A. SPEKER & G. SCHNEIDER.

BUSHING FOR BUNG HOLES OF BEER KEGS.

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944,384. Patented Dec. 28, 1909.

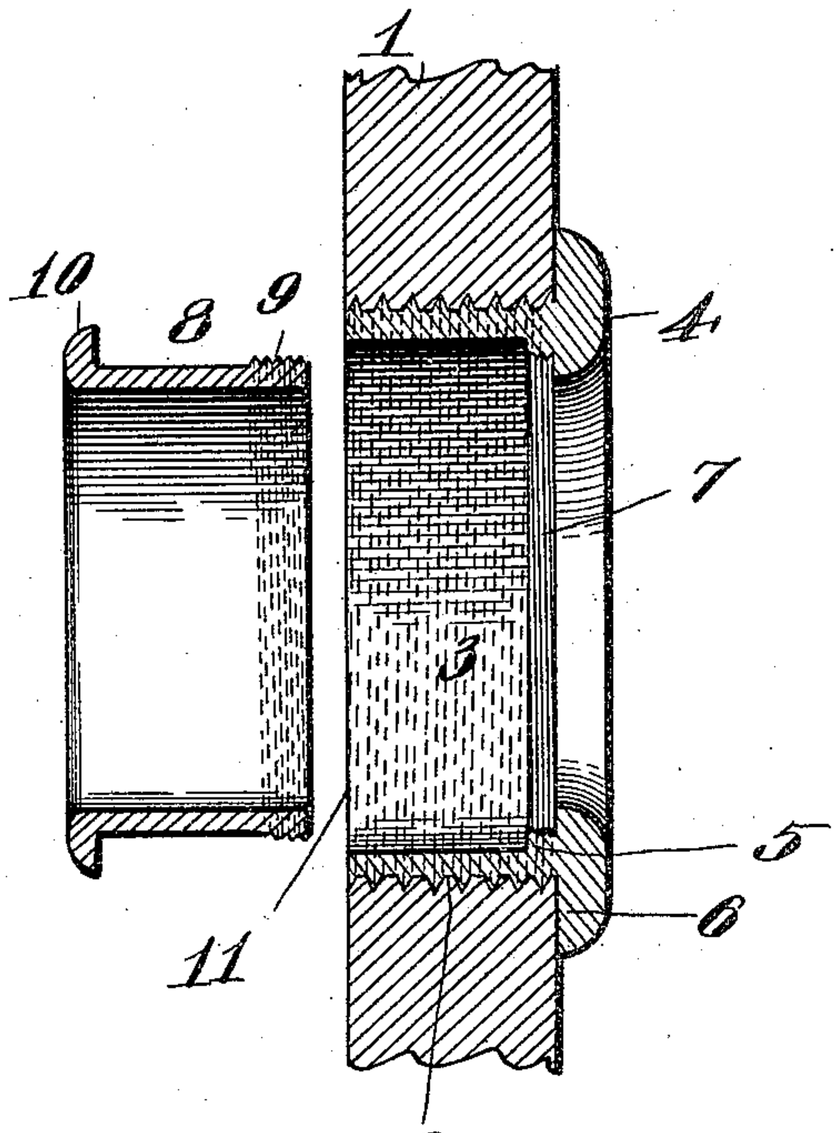

Fig. 1.

