

(No Model.)

C. L. J. POKRANTZ & J. C. DE ST. HUBERT.
FAUCET AND AIR INLET ATTACHMENT.

No. 568,921.

Patented Oct. 6, 1896.

Fig. 1.

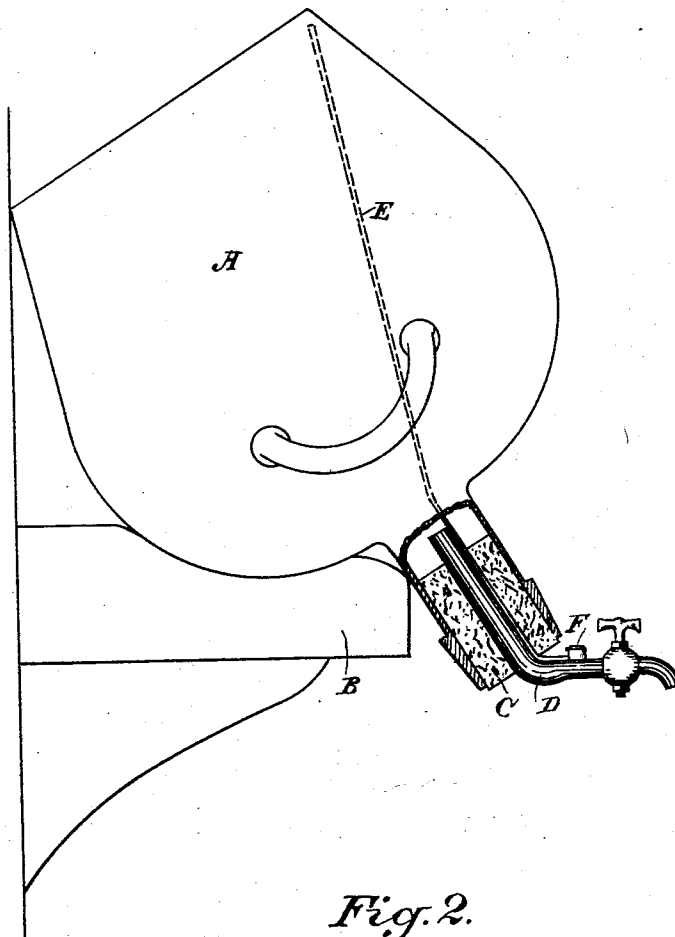
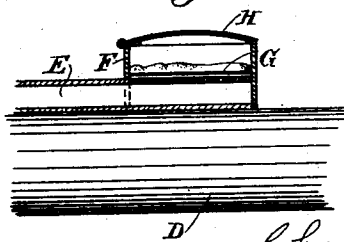


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES L. J. POKRANTZ AND JULES CH. DE ST. HUBERT, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

FAUCET AND AIR-INLET ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 568,921, dated October 6, 1896.

Application filed February 25, 1896. Serial No. 580,741. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES L. J. POKRANTZ, a citizen of Germany, and JULES CH. DE ST. HUBERT, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improvement in Faucet and Air-Inlet Attachments for Drawing Wines; and we hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

Our invention relates to a faucet and air-inlet attachment for demijohns, casks, and other vessels containing wines and a means for preparing the air which is admitted into the vessel so that it will not affect the wine and cause it to deteriorate.

It consists in certain details of construction which will be more fully explained by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view showing the application of my device to a demijohn. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view of the air-inlet chamber.

Wines of the class known as "clarets" and the lighter wines containing but little alcohol are easily affected by contact with the air and soon become sour and lose their fine flavor and quality. They are therefore ordinarily put up in bottles, and when the bottle is once opened its contents must be used or the remainder will become valueless. For this reason it is not ordinarily possible to keep such wines in bulk and draw from the cask or containing vessel when wanted, and the dealer is obliged to go to the expense of bottles, corks, cases, and all the considerable expenses necessary in putting up the goods in this style of packages. Our invention is designed to do away with this method of packing such wines and to enable the purchaser to draw from a large package in any quantity that is needed without causing deterioration of what remains by reason of the air coming in contact with and oxidizing or souring the wine.

