

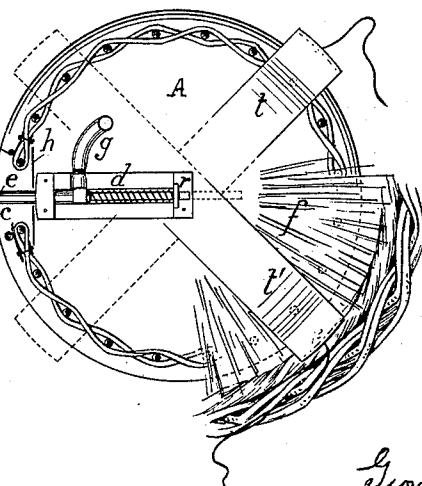
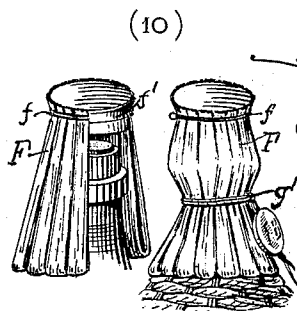
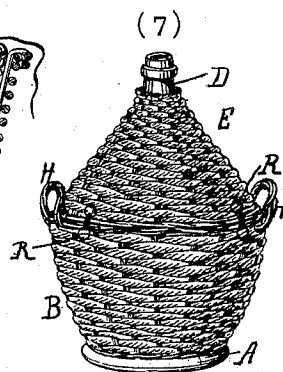
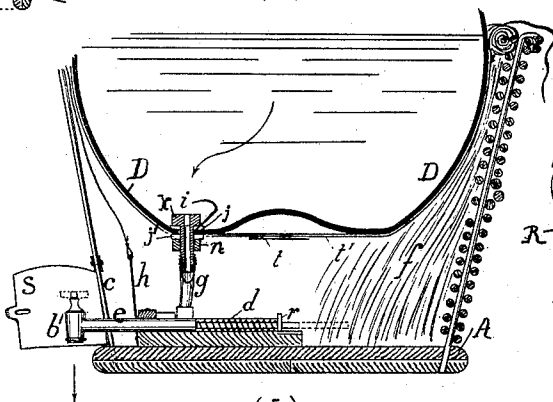
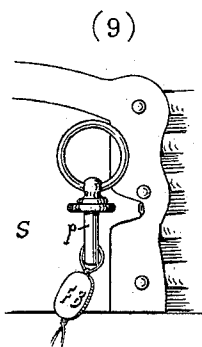
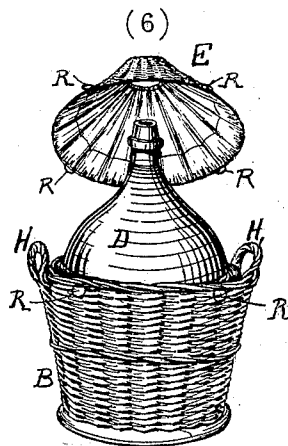
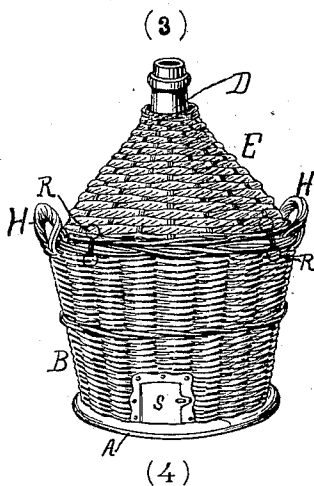
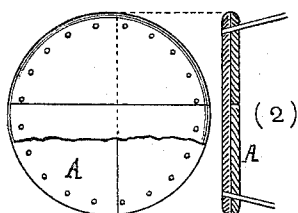
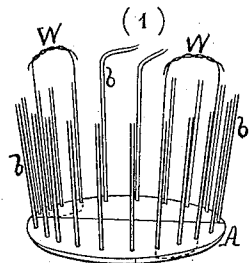
No. 608,824.

Patented Aug. 9, 1898.

G. BECCARO.
DEMIJOHN.

(Application filed May 12, 1897.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GIOVANNI BECCARO, OF ACQUI, ITALY.

DEMIJOHN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 608,824, dated August 9, 1898.

