EDWARD T. GILMORE.

Improvement in Barrel Fastenings.

No. 121,865. Patented Dec. 12, 1871.

Fig: 1.

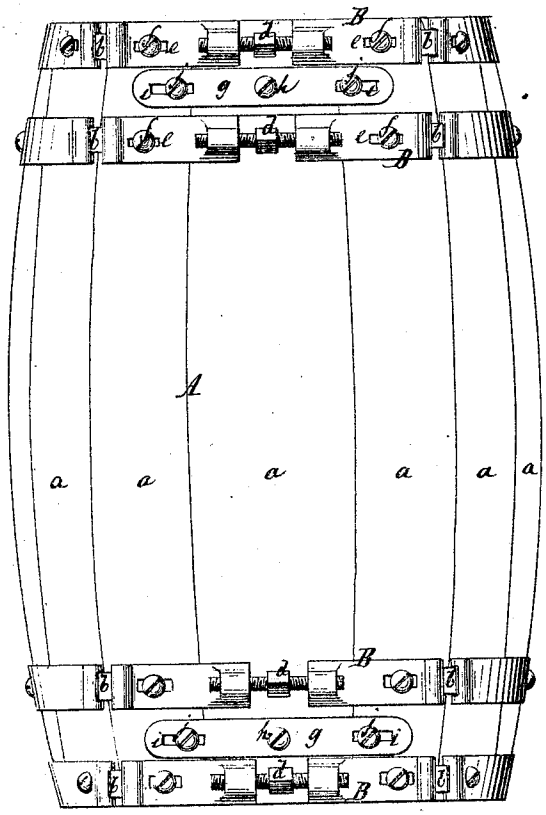

Fig: 2.

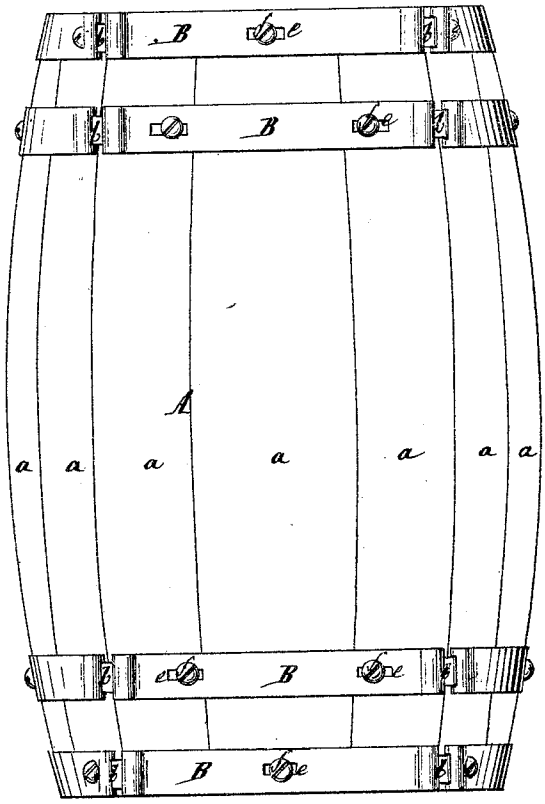

Fig: 3.

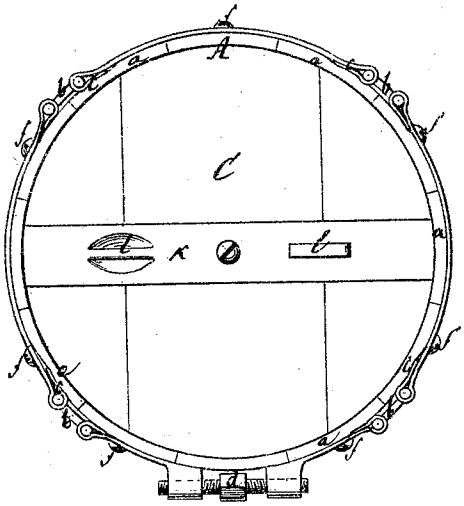

Fig: 4.

