(Model.)

F. M. LA BOITEAUX.

VENT BUNG.

No. 347,723. Patented Aug. 17, 1886.

Fig. 1.

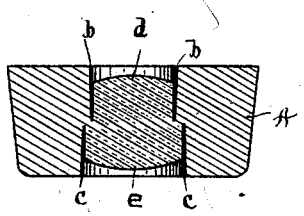
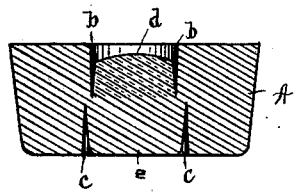


Fig. 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK M. LA BOITEAUX, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO HENRY VARWIG, OF SAME PLACE.

VENT-BUNG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,723, dated August 17, 1886.

Application filed June 19, 1886. Serial No. 205,675. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK M. LA BOITEAUX, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Vent-Bungs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of bungs in which the grain of the wood is horizontal or at right angles to the axis of the bung, and which are so made that the center portion may be broken or pushed in by a suitable instrument when a vent is required. In bungs of this class now generally used a portion of the material from the center of the bung is removed or incisions are made, leaving a web, which is broken by driving in the venting-instrument. If this web is left thick, it requires considerable force to break it and drive it in, and if left so thin as to be easily driven in, then the gases, which are under considerable pressure in the vessel, are liable to escape, thereby injuring the beer, ale, or other gaseous liquor.

To overcome these objections is the object of my present invention, and this object I accomplish by making incisions in both faces of the bung without removing any of the wood, and then compressing either one or both of the central portions surrounded by the incisions, so as to completely close the pores of the wood. This prevents leakage, and at the same time makes the intervening web or unsevered central portion brittle, so that it will readily break away when the venting-instrument is inserted.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a diametrical sectional view of my preferred form of bung. Fig. 2 is a similar view of a modified form.

A is the body of the bung. *b* is a circular incision cut in the top of the bung, and *c* is a circular incision cut in the bottom of the bung, the incision *c* being preferably of greater diameter than the upper incision. The plugs *d* and *e*, which are within the incisions, are compressed, as shown in Fig. 1, and the bung is complete.

In the form shown in Fig. 2 the upper plug, *d*, is compressed, while the lower plug, *e*, is not. The compression of one plug will be sufficient to prevent leakage; but I prefer to compress both plugs, as it makes a better bung and requires no more work.

In practice the incisions *b c* are made and the centers *d e* are compressed at a single operation by a cutter hollowed out the reverse of the part *e* and projecting up from the center of the compression-cup, which cup is a counterpart of the bung A, and a similar cutter, the interior of which is the reverse of the part *d*.

What I claim is—

The bung A, having incisions *b c*, and having the central plug within one or both incisions compressed, substantially as shown and described.

FRANK M. LA BOITEAUX.

Witnesses:
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