

No. 626,716.

Patented June 13, 1899.

F. C. OPPER.
BUNG FOR BEER BARRELS.

(Application filed Oct. 7, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig 1

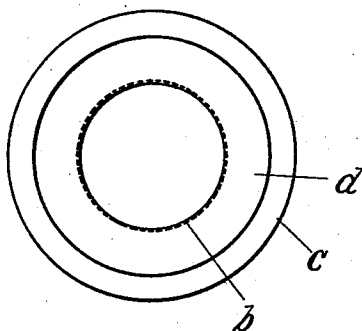
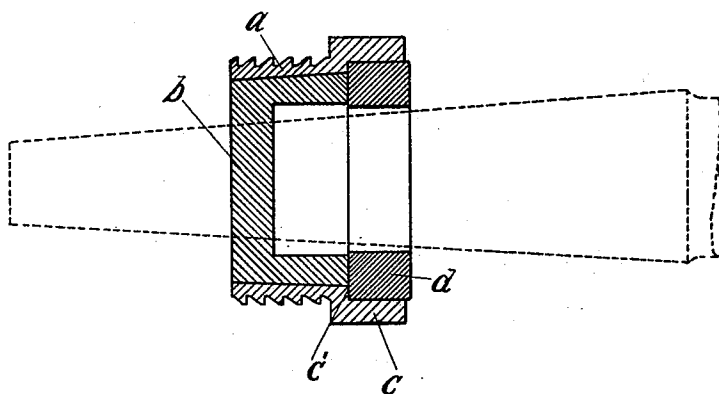


Fig. 2



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BUNG FOR BEER-BARRELS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,716, dated June 13, 1899.

Application filed October 7, 1898. Serial No. 692,921. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK C. OPPER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Bungs for Beer-Barrels, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a top view of a bung embodying said improvement. Fig. 2 is a view thereof in central vertical section.

The outlines of the faucet used with such a bung are denoted by dotted lines.

The object of the improvement is the production of a bung and its proper bushing for beer-kegs and the like, adapted to prevent leakage through the splitting of the wooden bushing when the faucet is inserted.

In the accompanying drawings the letter *a* denotes a bushing, preferably metallic, exteriorly threaded for the purpose of being screwed into the bung-hole of a keg of lager-beer or the like.

The letter *b* denotes a wooden cup fitting snugly to the interior of said bushing. The thin bottom thereof is intended and adapted to be broken off and driven out when a faucet is inserted for the purpose of drawing out the fluid contents of the keg.

The letter *c* denotes a ring or annulus fast to the metallic bushing. It acts as a container of the rubber gasket *d*.

The letter *c'* denotes a seat for the gasket, formed in or on the bushing. It is well that the top of the wooden cup *b* should be flush with the seat *c'*.

Such a bushing and such a wooden cup as have been already hereinbefore described are old in the art. In the use thereof when the faucet is driven through this wooden bushing, breaking away the bottom thereof, it is by no means rare that the sides of the wooden bushing are split, with the result of leakages that render the beer in the keg flat, stale, and valueless. One advantage of the present improvement is to provide a means which shall prevent such leakage, even though the wooden cup be broken after the manner already indicated, yet ordinarily and when the cup does

not break bringing only wood into contact with the contents of the keg.

With the use of the apparatus herein illustrated and described when the faucet is driven to place, breaking away the bottom of the wooden cup, which forms the bushing, then even though the sides of that cup may be broken in the operation the rubber gasket is so compressed against the ring which contains it and against the seat *c'* as to make and maintain a tight junction with the faucet.

The specific construction of the parts above designated is preferably as follows: The meeting faces of the bushing *a* and cup *b* usually taper toward their inner ends. They may be and are here so shown, yet this is not necessary. The interior of the cup, however, I prefer to make truly cylindrical and not tapering. As above indicated, the mouth or outer end of the cup stands about or exactly flush with the outwardly-facing seat or shoulder *c'* within the annulus *c*. This position may, however, be interrupted when the faucet is inserted. The gasket *d* may taper or flare; but it should be interiorly of smaller bore than that of the cup, as shown, and its inner end of course rests on the shoulder and covers the outer edge of the cup. The insertion of the tapering faucet-body (see dotted lines) has a tendency to force the gasket inward. This is resisted by the shoulder. The radial increase in size of this body during its inward passage bears the gasket radially outward. Hence it is compressed against the annulus. Meanwhile the cup is shattered. If its side walls remain intact as usual, well and good, and the faucet binds within them, especially at the outer end next the compressed gasket, forming a very close joint; yet presenting only wooden faces to the beer; but occasionally said cup-walls will be broken, as above suggested. Even then the compressed gasket, held in place by the shoulder and annulus, will prevent all leakage. Thus it will be seen that the cylindrical interior shape of the cup, the shoulder, the gasket, smaller internally than the cup, and the contact of cup and gasket under usual conditions all tend to one useful purpose and combine in its successful accomplishment.

I claim as my improvement—

1. A bung comprising an exteriorly-threaded bushing, an annulus fast to the outer end thereof, both of rigid material and with a shoulder between them, a gasket of compressible material within the annulus and against the shoulder, and a cup of friable material fast within the bushing in rear of the gasket, the internal diameter being larger than that of the gasket, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a bung, the combination with the metallic bushing having an integral ring or annulus at its outer end and an outwardly-facing shoulder within it, and a rubber gasket within the annulus and resting on said shoulder; of a wooden cup within the bushing and having

its outer end or mouth normally in contact with the gasket, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a bung, the combination with the metallic bushing having an outwardly-facing shoulder within it, and a rubber gasket resting on said shoulder; of a wooden cup within the bushing and having its outer end or mouth normally in contact with the gasket, its interior being truly cylindrical and larger than the bore of the gasket, as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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