

## **Specification of Gilbert Thonger : labels for bottles or jars containing poisons.**

### **Contributors**

Thonger, Gilbert.

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A.D. 1863, 16th *NOVEMBER*. N° 2866.

SPECIFICATION

OF

GILBERT THONGER.

LABELS FOR BOTTLES OR JARS  
CONTAINING POISONS.

LONDON:

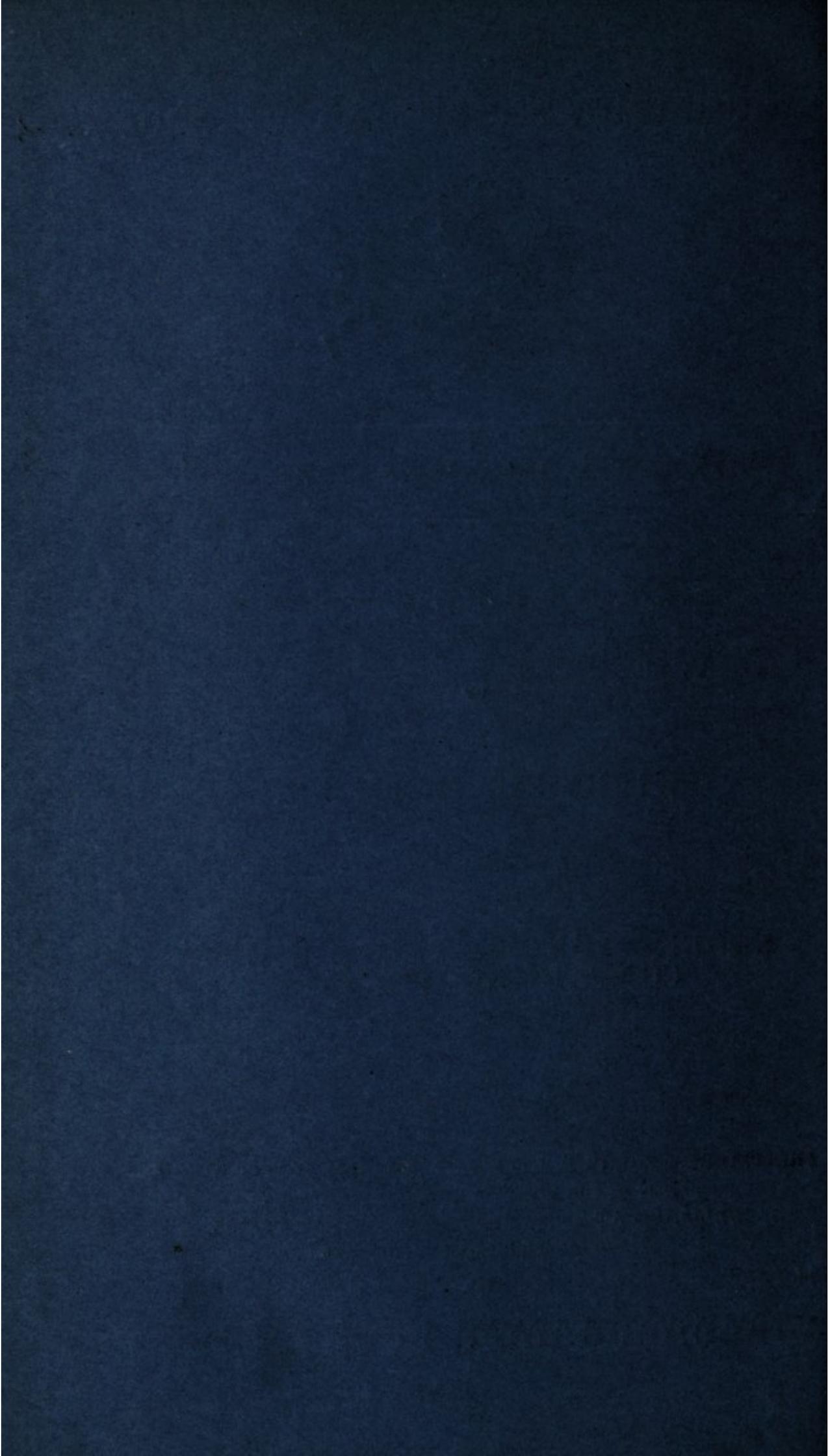
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1864.





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A.D. 1863, 16th *NOVEMBER*. N° 2866.  
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Labels for Bottles or Jars containing Poisons.

