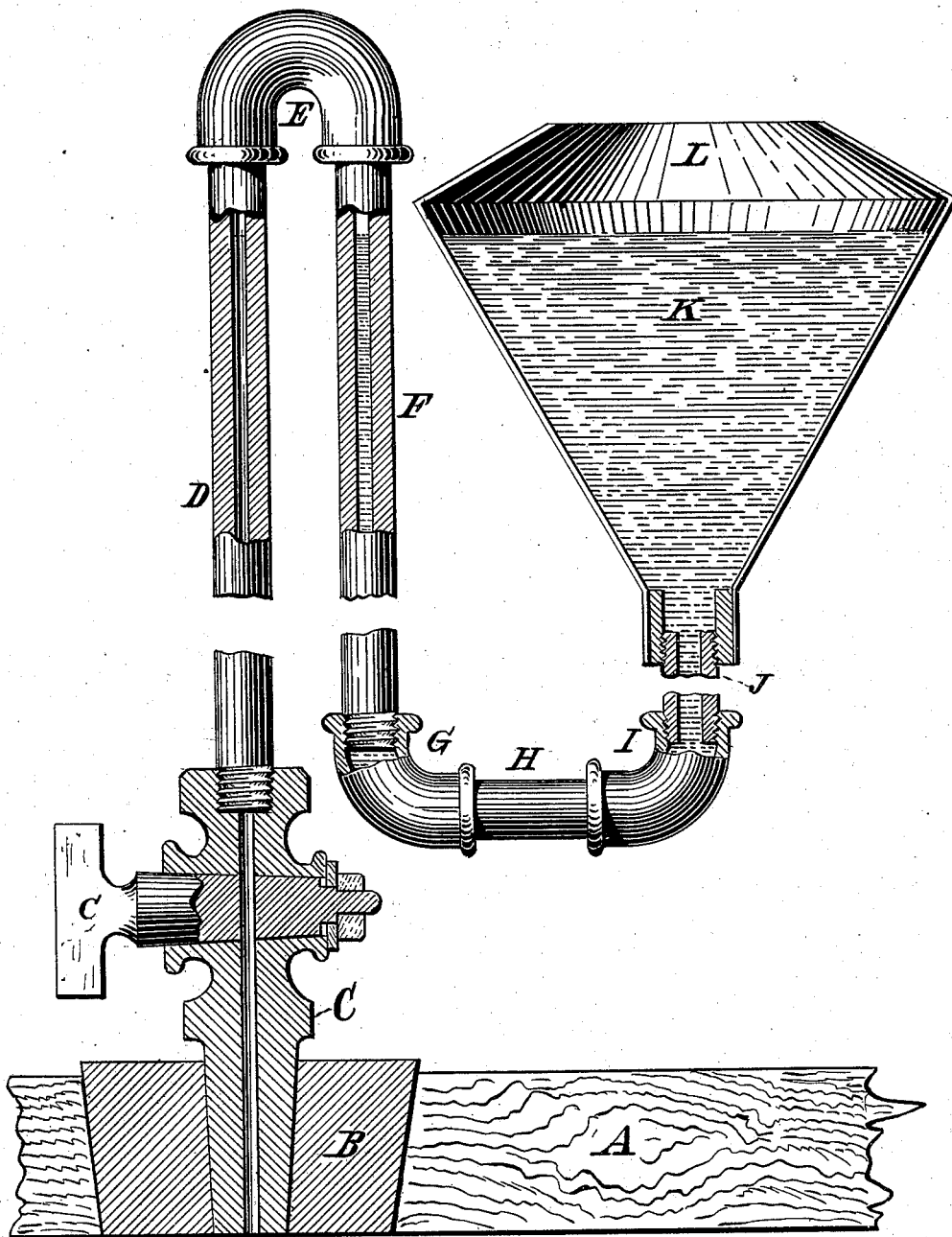


H. FINCK.  
Cask-Vent.

No. 217,358.

Patented July 8, 1879.



Witnesses:

*Michael J. Stark*  
*John H. Hosh*

Inventor :

*Henry Finck*  
*by Michael J. Stark*  
Attorney.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY FINCK, OF DUNKIRK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO J. P. BRANER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CASK-VENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,358**, dated July 8, 1879; application filed April 22, 1879.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY FINCK, of Dunkirk, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements on a Cask-Vent; and I do hereby declare that the following description of my said invention, taken in connection with the accompanying sheet of drawing, forms a full, clear, and exact specification, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention has general reference to vents for beer-casks; and it consists in the peculiar arrangement of parts and details of construction, as hereinafter first fully set forth and described, and then pointed out in the claim.

In the drawing already referred to, which serves to illustrate my said invention more fully and forms a part of this specification, the figure is a longitudinal sectional elevation.

C designates a stop-cock, screwed or otherwise inserted into a bung, B, placed in the usual cask A. In the upper end of this stop-cock is screwed a pipe, D, the upper extremity of which enters one leg of a return bend, E, into the other leg of which is screwed the pendent pipe F. To the lower end of this pipe is fixed an elbow, G, into which, in turn, is screwed a short branch pipe, H, having an elbow, I, and a short nipple, J, in said elbow. To this nipple is fixed a funnel-shaped vessel, K, the upper end of which is provided with an inwardly-projecting flaring flange, L.

In operation, the apparatus being placed into the cask A, the reservoir K is filled with water, which rises in the pipe F to a height corresponding with the level of the liquid in the reservoir K.

The carbonic-acid gas liberated in the cask escapes through the pipes and water-seal, while any ingress of air is prevented by such seal. In this manner the gas finds a perfectly free escape, while foul air, such as is always more or less present in beer-cellars, &c., is prevented from entering such casks.

Previous to racking beer the stop-cock C is closed, so as to accumulate sufficient pressure in the cask to force the beer out of said cask and give the necessary life to the beer, while as soon as the desired quantity is drawn off the cock is again opened to allow the escape of the superfluous gas.

Inwardly-inclined flange L of vessel K forms a dome or top for said vessel, with an opening in the center. The inclination of said flange is preferably at right angles, or nearly so, to the inclined sides; and it serves to prevent the escape of the liquid in vessel K, which liquid would otherwise boil over when charged from below with the carbonic-acid gas escaping from the cask. Without said flange or some similar guard for the edge of the vessel, this boiling over could be prevented only by diminishing the supply of water or other liquid in vessel K and tubular passage F H I to such a degree that it could not be relied upon to fulfill its functions as a seal. Flange L also excludes foreign substances, except such as may pass through the central opening.

The construction of thimble J and the adjacent parts of vessel K and branch pipe H allows said vessel to be conveniently removed for the purpose of cleaning or repairing it.

I do not claim, broadly, the combination of a valve with a stop-cock constructed like the stop-cock shown by me, that combination being shown, for example, in the patent of Hindemyer and Beinkampen, April 13, 1875, No. 162,066; nor do I claim the combination, with a stop-cock, of a pipe bent to form a water-seal, and terminating in a funnel-shaped vessel for holding liquid, such as appears in the patent of T. F. Straub, October 8, 1878, No. 208,771; nor do I claim a funnel having its upper part tapered inward to lessen the danger of overflow; but

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

In combination with a cask and stop-cock, a sectional tube, forming a water-seal, and a detachable terminal vessel for holding liquid,

said vessel being shaped like a funnel, with an inwardly-extending top flange, to prevent the liquid in said vessel from being forced over its edges by the explosion or ascent of carbonic-acid gas.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have hereto set my hand and

affixed my seal in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY FINCK. [L. S.]

Attest:

MICHAEL J. STARK,  
J. P. BRANER.