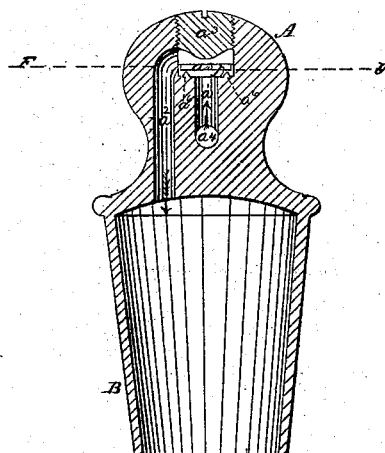
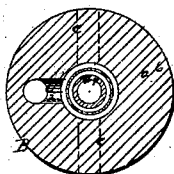


*M. Hey,*  
*Cask Air-Vent,*  
*N<sup>o</sup> 54,904.* *Patented May 22, 1866.*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Witnesses.*

*Wm. Morrison*  
 *Jas. H. Moore*

*Inventor*

*Michael Hey*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL HEY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVED BUNG FOR BEER-CASKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 54,904, dated May 22, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MICHAEL HEY, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ventilating Beer-Bungs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents the inner side of a vertical half-section of a ventilating beer-bung; Fig. 2, a transverse or horizontal section of the same below the dotted line *xy* of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 my improved valve-disk, like letters of reference indicating the same parts when in both figures.

The object of my improvement is to afford a valve for a self-venting beer-barrel bung that will not be liable to become fast or obstructed in its operation from the adhesive or gummy nature of the beer, which may at any time come into direct contact with it.

My invention consists in giving to either the face of the valve-disk or its seat a sharp edge bearing, substantially as hereinafter described and set forth.

In the drawings, A B represent a self-venting beer-barrel bung provided with the usual inlet-openings *a'* *a*<sup>2</sup>, and D the valve.

The bung A B is cast of brass or other suitable metal and provided with a valve-seat in its upper end, the opening to which is closed air-tight by means of a screw-plug, *a*<sup>3</sup>.

The part of the inlet-opening which is below the valve D communicates at its lower end with the external air through a diametrical opening, *a*<sup>4</sup>, in the neck of the bung. In Fig. 2 this opening is indicated by the dotted lines *c c*. The space which is above the valve-seat

communicates with the remaining portion, *a* of the inlet.

The valve D, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, consists of a loose disk of metal, *a*<sup>5</sup>, and the seat upon which the said disk rests has a raised annular portion, *a*<sup>6</sup>, with a sharp edge upward, surrounding the inlet-opening *a'* thereat, and the space above the disk *a*<sup>5</sup> is made sufficiently high to allow the said disk to be raised by the passage of the air from beneath it upward, but yet low enough to prevent the said disk from being turned over or out of its place thereby.

The seat of the valve D should be made flat, and the sharp annular edge *a*<sup>6</sup> be formed on the under side of the disk, as shown in Fig. 3, thus avoiding the annular groove in the seat, (shown in Figs. 1 and 2,) which becomes filled with gummy matter and causes the loose disk to stick.

It will be seen that as the contact portions of the valve D consist of a plain flat seat and a sharp annular edge on a light loose disk only, there is not sufficient contact-surface to permit adhesion, so as to prevent the passage of external air into the barrel as the beer is drawn out from time to time, and yet that it will effectually prevent the escape through it of any carbonic-acid gas which may be generated at any time in the barrel.

Having thus fully described my improvement, I do not desire to claim nor to use a sharp edge on the seat of a valve; but,

I claim—

The sharp-edged disk, Fig. 3, when applied to operate upon a flat seat in a ventilating beer-bung as and for the purpose described.

Witnesses:

MICHAEL HEY.

BENJ. MORISON,  
JAS. WINSMORE.