

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. Be it known that I Robert Thomson, of Kinning Park Engine Works, Kinning Park, in the County of Renfrew, Scotland, Engineer and Tea Planter, am in possession of an Invention for "Improvements ⁱⁿ ~~for~~ apparatus for withering tea leaf" and I the said Robert Thomson do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement thereof, that is to say:-

My said Invention relates to the racks, trays, or shelves upon which tea leaf is spread for the purpose of being withered or dried by atmospheric action, and its object is to improve the construction of the apparatus.

In apparatus made with my improvements the racks or shelves consist of broad bands of close-meshed wire netting stretched in long lengths between end standard frames. The netting bands are longitudinally horizontal but inclined up from their outer to their inner edges, and are arranged in tiers one over the other with just sufficient spaces between to allow of the green tea leaf being spread upon them. One end standard frame has fixed to it inclined bars upon which the ends of the wire-netting bands are fixed by being clamped between the fixed bars and bars bolted thereto. The other ends of the wire-netting bands are clamped between pairs of bars which are connected to the end standard frame by rods which are hooked to take hold of the clamping bars and are screwed to receive nuts on the outside of the frame for the purpose of stretching the bands. The bands are kept to their proper width by being secured to intermediate standard frames.

And in order that my said Invention and the manner of performing the same may be properly understood I hereunto append a sheet of explanatory drawings, to be

hereinafter referred to, and showing apparatus for withering tea leaf as made with my improvements.

Figures, 1, and 2, of the drawings are respectively a front and an end elevation part of the front elevation being broken away for convenience. Figure, 3, shows part of a wire-netting band with part of a stretching device hereinafter described. Figure, 4, is a side view partly in section of the stretching device as applied to the wire-netting band. In these drawings the same reference letters are used to mark the same or like parts wherever they are repeated.

The racks or shelves consist of broad bands, B, of close-meshed wire netting stretched in long lengths between end standard frames, C, and D. In figure, 1, the bands, B, are shown in outline only for convenience. The standard frames, C, and D, are made of angle iron or steel; and are either fixed with plates, F, in a concrete floor or are bolted to a wooden floor by feet, G, formed on their lower ends; whilst diagonal stays, H, similarly fixed to the floor are provided to enable them to resist the stretching strain; or for the same purpose parts of the standards may be extended, as shown by the dotted lines, J, and fixed to the roof of the building or shed, in which case the diagonal stays are not required. The wire-netting bands, B, are longitudinally horizontal but inclined up from their outer to their inner edges; and are arranged in tiers one over the other with just sufficient spaces between to allow of the green tea leaf being spread upon them. One end standard frame, D, has fixed to it inclined bars, K, upon which the ends of the wire-netting bands, B, are fixed by being clamped between the fixed bars, K, and bars, L, bolted thereto. The other ends of the wire-netting bands, B, are clamped between pairs of bars, K, and L, which are connected to the end standard frame, C, by rods, M, which are hooked to take

hold of the clamping bars, E, and L, and are screwed to receive thumb or other nuts, N, on the outside of the frame for the purpose of stretching the bands. The wire-netting bands, B, the selvages of which are strengthened by extra wires, P, are kept to their proper width by means of hooks, Q, with screw shanks and nuts secured to intermediate standard frames, R, placed at suitable intervals along the extent of the bands. For keeping the bands, B, at their proper widths between the standards, R, stretching devices are provided. The stretching device consists of a tube, S, which has at one end a diametrical notch, T, in it, and near the other end a longitudinal slot, V, cut in it at one side to allow of a screw hook, Q, inserted in the end part, W, of the tube having a short movement in the tube. The tube, S, is passed (as shown in figure, 4,) through a middle part of the band, B, and the selvage at one side is inserted in the notch, T, and at the other side in the hook, Q, the stretching action being effected by a screw nut, N, on the shank of the hook. A single tier of the bands, B, may be placed with their higher ends against a wall, and other tiers may be arranged in pairs with their higher ends together. The wire netting may vary in different cases from a mesh of about 1/2 inch to about 3/4 inch.

With the described arrangement of racks or shelves the tea leaf when withered is delivered into suitable receptacles, or simply shaking the shelves or applying a few smart taps to them.

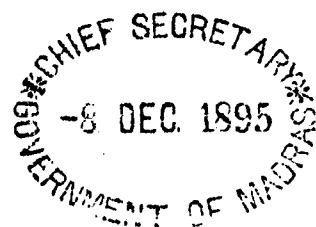
Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said Invention and in what manner the same is to be performed I declare that what I claim is :-

- 1 - The construction, arrangement, and combination of parts constituting the improved apparatus for withering tea leaf substantially as hereinbefore described.

4145- Public

No. 2995 P.

Recd 8/12/95
Regd 11/12/95
Encls 2



The accompanying copy of a ^{Specification} ~~Design~~, of which the original (bearing register number 145 of 1895) was ^{filed} ~~registered~~ on the 1st of November 1895 in the Office of the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, is forwarded to the ^{Government} ~~Chief Commissioner~~ of Madras in conformity with the provisions of Section 11 of the Inventions and Designs Act, 1888.

A. V. V. V.

Offg. Secretary under the Inventions and Designs Act.

CMS

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE & AGRICULTURE,

(PATENTS),

Calcutta, the 30th Novr 1895.

[Pub.]
[10.]

100-13-9-48.

SPECIFICATION.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following endorsement of the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated 30th November 1895, No. 3000 P.

ORDER— 19 December 1895, No. 1488

THE following Notification will be published in the Gazette once.

The following specification of an invention has been filed in accordance with Section 11 of Act V of 1888 (the "Inventions and Designs Act"), and is open to inspection at the office of the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, on the payment of a fee of one rupee :—

A new cap or stopper for sealing or fastening tins, cans, drums, and the like, containing oils, paints, kerosene, and other inflammable and explosive materials."

(By Conrad Field Mandham, of the Metropolitan Docks, Hong Kong, Engineer.)

*Ok for 65.
12/12*

Gazette. 17/12/95

Specification.

Public

1488

1984 5