Application filed May 12, 1897. Serial No. 636,166. (No model.) Patented in Italy April 29, 1891, No. 29,641, LVIII, 76; in Germany October 9, 1894, No. 82,376; in France March 11, 1895, No. 245,707, and in Spain April 1, 1895, No. 17,232.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GIOVANNI BECCARO, a subject of the King of Italy, and a resident of Acqui, Province of Alessandria, Italy, have
5 invented an Improved Demijohn, (for which I have obtained Letters Patent in Italy, No. 29,641, dated April 29, 1891; in France, No. 245,707, dated March 11, 1895; in Germany, No. 82,376, dated October 9, 1894, and in
10 Spain, No. 17,232, dated April 1, 1895,) of which the following is a specification.

At the present time covered demijohns present the objection that their bottoms of wicker break very easily and become detached from
15 the sides, and consequently the demijohn soon loses its principal advantage—that is to say, ease and safety of transportation. The demijohn forming the subject of my present invention removes this objection.

20 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a skeleton view to illustrate the construction of the covering. Fig. 2 shows in face view, partly broken away and in section, the bottom piece. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the
25 covered demijohn. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the lower part, drawn to a larger scale. Fig. 5 is a plan, partly in section. Fig. 6 is a perspective view, drawn to a smaller scale, showing the upper part of the cover partly
30 lifted off. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a modification. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of another modification. Figs. 9 and 10 are enlarged views of details.

The base A of the cover is formed, Figs. 1
35 to 4, of two thin disks of wood superposed and secured together, either by Paris nails or by wood-screws. The two disks are arranged with their grains running at right angles to each other, and the margin is rounded
40 in order to facilitate the carrying of the demijohn in the arms or upon the shoulder.

The side B of the covering is of wicker and should be secured to the wooden bottom before being woven, and for that purpose the
45 wooden bottom is pierced around its margin with a certain number of holes uniformly distributed. In Figs. 1 and 2 there are shown twenty; but their number may be suitably varied. The wicker reeds *b b*, of suitable
50 thickness, are introduced by force into the said holes from below upward and with their great-

est diameter below, after which they are cut level with the lower face of the said wooden bottom.

For covered demijohns, and especially for 55 the largest sizes, it is often desirable to have a cock at the bottom for drawing off the wine or any other liquid contained therein in order to avoid the necessity of having to first tilt the demijohn over and even turn it 60 upside down, and consequently disturb the liquid.

I have therefore adapted to my demijohn a cock *b'* at the bottom, which can be inclosed and hidden in the interior of the covering B 65 in order to be able to still transport the demijohn containing any liquid by any suitable means of transportation with the same safety as a demijohn without a cock.

The construction by which this object is 70 attained is shown in Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 9, and may be described as follows: In the bottom of the glass demijohn D there is a circular opening *i*, either made directly in the glass at the moment of molding the demijohn or after- 75 ward by means of a piercing-machine with a diamond point. A metallic connection *k*, with a shoulder at the upper inner end, is easily introduced into the said hole *i* by manipulating it through the neck of the bottle by means of 80 a long pair of nippers or a wooden stick adapted to hold the extremity of the connection, which may be square or rectangular. A rubber washer *j*, secured first on the connection against the shoulder, makes a firm joint 85 at the interior of the demijohn, and the connection is fixed and solidly secured against the bottom of the latter by means of a second rubber washer *j'* and a nut *n*, threaded on the connection itself, Fig. 4. A rubber tube *g* of 90 suitable length and curved in a quarter of a circle, Figs. 4 and 5, connects the said pipe to the metallic conduit *e*, furnished with a cock *b'* at its front outer extremity. At its 95 inner end this pipe *e* has a prismatic stem inclosed by a spiral spring *d*. On the bottom A is fixed a piece of wood with a longitudinal groove for the cock-pipe *e*, and it has at the rear a metallic corner *r*, whose vertical face is perforated and serves to guide the stem of 100 the cock-pipe *e* at the same time that it serves for the point of bearing of the spiral spring

d. This last tends to push outward the sliding pipe *e*, so that the cock *b'*, which rests against the door *s*, tends to become free. As soon as the door is opened the cock presents itself automatically outside. It can easily be returned to the interior by a slight pressure of the hand, and it can be maintained there by fastening the door with a peg *p*, Fig. 9, of which the head is formed with a ring to operate it, and its lower end is perforated with a hole for a small padlock in ordinary cases or for a leaden seal in case of transportation. The opening *c* for the door should be made in the wicker without cutting any of the wicker reeds and should be of a size suitable for the introduction of the apparatus. A diaphragm *h*, allowing only the cock to pass, hides and protects the interior automatic devices.

