

Specification of John Samuel Dawes : collecting night soil for agricultural purposes.

Contributors

Dawes, John Samuel.

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A.D. 1859, *14th MARCH.* N° 648.

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

OF

JOHN SAMUEL DAWES.

COLLECTING NIGHT SOIL FOR
AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

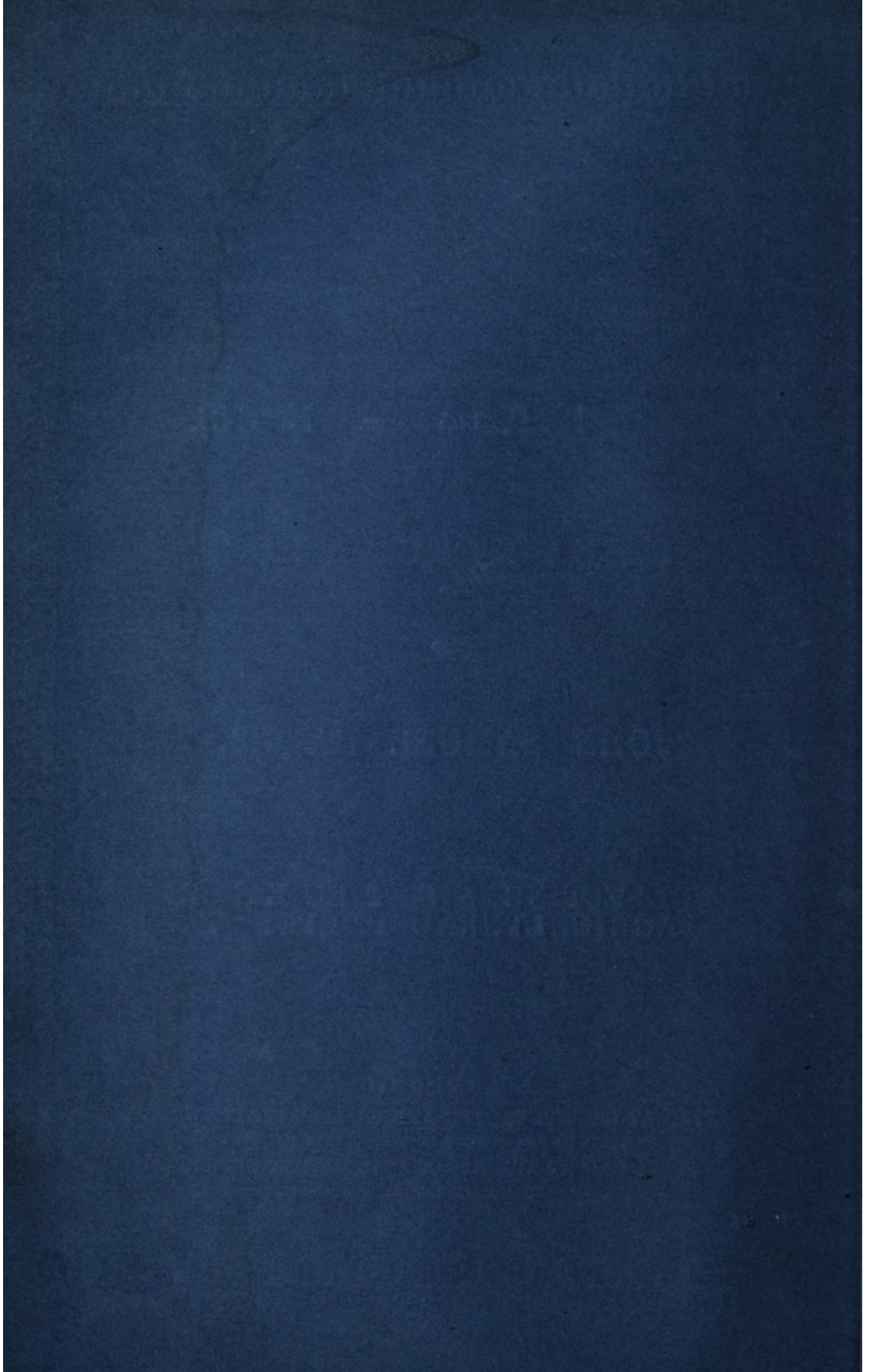
LONDON:

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PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY :

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Price 6d.

1859.





A.D. 1859, 14th MARCH. N° 648.

Collecting Night Soil for Agricultural Purposes.

LETTERS PATENT to John Samuel Dawes, of Smethwick House, near Birmingham, Gentleman, for the Invention of "A NEW OR IMPROVED METHOD OR COMBINATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BETTER SECURING AND COLLECTING OF NIGHT SOIL OR TOWN MANURE, AND RENDERING IT MORE VALUABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES."

Sealed the 22nd August 1859, and dated the 14th March 1859.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said John Samuel Dawes at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 14th March 1859.