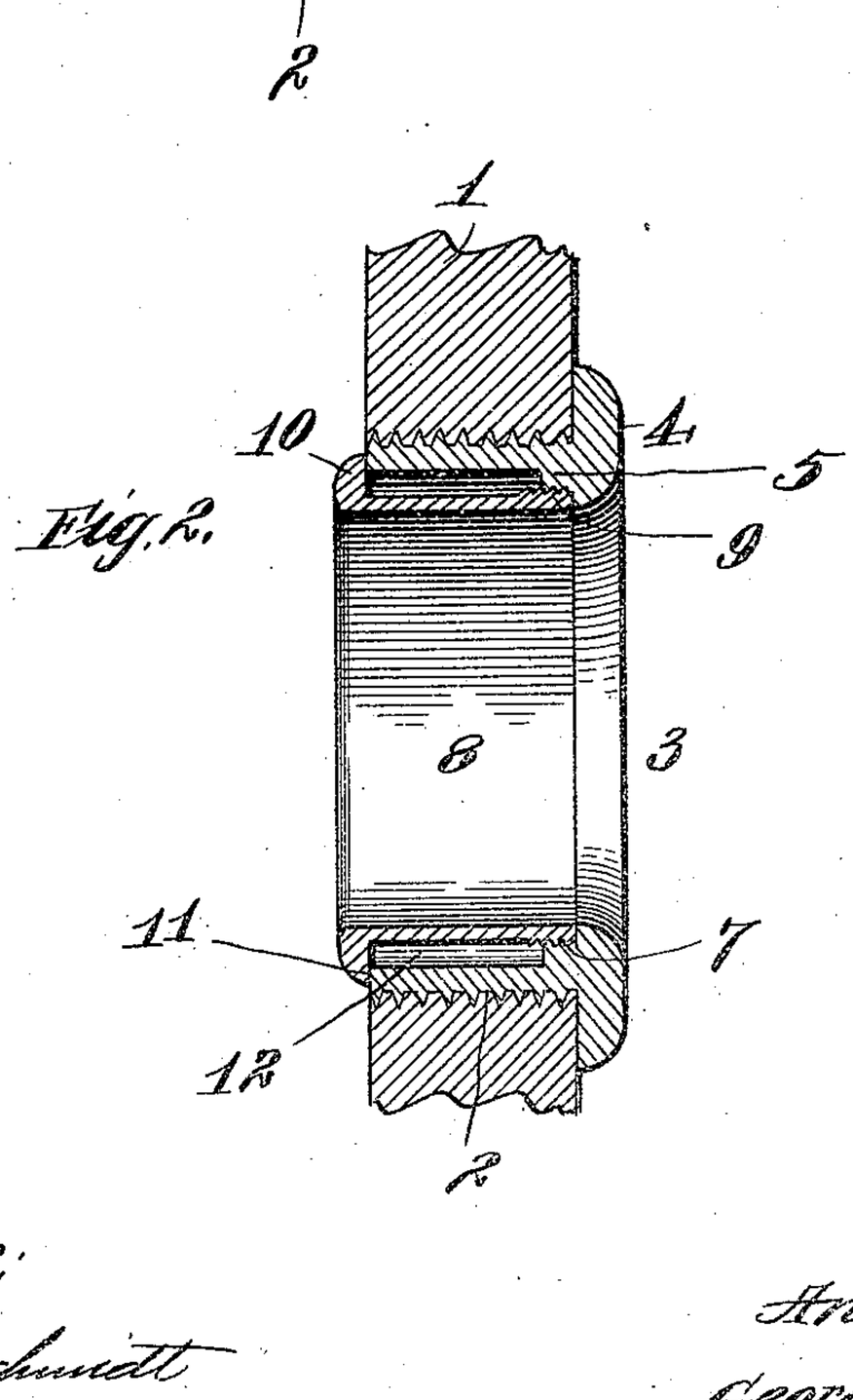

Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTON SPEKER AND GEORGE SCHNEIDER, OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

BUSHING FOR BUNG-HOLES OF BEER-KEGS.

944,384. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Dec. 28, 1909.**

Application filed April 27, 1907. Serial No. 370,562.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANTON SPEKER and GEORGE SCHNEIDER, citizens of the United States of America, residing at Freeport, in the county of Stephenson and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bushings for Bung-Holes of Beer-Kegs, of which the following is a specification.

The object of our invention is to provide a bushing that will prevent the perimeters of bung-holes of beer kegs from being injured by heat communicated thereto during the operation of pitching and repitching the interiors of such kegs through the agency of superheated steam or air; and it consists of the features, combinations and details of construction hereinafter described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a central vertical sectional view showing a bung-hole bushing embodying our invention, one portion of the bushing being operatively connected with the bung-hole of a keg and another portion thereof being detached therefrom. Fig. 2 is a like view with the parts of the bushing operatively connected.

Like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the two views.

1 is a fragment of the bung-hole stave of a beer keg having a bung-hole 2 bored therethrough.