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LETTERS PATENT to Gilbert Thonger, of Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Chemist, for the Invention of "**IMPROVED MODES OF PREVENTING ACCIDENTS ARISING FROM THE SALE OR USE OF POISONS.**"

Sealed the 10th May 1864, and dated the 16th November 1863.

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PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said Gilbert Thonger at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 16th November 1863.

I, GILBERT THONGER, of Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Chemist,  
5 do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "**IMPROVED MODES OF PREVENTING ACCIDENTS ARISING FROM THE SALE OR USE OF POISONS,**" to be as follows, that is to say:—

My Invention consists in attaching to bottles or other receptacles for containing poisons labels sanded or roughened in any other suitable manner upon  
10 the surface; this may be done by attaching sand paper or glass paper labels, or by using embossed or raised labels, or by sanding or otherwise roughening a portion or the whole of the bottle or jar or other receptacles after having previously applied an adhesive solution to which the sand or roughening material will adhere. The advantage of this mode would be, that whether in  
15 daylight or dark no one could handle bottles which had these poison labels

*Thonger's Improved Modes of Preventing Accidents from the Sale of Poisons.*

without being aware of it; and if the bottle be required to contain other matters not poisonous, the label or roughening material may readily be removed.

**SPECIFICATION** in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said Gilbert Thonger in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 14th May 1864.

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, GILBERT THONGER, of Birmingham, in the County of Warwick, Chemist, send greeting.**

**WHEREAS** Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Sixteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, in the twenty-seventh year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Gilbert Thonger Her special license that I, the said Gilbert Thonger, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Gilbert Thonger, my executors, administrators, and assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for  
 “**IMPROVED MODES OF PREVENTING ACCIDENTS ARISING FROM THE SALE OR USE OF POISONS,**” upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said Gilbert Thonger, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent.

**NOW KNOW YE,** that I, the said Gilbert Thonger, do hereby declare the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement (that is to say):—

My Invention consists in attaching to bottles or other receptacles for containing poisons labels sanded or roughened in any other suitable manner upon the surface; this may be done by attaching sand paper or glass paper labels, or by using embossed or raised labels, or by sanding or otherwise roughening

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a portion or the whole of the bottle or jar or other receptacle after having previously applied an adhesive solution to which the sand or roughening material will adhere. The advantage of this mode would be, that whether in daylight or dark no one could handle bottles which had these poison labels  
5 without being aware of it, and if the bottle be required to contain other matters not poisonous, the label or roughening material may readily be removed.

The object of this Invention has been to provide a means whereby the sense of touch may be employed in warning dispensers and other persons  
10 using poisons. The danger arising from relying upon sight alone has been fully exemplified by numerous deplorable accidents, many of which have occurred to the most experienced operators; and it is therefore only by appealing to touch that a sufficient caution can be conveyed to the dispenser. This will be effected by the roughened surface of the label applied to the  
15 vessel, or by the roughening material on the surface of the vessel itself, containing the poison, and whether this be done by a sanded, or roughened, or embossed label, or as it may also be effected by raised letters stamped or cut out, and attached to and projecting from the surface of the bottle or vessel, or by a strip or band of sanded or roughened material applied to any part of the  
20 bottle or vessel, the effect will be, that the dispenser has his attention forcibly drawn to the fact that he is using ingredients with which caution is requisite.

I would remark that I am well aware that it has long since been attempted to use embossed labels or letters for this purpose, but these have been of the ordinary description of embossed paper work, that is to say, they have been  
25 raised on one surface and hollow or sunk on the other, and for this reason they have failed, inasmuch as the act of wetting the back to make it adhere to the bottle has drawn down the raised part in drying, and even where this has not resulted, by the constant use of the bottle the raised or embossed parts have been worn or sunk to the level of the rest, or at any rate to such  
30 an extent as to become practically useless as a caution label. It must be observed, then, that if embossed or raised labels or letters be employed, they must be made perfectly solid, or be filled in at the back with some firm and unresisting compound that will prevent their contracting or returning to a level; the use of the ordinary embossed or raised label or letters forms  
35 therefore no part of my improvements.

Having thus described the nature of my said Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, I claim, without limiting myself to these exact details, the several improvements applicable to bottles, jars, or

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other receptacles for poisons for the purpose of preventing or reducing the liability to accidents, substantially as herein more fully set forth and specified.

In witness whereof, I, the said Gilbert Thonger, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Thirteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord 5 One thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

GILBERT THONGER. (L.S.)

LONDON:

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