027, dated April 8, 1902.

Application filed October 3, 1901. Serial No. 77,475. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN L. SHEPPARD, a resident of Charleston, in the county of Charleston and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Drum or Barrel Heads; 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.

My invention relates to an improvement in barrels, drums, and similar packages, and more particularly to the heads thereof, the object of the invention being to so construct these packages as to permit of their being delivered to the users in a finished condition with both heads permanently set in position. Packages so completed can be quickly filled and quickly emptied, and their contents can be examined and samples can be drawn as often as desired, and this at small cost, without the aid of an expert cooper or other skilled labor, and packages can be used and reused without removing the liners or the hoops and with no injury to the package itself.

With this object in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view illustrating my improvements. Fig. 2 is a view in section of the same. Figs. 3 and 4 are views of detail parts, and Figs. 5 and 6 are views illustrating a modified form of my invention.

Heretofore in the use of packages of this character the heads or at least one of the heads is fitted into the package at the factory loosely, the outer lining-hoops are not put on, and the hoops around the barrel are not nailed. On the receipt of such package the user has to employ skilled labor to remove this loosely-fitted head. Then the contents are run in and the head is replaced and the hoops are nailed on the ends of the barrel, and the liners are also nailed to prevent the escape of the head. All this requires skilled labor and is necessarily expensive to the user of these packages, and this expense must be repeated every time the package is opened for any purpose where it is desired to again close the

package. As the hoops about the head have to be driven off, being securely nailed, they are always injured and often have to be replaced by new hoops. When drums are employed, while it is true the hoops around the outside are always secured in place still when the head is removed the drum is not perfectly round, and it requires very skilled labor to insert the head and secure it in place by the liners and is a source of great expense to the users of these drums.

To avoid all of the above objectionable features, my present invention was devised and is as follows:

1 represents a barrel-head or the like provided with a circular opening, preferably in the center thereof and made with an inwardly-projecting horizontal flange 2 all around said opening and flush with the inner or lower face of the head 1, but in a plane below the upper or outer face thereof, to form a seat for a removable disk or closure 3, which latter is made with a central enlargement 4 to project into the opening in the head 1 and when in position lies flush with the lower or inner face thereof, and the upper or outer face of the disk lies flush with the upper or outer face of the head. This head 1, as well as the other head of the barrel, is secured in position before the packages are shipped from the factory and need not be disturbed, as the opening therein is large enough to permit the filling and emptying of the barrel. Cross-bars 5 are secured on the lower or inner face of enlargement 4 and project beyond the periphery thereof to form lugs 6, and the flange 2 is made with notches 7 to permit the entrance of said lugs; but when the disk 3 is turned slightly after being placed in position the lugs 6 will be disposed out of alignment with the notches 7, and hence be locked securely beneath the flange 2 and secure the disk in place.

A bar 8 is secured on the upper face of the disk 3 and projects over the edge thereof, and a screw 9 is passed through said bar 8 and into the head 1 to prevent any possibility of accidental displacement of the disk.

When the package is filled and the disk is secured in place, it is securely sealed by a frangible sheet or label 10, glued or pasted over the disk and the portion of the head sur-



rounding the same and for the convenience of customers may have printed thereon instructions for removing the disk and such other matter as is desired.

5 To remove the disk, the frangible covering 10 is easily broken all around the edge of the disk, when by unscrewing screw 9 and turning the disk so as to aline the lugs 6 with the notches 7 in the head the disk can be readily  
10 removed.

Instead of constructing my improvements as above described I might make the same as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. In this form of my invention I dispense with the use of the lugs  
15 6, notches 7, and bar 8 and secure the disk in the head 1 by screws 11, which are passed through the disk and into the flange 2 of the head, and the frangible label 10, above referred to, is glued or pasted over the disk  
20 and the portion of the head surrounding the same.

It will be seen that by employing my improvements on a barrel, drum, keg, bucket, or the like receptacle the contents thereof can  
25 be easily inspected or removed without injury to the receptacle and after inspection can be made as secure as before, and this without the employment of skilled labor.

Various other slight changes might be resorted to in the general form and arrangement of the several parts described without departing from my invention, and hence I  
30 would have it understood that I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details set forth, but consider myself at liberty to make such  
35 slight changes and alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

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

1. The combination with a drum or barrel head, having an opening, the wall of said opening countersunk to form an annular shoulder, of a disk closing said opening and seated on said annular shoulder, the upper face of said  
45 disk alining with the upper face of the head, removable fastening devices for securing the disk to the head, and a frangible sheet covering said disk and secured to the upper face of the head.

2. The combination with a drum or barrel head having an opening therein, and a flange around said opening flush with the inner face of the head, of a disk supported on said flange  
55 flush with the outer face of the head, an enlargement or extension on the disk fitting said opening and flush with the inner face of the head, lugs on said extension projecting beyond the same and adapted to be moved into  
60 alinement with notches in the flange, and a bar on the outer face of the disk adapted to project over and be secured to, the head.

3. The combination with a drum or barrel head having an opening therein and a flange around said opening, said flange countersunk  
65 to form an annular shoulder, of a disk or closure adapted to fit into said opening and rest upon said annular shoulder, means for removably securing the disk in said opening, and a frangible sheet glued to the disk, over-  
70 lapping the head and secured upon the latter, said frangible sheet also covering the removable securing means.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing  
75 witnesses.

JOHN L. SHEPPARD.

Witnesses:

KATIE M. SHEPPARD,  
J. ALFRED WHITE.