3 is an outer ring terminatng at its outer end in a flange 4 forming an inwardly-projecting annular shoulder 5 and an outwardly-projecting annular shoulder 6. A portion of the perimeter of the inwardly-projecting annular shoulder 5, as 7, is threaded to afford means for connecting the remaining portion of the bushing thereto. The periphery of the ring 3 is threaded to adapt the same to be turned into and seated in the bung-hole 2 in the stave 1.

8 is an inner ring of less exterior diameter than that of the perimeter of the opening through the outer ring 3. The exterior of the outer end of the ring 8 is threaded at 9 to adapt it to be turned into the correspondingly-threaded portion 7 of the shoulder 5 on the ring 3 and is provided at its inner end with an outwardly-projecting annular flange 10 projecting radially over and adapted to be turned into close contact with the inner end 11 of the ring 3. Fig. 2 shows the inner ring 8 operatively connected with the ring 3 at their end portions and forming a closed chamber of the annular space 12 between said rings to form a dead air space to insulate the parts 3 and 8 from each other. The parts of the bushing are so closely connected together as to form practically a single piece.

In practice the bushings are completed and offered to the trade in the form and condition in which they appear in Fig. 2, being there shown ready to be applied to and seated in the bung-holes for which they are intended. Also, from an inspection of Fig. 2, it will be obvious that the parts of the bushing are so constructed and connected that it can be applied to and removed from its bung-hole in the same manner as the ordinary solid bushing, that is to say, it is not intended that the two parts of our bushing shall be connected, as a part of the operation of seating the same in the bung-hole of the keg.

As is well known in this art, superheated steam or air is forced through a nozzle inserted into the bung-holes of beer kegs for the purpose of melting and applying pitch to their interiors preparatory to filling them with beer. The same operation is also resorted to when the pitch on the interiors of the kegs deteriorates or becomes defective from any cause, intense heat being forced thereinto for the purpose of melting and removing therefrom the old pitch preparatory to repitching the same. The degree of heat employed in that operation is frequently so intense as to char the interior of the keg, and often heats the bushing so hot as to injure the wood forming the perimeter of the bung-hole, with the result that the bushing becomes loose and frequently drops out of its bung-hole altogether. The employment of the annular chamber in the interior of our bushing so insulates the perimeter of its bung-holes that it will remain uninjured by heat during the entire life of any keg in which it is used.

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A bushing for bung-holes, comprising an outer ring having an inwardly projecting shoulder formed on one end thereof, and an inner ring having an outwardly projecting flange formed on one end thereof, the inner end and the inner edge of the shoulder of the outer ring respectively coacting with the flange and the inner end of the inner ring

to secure the said rings together and at the same time form a closed annular space between the said rings.

2. A bushing for bung-holes, comprising an outer ring and an inner ring, the outer ring being provided at its outer end with a flanged portion constituting inwardly projecting and outwardly projecting shoulders, and the inner ring having an exterior diameter equal to the interior diameter of the inwardly projecting shoulder, and provided with an outwardly projecting flange at one end, the said flange being adapted to engage the inner end of the outer ring, and the inner end of the inner ring adapted to engage the inner edge of the inwardly projecting shoulder of the outer ring and thereby form a closed annular air space between the two rings.

3. A bushing for bung-holes, comprising an outer ring having an inwardly projecting shoulder formed on one end thereof, and an inner ring having an outwardly projecting flange formed on one end thereof, the inner end and the shoulder of the outer ring respectively coacting with the flange and the inner end of the inner ring to secure the said rings together and at the same time form an annular space between the said rings, the flange of the inner ring having a smaller periphery than the periphery of the outer ring, thereby permitting the withdrawal of both rings together.

4. A bushing for bung-holes, comprising an outer ring and an inner ring, the outer ring being externally threaded and provided at its outer end with a flanged portion constituting inwardly projecting and outwardly projecting shoulders, the inwardly projecting shoulder being threaded, and the inner ring having an exterior diameter equal to the interior diameter of the inwardly projecting shoulder, and provided with an outwardly projecting flange at one end, and an externally threaded portion at the other end, the said flange being adapted to engage the inner end of the outer ring, and the threaded end of the inner ring adapted to engage the threaded shoulder of the outer ring and thereby form a closed annular air space between the two rings.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ANTON SPEKER.
GEORGE SCHNEIDER.

Witnesses:
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EARL F. WHITMORE.