M. L. THOMPSON.

BARREL-HEAD.

No. 192,664. Patented July 3, 1877.

Fig. 2.

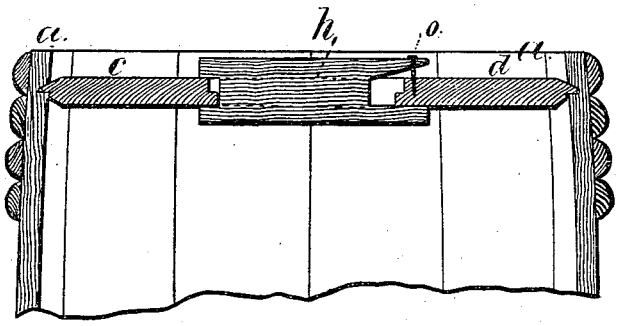
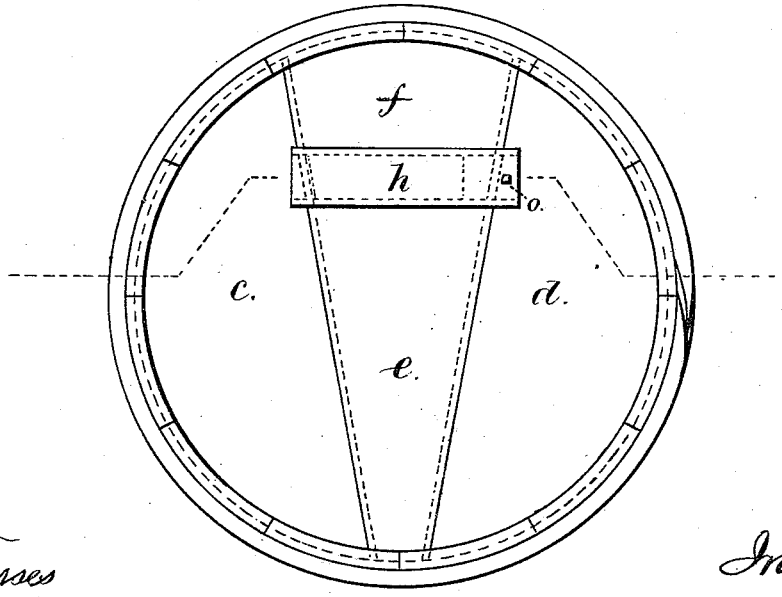


Fig. 1.



Witnesses

Chas. H. Smith

Geo. T. Pinckney

Inventor.

Merritt L. Thompson.

per Lemuel W. Serrell

atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MERRITT L. THOMPSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND JOHN P. RITTENHOUSE, OF FLEMINGTON, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN BARREL-HEADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,664**, dated July 3, 1877; application filed May 25, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MERRITT L. THOMPSON, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Barrel-Heads, of which the following is a specification:

In Letters Patent Nos. 70,050 and 80,886, granted to me, the barrel-heads are shown as sections secured in place by blocking-pieces inserted between the sections.

My present invention is an improvement upon the same; and consists in wedge-acting sections that tighten up the parts of the head within the chine as the sections are driven together, and these are ultimately held in position by a blocking-piece somewhat similar to that shown in said Patent No. 70,050.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a plan of the barrel-head, and Fig. 2 is a cross-section at the line *x x*.

The chine *a* of the barrel is channeled as usual, and the head is made of the four segments *c d e f*. The segments *c d* are similar in shape, and their straight edges have rabbets to receive corresponding reverse rabbets upon the pieces *e f*, and these pieces *e f* are sections of a wedge in shape, so that, when the sections *c d* are placed within the chine and the segment *f* placed at the widest part of the intermediate opening, the segment *e* can then be placed also between *c* and *d*, with its widest end near to the segment *f*, and then the segment *e* is to be driven endwise, to spread and tighten the other sections of the head within the barrel. The reverse movement allows the head to be removed without loosening the hoops; but to secure the parts when in use the blocking-piece *h* is introduced into the opening between the sections. This blocking-piece is slotted at the ends, and its outer surface is flanged so as to be wider than the opening between *e* and *f*, and the ends are notched and one of the notched ends is first inserted and the blocking-piece slipped endwise into place between *e* and *f*, then it is slipped back endwise, so that the notched ends hold beneath the sections *c d*, and thus it is held in its place, and serves also to hold the ends of *e f* down to the sections *c d*. A nail or tack at *o* prevents the return end movement of the blocking-piece.

I do not claim herein the tapering sections or the blocking-pieces, but by my construction of head it will be seen that the blocking-piece *h*, being notched at the ends, passes inside of the segments *c d* and receives its support from them, and that the flanged portions of this blocking-piece outside the ends of the sections *e f* hold them down into their places against the outward pressure of the contents of the barrel, thus furnishing a very secure but removable barrel-head.

I claim as my invention—

The combination, in a barrel-head, of the segments *c d*, with their edges rabbeted, the tapering sections *e f* of corresponding thickness, with rabbeted edges, and the blocking-piece *h*, flanged at its edges and slotted at the ends, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 21st day of May, A. D. 1877.

M. L. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,

HAROLD SERRELL.