

J. T. TOMKINS.

Method of Securing Barrel Heads.

No. 45,771.

Patented Jan. 3, 1865.

Fig. 1.

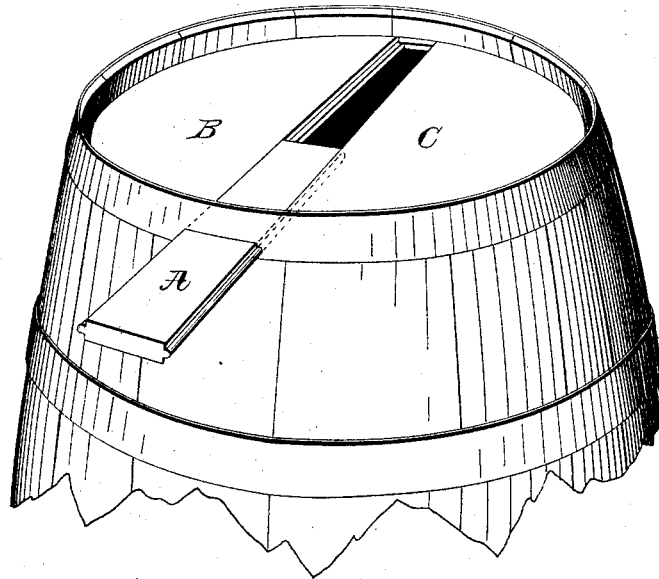
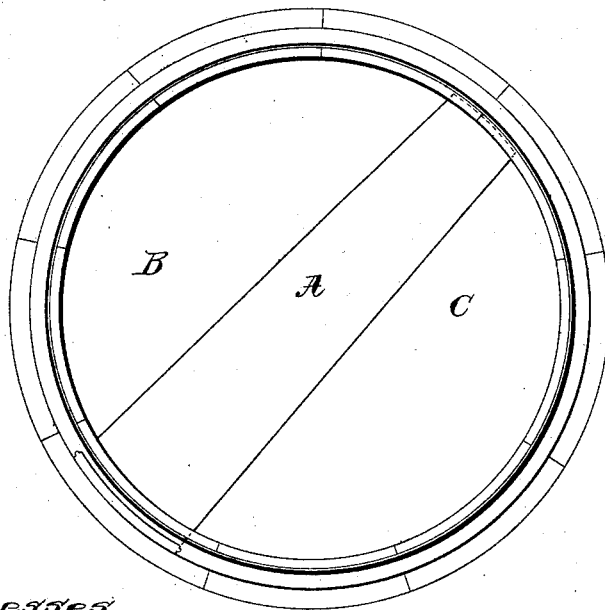


Fig 2.



Witnesses.

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JOSEPH T. TOMKINS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVED METHOD OF SECURING BARREL-HEADS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 45,771, dated January 3, 1865; antedated November 24, 1861.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH T. TOMKINS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in the Method of Forming the Heads of Barrels, Casks, and Kegs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 a top view, of the head of a barrel or other vessel having my improvement therein.

The present method of heading up and unheading barrels, it is well known, consists in first loosening the hoops, and thus expanding the staves, so as to permit the head to be inserted into or removed from the chine or groove in the staves. This process is comparatively difficult, and in the heading up generally requires an expert to accomplish it. It is also more or less destructive of the hoops and staves, being, in fact, wholly unmechanical, and practiced only because heretofore there has been no other feasible way invented. My invention, on the contrary, overcomes all these objections, and for heavy goods—such as marble-dust, lime, cement, and plaster—can be afforded without any material increase of the cost, greatly facilitating the heading and unheading, leaving the hoops, staves, chine, and head perfect, or nearly so, and thus rendering the whole structure durable and capable of being repeatedly filled and used.

The nature of my invention will be at once understood by referring to the drawings.

A, Figure 1, is a center piece, fitted and shaped in such a way as that it may be inserted between the parts of the head B and C, and when driven fully home, Fig. 2, will force the parts B and C into proper position, and thus with them form a complete head.

In Fig. 1 the center piece, A, and the parts B and C are represented as plowed and grooved, and A is represented as passing through the single-chine hoop on the barrel. For coarse work neither of these is essential, as the piece A may be fitted in plain and variously modified in relation to the hoop or hoops, and in some instances it might perhaps be inserted inside of the circle of the hoops and exterior to the parts B and C.

To open the barrel it is only necessary to cut out a little from the part A, so as to form a bearing, which, being struck by a hammer, will start the piece into the position shown in Fig. 1, and the head may then be taken out.

The part A may be variously shaped—such as parallel or wedged form—and introduced at the center or on either side of the center, and one or more may be used.

For tight work—such as for putting up fish, pork, and beef—it may be necessary to pack the joints formed by the piece A, and such packing may be accomplished in various ways by the use of rubber or other suitable material, and the part A may be formed slightly thicker and wedging at its exterior end, so as when inserted it will make a thorough joint at the hoop side. Should it be found necessary, the part A, when inserted, may be secured in its place by means of a catch-bolt or nail.

What I claim as new and of my own invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The use of the piece A, substantially in the manner and for the purposes described.

JOSEPH T. TOMKINS.

Witnesses:

JAMES E. MCBETH,

JAMES WATSON CAIRNS.