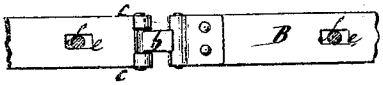

Fig: 5.

Witnesses:
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Van Santvoord & Hauff
Attys

AM. PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHIC CO. N.Y. (OSBORNE'S PROCESS)

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD T. GILMORE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN BARREL-FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 121,865, dated December 12, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD T. GILMORE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Barrel-Fastenings; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 represents a front view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan or top view of the same. Fig. 4 is a detached inside view of a portion of my fastening. Fig. 5 shows one of the T-shaped links detached.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the arrangement of hoops made in sections, which are connected by T-shaped links, and which are tightened up by right-and-left screws, each section being fastened to a portion of the staves in such a manner that when the sections of the hoops are disconnected by unhooking the T-shaped links the entire barrel will separate in sections of uniform width, each such section being composed of three staves, and when the barrel is thus taken apart its sections can be readily packed in a much smaller compass than barrels which cannot be taken apart.

In the drawing, A designates a barrel, which is composed of a series of staves, *a*, held together by hoops B. These hoops are made in sections, which are united together by T-shaped links *b*, (see Fig. 5,) one end of each of these links being made to catch in an open hook, *c*, formed at the end of the section, (see Fig. 4,) so that the same can be readily connected or disconnected. One of the sections of each hoop is provided with a right-and-left-hand screw, *d*, by means of which the hoop can be drawn up against the barrel or released therefrom. The sections of the hoops are provided with oblong slots *e* to receive screws or rivets *f*, which serve to connect said sections with the staves. As a general rule each barrel is made of from twelve to twenty staves, and my hoops are divided into four sections—each section to cover three or more of the staves—the slots *e* and screws *f* in said sections being so distributed that, when the hoops are taken apart, each of their sections remains connected with three or more of the staves; or, in other words, when the hoops are taken apart the barrel becomes separated in four sections, each composed of three or more staves, which are held together by screws *f* and the sections of the hoops.

When a barrel is to be taken apart I release the tightening-screws *d*, and, as the hoops become slack, the T-shaped links *b* can be unhooked from the open hooks *c*, and the barrel becomes separated in sections of uniform width, which can be packed in a small compass.

The tightening-screws *d* are prevented from being unscrewed entirely by straps *g*, which are attached to the barrel by screws *h*, and which are provided with oblong slots *i* to receive screws or stops *j*. When the tightening-screws are sufficiently unscrewed to allow of disengaging the sections of the hoops, the ends of the slots *i* strike the stops *j* and prevent the tightening-screws from being unscrewed any further. The parts forming the heads C of my barrels are connected by straps *k*, which are provided with handles *l* of any suitable form, so that said heads can be readily taken out when the hoops are released.

The principal advantages derived from my invention are as follows: First, a barrel fastened with hoops of the ordinary construction generally gets spoiled on being opened, the hoops being secured by nails, which can only be withdrawn with great trouble, and which, on being withdrawn, are liable to spoil the barrel by splitting or breaking the ends of the staves, while my barrels can be opened and closed many times without sustaining the least injury. Second, a barrel of the ordinary construction cannot be packed in a small compass, while my barrels can be taken apart and packed so that nine (9) barrels will occupy the space of one. Third, a barrel of the ordinary construction cannot be returned to the shipper because it generally gets spoiled on being opened, and, if it is not spoiled, it takes too much space for economical transportation.

My barrels can be used ten times over, so that the increase in the original cost of my barrel is much more than balanced when compared with the cost of barrels of the ordinary construction.

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

1. The hoops made in sections, which are connected together by T-shaped links and hooks, and which are tightened up by right-and-left screws, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination of sectional hoops, as described, with a barrel, A, substantially in the manner set forth.

EDWARD T. GILMORE.

Witnesses:
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