I, JOHN SAMUEL DAWES, of Smethwick House, near Birmingham, Gentle-
5 man, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "A NEW OR IMPROVED METHOD OR COMBINATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BETTER SECURING AND COLLECTING OF NIGHT SOIL OR TOWN MANURE, AND RENDERING IT MORE VALUABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES," to be as follows:—

10 My new or improved method of securing and collecting night soil consists mainly, as follows, that is to say, by constructing the privy buildings in two compartments under one roof, and at a greater elevation by a few feet than hitherto, so that all the refuse deposited therein may be collected in a box or carriage on low wheels. The said box or carriage when full can be removed at any time of the day, and without nuisance by having a close fitting lid

Dawes' Improved Method of Collecting Night Soil for Agricultural Purposes.

temporarily placed over it ; and as the situation of these receptacles should in all cases where possible be fixed at a somewhat higher level than the street, they may be drawn away with great facility by the scavengers, and placed upon a low-bodied cart or waggon made for the purpose of receiving them. The boxes may thus be conveyed to a convenient depôt outside the town, a due 5 supply of empty manure chests being provided. My further improvement consists in having a large iron or strong wire screen similar to those used for screening coal slack placed at a high angle above the manure box, so that on the ashes from the house fires being thrown upon it, all the fine alkaline particles will pass through together with as much of the small cinders or coke 10 as will absorb the whole of the offensive gases, thus adding to the quantity and usefulness of the manure. The large cinders pass off at the other side of the screen to be returned.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said John Samuel Dawes in the Great Seal Patent Office 15 on the 13th September 1859.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JOHN SAMUEL DAWES, of Smethwick House, near Birmingham, Gentleman, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters 20 Patent, bearing date the Fourteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, in the twenty-second year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said John Samuel Dawes, Her special licence that I, the said John Samuel Dawes, my executors, administrators, and assigns, 25 or such others as I, the said John Samuel Dawes, 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 30 Man, an Invention for "**A NEW OR IMPROVED METHOD OR COMBINATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BETTER SECURING AND COLLECTING OF NIGHT SOIL OR TOWN MANURE, AND RENDERING IT MORE VALUABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES,**" upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said John Samuel Dawes, my executors or administrators, by an instrument in writing under my, or their, 35 or one of their hands and seals, should particularly describe and ascertain

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the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same is 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.

5 NOW KNOW YE, that I, the said John Samuel Dawes, 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 new or improved method of securing and collecting night soil or town
10 manure consists essentially as follows, that is to say, by so constructing the privy buildings or closets that the whole of the solid and liquid excreta produced may with facility be collected and removed free from that admixture of water and rubbish which have hitherto washed away or otherwise in great part destroyed the agricultural value of these matters. In addition to this, by
15 deodourizing the same, I do away with the unsightly and destructive nuisance of the present method of removing night soil.

The manner in which these improvements are carried out will be best understood by reference to the accompanying Drawing.

Figure 1 represents in vertical section a privy building constructed accord-
20 ing to my Invention. The said building is by preference constructed in two compartments *a* and *b*, under one roof, and at a greater elevation than usual with such buildings, so as to allow of a manure chest or small waggon *c* being placed in the compartment *b*, on the ground level, as it will usually be found desirable so to place it. The manure is received in the chest or waggon *c*
25 through the steeply inclined channel *d*. Over this manure chest or receptacle *c* an iron or strong wire screen *e* is placed in a slanting direction, so that when the ashes from the house fires are thrown upon it, all the fine alkaline particles contained therein will pass through together with as much of the fine cinder or coke as may be found sufficiently to absorb the offensive gases
30 evolved from the manure, thus adding greatly to the value and usefulness of the said manure. The larger gleeds of the ashes pass off at the lower end of the screen *e* to be reburned. The manure chest or receptacle *c* is represented separately in side elevation in Figure 2, the said chest being about three feet in length, about two feet high, and the same in width, and supported on
35 wheels. A farmer's harvest waggon with two horses will readily remove six of the manure chests *c*. The screen *e* is represented separately in Figure 3; the said screen is about two feet in breadth at top, tapering to a foot at the lower end. The apertures of the said screen are about three-eighths of an inch, but will require to be larger or smaller to suit the requirements of the

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locality where it is used. The said screen *e* may either be moveable or fixed, or placed lengthwise or crosswise over the chest *c*. Each plan is found to answer in practice. The channel *d*, down which the manure passes to the chest *c*, is represented separately in Figure 4. The said channel *d*, which is inclined at about the angle represented in Figure 1, is from ten to twelve 5 inches broad, open towards the chest *c*, and formed of smooth slate or other suitable material. *h* is an archway under the steps; the said arch is closed at one end; in the said arch all broken crocks, bottles, and such rubbish may be thrown. The end of the lower portion of the compartment *b* is closed by a door opposite the chest or waggon *c*, and a smaller doorway is placed imme- 10 diately over it, through which doorway the urinals are daily emptied into the manure chest *c*. On removing the manure chest *c*, it should be covered with a close fitting lid temporarily placed thereon and resting on the ledge *x*, Figure 4.