In the present case we have shown our device as applied to the ordinary five-gallon demijohn A, which is turned bottom up and supported upon a suitable stand B fitted over it. The mouth of the demijohn or vessel is tightly closed or corked by a stopper C, and

into this stopper enters the inner end of a faucet D, which is made of any usual or suitable construction, the shank being adapted to the particular package for which the faucet is to be used.

If used in conjunction with a cask the faucet may have the ordinary straight shank. In the present case we have shown the shank bent so as to pass approximately centrally through the stopper C and project a slight distance above the interior end as the demijohn stands in its inverted position.

Along the upper side of the faucet-shank extends a small air-tube E, which is made of tin or suitable flexible metal, so that it can be bent to suit the package with which it is to be used. The upper end of this tube within the demijohn is long enough to reach very nearly to the bottom and the highest interior point as the demijohn stands in its inverted position. This tube extends outwardly along the top of the faucet-shank to the exterior of the vessel, and upon the top of the tube is fitted a chamber F. This chamber is made of any suitable size—it may be one inch in diameter by one-half an inch deep—and the bottom is connected with the top of the pipe E, the latter being perforated full of small holes to form an open communication between the two. Above these openings is a disk G, formed of fine wire-gauze, or a plate perforated with exceedingly small holes. Upon the surface of this plate is placed sulfur in a finely-pulverized condition, such as flour of sulfur.

The top of the chamber F is provided with a cover H, which may be hinged or otherwise attached and which closes down over it after the chamber is filled with sulfur, but which allows a free access of air from above to pass through the sulfur, thence through the screen and the holes in the tube and into the vessel containing the wine.

The operation will then be as follows: The demijohn being in its ordinary upright position, the faucet is introduced through the cork or stopper, the whole being made air-tight, the air-tube E having first been bent so that it will extend into the upper and higher angle when the demijohn is inverted. The demijohn is then inverted and placed upon its stand and

the casing F may be removed or may be empty, so that any small quantity of wine which has possibly entered the tube E can first be allowed to escape after the demijohn has been
 5 inverted. The chamber is then filled with sulfur, and the apparatus is in readiness for use. Whenever the faucet is opened to draw any of the contents of the demijohn, air will enter into the chamber F, passing through
 10 the sulfur and into the perforated tube E, thence into the upper part of the demijohn, thus taking the place of the wine which is withdrawn and preventing such a vacuum as would prevent the flow through the faucet.
 15 By passing the air through the sulfur in this manner it is rendered innocuous to the wine and the wine will remain unchanged until the whole of the contents have been withdrawn. Any lees or sediment will naturally settle into
 20 the angle formed between the neck and the lower side of the cork and will not interfere with the drawing of the wine in clear condition.

Having thus described our invention, what
 25 we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a vessel and a faucet by which its contents may be withdrawn, of an air-tube leading from a point outside
 30 the vessel to a point into the upper part of its interior, and being formed of bendable material so that it may be bent to suit the vessel with which it is to be used, said tube having its outer end perforated, a readily-removable
 35 casing adapted to be supported on the upper side of the faucet-shank, and to surround the inlet end of the air-tube, and a body of pul-

verized material contained within the casing through which the air passes before it enters the tube. 40

2. The combination with a demijohn or vessel containing wine of a faucet fitting the lower part through which the wine may be drawn, an air-tube extending from the upper
 45 interior part of the demijohn along the line of the faucet having fine perforations in the outer end for the admission of air, a chamber surrounding said outer end having a screen covering the air-inlets to the pipe, and a body
 50 of pulverized sulfur covering said screen so that air admitted to take the place of the wine when drawn must first pass through the sulfur before entering the receptacle.

3. A device to preserve wines from the direct action of atmospheric air, consisting of a
 55 containing vessel and a faucet for withdrawing the contents therefrom, a tube or passage leading from the interior of the vessel to the exterior thereof, and substantially parallel with the shank of the faucet, and having an
 60 air-inlet at its outer end to admit air to the vessel, a readily-removable casing to be seated upon said shank and to be fitted over said outer end and means for supporting a body
 65 of pulverized material within the casing and over the air-inlet of the tube whereby the air is filtered before being admitted to the vessel.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands.

CHARLES L. J. POKRANTZ.
 JULES CH. DE ST. HUBERT.

Witnesses:

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 JESSIE C. BRODIE.