

## **Specification of Thomas Wicksteed : manufacture of sewage manure.**

### **Contributors**

Wicksteed, Thomas.

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A.D. 1854 . . . . . N° 192.

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S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

THOMAS WICKSTEED.

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MANUFACTURE OF SEWAGE MANURE.

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L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
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PUBLISHED AT THE QUEEN'S PRINTING OFFICE, EAST HARDING STREET,  
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1854.



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A.D. 1854 . . . . . N° 192.

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**Manufacture of Sewage Manure.**

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**LETTERS PATENT** to Thomas Wicksteed, of Leicester, in the County of Leicester, Civil Engineer, for the Invention of "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF SEWAGE MANURE.**"

Sealed the 7th July 1854, and dated the 26th January 1854.

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**PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION** left by the said Thomas Wicksteed at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 26th January 1854.

I, THOMAS WICKSTEED, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF SEWAGE MANURE**" to be as follows:—

I take the precipitate obtained from sewage water, by means of lime or lime and charcoal, or other substances, and I press it into moulds either by hand or by means of presses, or other machinery, so as to form it into bricks or blocks, either solid or hollow. These bricks may be loosely stacked under an open shed, so as to allow the air to pass freely among them, by which means I am enabled to complete the drying of the sewage manure with rapidity.

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*Wicksteed's Improvements in the Manufacture of Sewage Manure.*

**SPECIFICATION** in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said Thomas Wicksteed in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 24th July 1854.

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME**, I, THOMAS WICKSTEED, of Leicester, in the County of Leicester, Civil Engineer, send 5 greeting.

**WHEREAS** Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Twenty-sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, in the seventeenth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the 10 said Thomas Wicksteed, Her special licence that I, the said Thomas Wicksteed, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Thomas Wicksteed, 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 15 vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF SEWAGE MANURE**," upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said Thomas Wicksteed, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention, 20 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 Thomas Wicksteed, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, 25 to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement thereof (that is to say):—

I precipitate the fertilizing matter from sewage water by means of lime, either alone or together with other substances; and I collect the precipitate, and partially dry it either by exposure to the air, or by means of centrifugal 30 machinery as described in the Specifications of certain former Letters Patent granted to me, and severally bearing date at Westminster, the Twenty-fourth day of February, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-one; and at Edinburgh, the Nineteenth day of February in the same year; and at Dublin, the Twenty-sixth day of February in the same year. 35

The precipitate being thus brought into a plastic or pasty state, is moulded into hollow blocks or bricks of any convenient form, or into blocks or bricks perforated through with holes. These blocks or bricks are then exposed to



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*Wicksteed's Improvements in the Manufacture of Sewage Manure.*

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the air, either with or without the aid of artificial heat. By reason of the hollow spaces or perforations the drying of the blocks or bricks is greatly facilitated, as they may be piled or stacked upon one another in such manner as to admit of the air passing readily through the hollow spaces or perforations.

These hollow bricks or blocks may be made in a similar manner to that in which hollow or perforated bricks of clay are manufactured, by placing the plastic precipitate in a cylindrical or other vessel, from which it is forced out by a piston, or other means, through a mould or die of rectangular, circular or other form, in which is or are supported a core or cores. The plastic substance is thus forced out as a hollow mass, perforated with as many holes as there are cores in the die. This perforated mass is cut into convenient lengths or pieces, which are then dried as herein-before mentioned. Any other suitable machinery or apparatus for making hollow or perforated bricks may be employed for this purpose.

The hollow bricks or blocks when dry may be pulverized if desired.

Having now described the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I wish it to be understood that what I claim is,—

The manufacture of hollow or perforated bricks or blocks of the precipitate obtained by adding lime, either alone or together with other substances, to sewage water, so as to facilitate the drying of the said precipitate as herein-before described.

In witness whereof, I, the said Thomas Wicksteed, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Twenty-second day of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

THO<sup>s</sup> WICKSTEED. (L.S.)

Witness,

CHARLES THOMAS WARD,

7, Market Street,

Leicester.

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LONDON :

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1854.

THE PATENT ACT, 1852

the act shall be void as to the whole or as to any part thereof.

10. Where the subject-matter of an invention is such that it is not possible to confine the invention to a particular class of persons, the invention shall be deemed to be an invention of the whole people, and the patent shall be granted to the whole people.

11. Where the subject-matter of an invention is such that it is not possible to confine the invention to a particular class of persons, the invention shall be deemed to be an invention of the whole people, and the patent shall be granted to the whole people.

12. Where the subject-matter of an invention is such that it is not possible to confine the invention to a particular class of persons, the invention shall be deemed to be an invention of the whole people, and the patent shall be granted to the whole people.

13. Where the subject-matter of an invention is such that it is not possible to confine the invention to a particular class of persons, the invention shall be deemed to be an invention of the whole people, and the patent shall be granted to the whole people.

THE PATENT ACT, 1852

WITNESSETH  
GEOFFREY THOMAS WARD  
A. M. Clerk of the Court  
LONDON.