It may here be observed that in applying these improvements to privy 15 closets in upper rooms, although the sifted ashes may still be used, care must be taken that the manure chest, cover, and lid over the channel be fitted airtight, and it may be convenient on all these occasions by means of a tap to use a certain quantity of solution of chloride of lime or other well-known disinfectant, which will add its full cost to the value of the manure. 20

Having now described the nature of my Invention, and the manner of carrying the same into effect, I wish it to be understood that I by no means confine myself to the particular details, sizes, or arrangements herein described and represented, as the same may be varied without departing from the nature of my Invention; for example, the manure chest or waggon may be placed 25 immediately under the seat *i*, the fine ashes being still passed into the same; or the manure chest *c* may be much larger in size than represented when circumstances will permit, so that it may be drawn away at once to its destination.

It is obvious that these improvements can only be extensively and properly 30 carried out under legal enactments and the strict supervision of the police; but if generally adopted will not only add immensely to the wealth of the country, but effectually check one of the most active agents in generating disease.

I claim as my Invention the new or improved method or combination of 35 arrangements for the better securing and collecting of night soil or town manure and rendering it more valuable for agricultural purposes, herein-before described and illustrated in the accompanying Drawing, that is to say, so constructing the privy buildings or closets that the excreta may be collected

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in moveable receptacles without nuisance or any admixture of water or rubbish, and sufficiently deodourizing the same by mixing with it the fine ashes and cinders produced in the house fires or by other disinfecting agents.

5 In witness whereof, I, the said John Samuel Dawes, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Twelfth day of September, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine.

JOHN SAMUEL DAWES. (L.S.)

Witness,

GEORGE SHAW.

LONDON :

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1859.

in noverthe receipts without instance or any admixture of water or
inight, and sufficiently deodorizing the same by mixing with it the
and others prepared in the house first or by other distilling agents.
In witness whereof, I, the said John Samuel Daves, have put down
my hand and seal, this Twelfth day of September, in the year of
our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine.

JOHN SAMUEL DAVES. (s.)

Witness
George Shaw.

LONDON:
Printed by Gurnea, Rowland and Fryer and William Protheroe,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, 1859.

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FIG. 1.

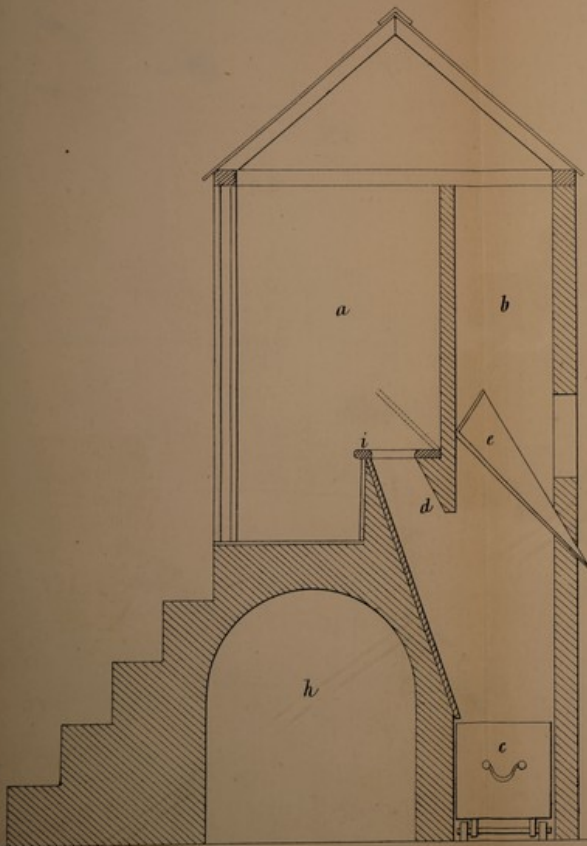


FIG. 4.

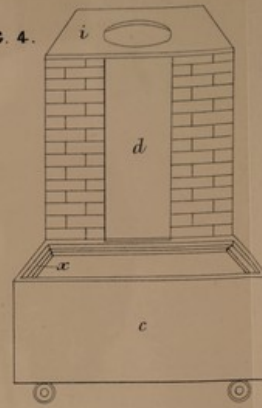


FIG. 3.

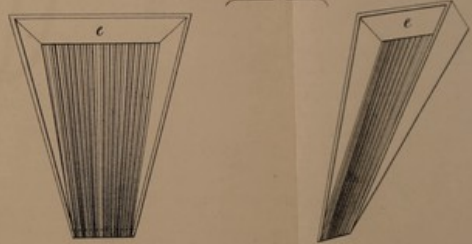
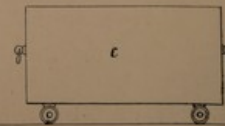


FIG. 2.



The filed drawing is not colored.

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