The demijohn, clothed on its outside with wicker on the flat bottom *A*, as described above, is suspended in the upper part of the wickerwork by two bands of Manila cloth or any other suitable material *t* and *t'*, Figs. 4 and 5, crossing each other and embracing the exterior surface of the bottom of the glass demijohn. It will be seen that one of the bands *t'* is traversed by the tube *K* and that the ends or extremities of the bands are secured at the margin to the wickerware of the pannier. This new system of suspension has an advantage over that of making the glass demijohn rest on the bottom simply on a cushion formed of seaweed or other vegetable material. Such latter cushion, especially for demijohns with automatic cock, would be apt to be dislodged by the backward and forward movement of the cock, and the demijohn would no longer rest completely protected against shocks of the wooden bottom on the ground.

To prevent the handles *H*, of twisted wicker reeds, from breaking by continued usage and on account of the weight which they have to bear if the demijohn is full, I pass through the interior of the handles a metallic wire *W*, of iron or copper, forming a resisting body. The two extremities of the metallic wire, after having passed through the wooden bottom forming the foundation of the covering, are bound together and united in the handle, Fig. 1. With this arrangement the pull on the handles due to the lifting of the demijohn is sustained by the wooden bottom, and the good transportation of the wicker handles is assured.

The ordinary covering of the upper part of the demijohn, made with a bunch of straw rolled into spirals secured around the neck of the demijohn and simply held by string, easily becomes dislodged. I substitute therefor a cover *E*, of woven wicker reeds padded on the inside with straw, and make this cover removable, so as to be able to fix it to the lower basket, with four or more small rings *R* attached to the basket and other similar ones attached to the cover, Figs. 3 and 6, the cor-

responding rings being united and bound together by string.

I thus obtain the following advantages: (a) The covering of the neck of the demijohn is more solid and durable and the demijohn is more efficiently protected against blows; (b) the cover being easily lifted off and removed the demijohn can be inspected as to its interior at pleasure, and (c) if by chance the glass gets broken it is the glass only which needs to be replaced. All the parts of the covering can be utilized again, and the substitution of another glass does not require any special operation, being very easily and economically made by any workman. Instead of making this upper cover of woven wicker and padding it on the inside with straw I may also make it so that the frame is of wicker reeds arranged on the generating-lines of the conical surface, and on these reeds I weave a pad of straw, Fig. 3. The binding-cords for the covering may either be made of a simple wisp of straw or of string made of two or more strands twisted in the machine.

The cover of the lower part of the demijohn may be made in the same manner as described for the lid in place of the basket construction first described and following more closely the form of the demijohn as shown in Figs. 7 and 8. In this case the body of the covering is formed on the wooden disk in the manner described for the basket, and the handles may still be reinforced with metallic interior threads fixed to the wooden bottom. It goes without saying that the covering of the lower part can be separated from the movable upper part, as shown in Fig. 7, but connecting the woven wickerware at that point.

To better protect the neck and to prevent any withdrawal of liquid through the stopper, I have applied a cover *F*, of straw, with an iron wire *f* around a washer *f'*, Fig. 10. This cover is fixed on the neck of the demijohn with a sealed cord *g'*.

I claim as my invention—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a demijohn combined with a wickerware covering provided with a wooden bottom with which the wickerware is united, the uprights of said wickerware being forced through holes in the bottom, small end first, so as to cause the large end to be tightly gripped in the hole, substantially as described.

2. A demijohn having a wickerware covering, with a wooden bottom to which the wickerware is united, wickerware handles united with the cover and concealing wire reinforcements fastened to the wooden bottom, so as to cause the weight of the demijohn to be sustained by said wires.

3. A demijohn having a wickerware covering with a wooden bottom and cross-bands secured at the ends to the wickerware so as to sustain the demijohn at a distance from the said bottom, substantially as described.

4. A demijohn provided with wickerware

covering and having a movable emptying-cock adapted to be inclosed within, or to be projected out of, the wicker covering.

5 5. A demijohn provided with a wickerware covering having an automatic emptying-cock movably secured to the bottom of the covering, and flexible means for attaching said cock to the demijohn, substantially as described.

10 6. A demijohn having a wickerware covering and an emptying-cock, a door in the wick-

erware in front of said cock, and means for automatically causing said cock to protrude from the casing when the door is opened, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GIOVANNI BECCARO.

Witnesses:

E. V. DOBRITOVICH,
A. FERRARI.

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