18. The safety valve of claim 15, wherein the ring assembly is configured to allow the flow tube to move toward the surface of the wellbore by one-half inches or more at least partially independent of movement toward the surface of the wellbore by the piston rod.

19. The safety valve of claim 15, wherein the ring assembly is configured to allow the flow tube to move toward the surface of the wellbore by an amount that is in a range of one inch to six inches at least partially independent of movement toward the surface of the wellbore by the piston rod.

20. The safety valve of claim 15, wherein the ring assembly comprises:

a ring external to the flow tube and defining a chamber configured to receive part of the flow tube; and

a take-up spring disposed in the chamber, the take-up spring being biased normally away from the surface of the wellbore and configured for being compressed by the flow tube in response to the closing force and in response to the flow tube moving at least partially independent to movement by the piston rod.