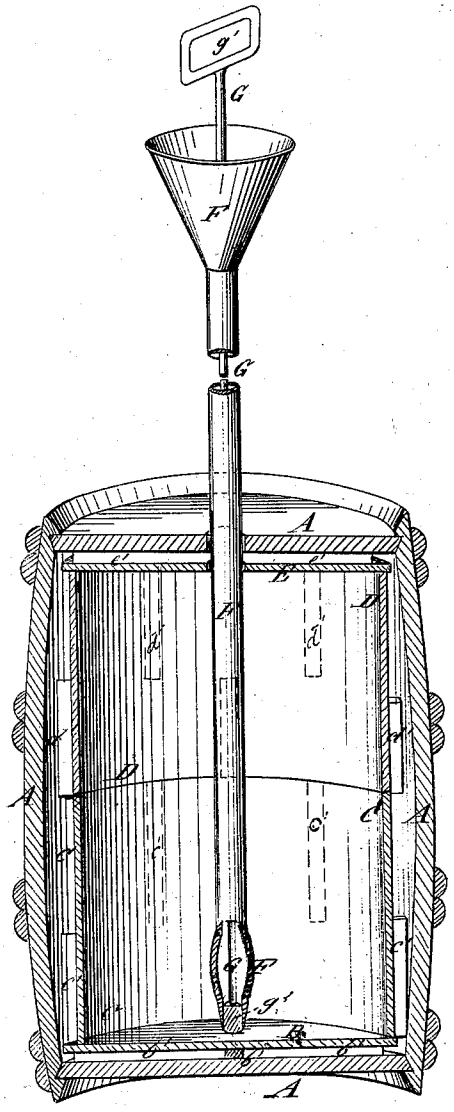
J. WILHELM.

Butter-Preserving Firkin.

No. 165,288. Patented July 6, 1875.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN WILHELM, OF ORRVILLE, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUTTER-PRESERVING FIRKINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **165,288**, dated July 6, 1875; application filed April 24, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WILHELM, of Orrville, in the county of Wayne and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Butter-Firkins, of which the following is a specification:

The figure is a longitudinal section of a butter-firkin, to which my improvement has been applied.

The object of this invention is to surround butter packed in firkins with brine or pickle, so as to prevent it from becoming rancid.

The invention relates to a butter-firkin so constructed as to adapt it for receiving brine or pickle, which, by surrounding the butter on all sides, shall prevent it becoming rancid.

The construction of the firkin is as follows: A represents an ordinary butter-firkin, about the construction of which there is nothing new. Upon the bottom of the firkin A is placed a bottom or head, B, made of thin steamed wood, and to the lower side of which are attached thin cross-strips b' from an eighth to a fourth of an inch thick. Upon the bottom B is placed a hoop, C, made of thin steamed wood, to the outer side of which are attached strips or cleats c' of wood from an eighth to a fourth of an inch thick. The hoop C is made of a depth equal to about half the depth of the firkin A. Upon the upper edge of the hoop C is placed another similar hoop, D, also provided with cleats d' and extending up almost to the upper head of the firkin. If desired, the hoops C D may be made narrower and more of them used. Upon the upper edge of the hoop D is placed a top or head, E, having cross-cleats e' attached to its upper side, and upon which the top head of the firkin A rests. By this construction a space will be left all around between the butter and the firkin to receive brine or pickle to prevent air or the wood of the firkin from coming in contact with the butter and spoiling it. To introduce the brine, I employ a tube, F, which is funnel-shaped at its upper end and contracted at its lower end. A rod, G, with handle g^1 serves to adjust the plug g^2 to close or open the lower end of said tube. The latter, as will be readily understood, must be sufficiently enlarged at some point to allow the liquid to pass by the plug when raised or drawn up. When the tube is to be used the plug g^2 is forced down to close its mouth and the brine poured in. The tube is then inserted in the hole in the top of the firkin and forced down through the butter. The plug g^2 is then drawn up by means of rod g, and the brine or pickle discharges into the firkin. When the liquid has risen to the top of the firkin the tube is withdrawn and the hole in its head closed by a plug. The tube is made of sufficient length to induce, when filled, a considerable hydrostatic pressure, and thus cause the liquid to force itself out through the butter.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of the heads B E, having cross-bars or cleats b' e' attached to their outer sides, and the hoops C D, one, two, or more, having cleats c' d' attached to their outer sides, with an ordinary butter-firkin, A, substantially as herein shown and described.

JOHN WILHELM.

Witnesses:

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