(12) **United States Patent**
Ames

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(54) **RAGS, WASHING**

(76) Inventor: **John Ames**

John Ames
Letters Patent Dated April 6. 1831.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same, containing a description in the words of the said John Ames himself of his improvement in the method of "washing rags for the manufacture of Paper"

Know all men by these presents, that I John Ames of Springfield in the County of Hampshire and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Gentleman, have invented, constructed, made and applied to use, a new and useful improvement in the mode or method of Washing rags and in the manufacture of paper, by machinery set forth and specified in the words following viz, The improvement consists in dispensing with the washers or Devil now in use and substituting in their stead, a wire cloth cylinder for carrying off the dirt and filth which may be taken from the rags or held in solution by the water, without the trouble and delay of the old mode. The cylinder used by me is about twenty two inches in length and twenty two inches in diameter, hollow, closed at one end, open at the other, surrounded by two coats or coverings of wire cloth, and revolves upon an axis. I construct the cylinder as follows. The frame consists of Metallic rods of suitable length, and sufficient in number to give strength and form to the cylinder, running parallel with the axis and supported by arms of the same metal. Over these rods is first stretched a coarse wire cloth and then over

that is stretched another wire cloth of finer texture; any readily available material however will do for the inner covering as its principal object and use is to support the outer one without opposing any considerable obstacle to the free passage of the water into the cylinder. The cylinder is left open at one end but is entirely closed by a metal disk at the other.

When constructed it is fixed in the washing vat or trough, resting on axles with the open end adjusted to the side of the trough or vat so closely as to prevent a waste of the stock, and placed at a convenient height to allow a free passage of the rags around the engine.

Within the circle described by the periphery of the open end of the cylinder in from the side of the trough, an orifice is made to let off the water which percolates into the cylinder. A band or gearing connected with other parts of the machinery communicates a rotary motion upon its axis, to the cylinder corresponding with the current, or roll of the stuff around in the engine.

The benefit and utility of this improvement consists, 1st in the saving of time in preparing the rags for manufacture. 2 in dispensing with the washers now in use; and 3 in preventing a waste of stock, which in the ordinary mode of cleaning is very considerable. By my improved mode the dirty water is made to pass off more rapidly, and of course the clean water can be admitted more freely, than when washers are used through the apertures of which, the pulp is driven by the force of the roll or motion of the water and so wasted, or clogs the washers by filling up the apertures and prevents the passing of the dirty water. By the rotary motion

of the cylinder by my mode coinciding with the rate of the stuff the water is freely received into the cylinder and passed off.

The improvement which I claim specifically as mine is the process or method of washing or cleaning rags by adapting the wire cloth cylinder to the common washing engine directed of the washer, to effect the object before mentioned.

The wire cloth cylinder I do not claim as my invention for which I now seek a patent, it having been before patented by me.

In testimony that the above is a true specification of my said improvement as above described I have hereto set my hand & seal the twelfth day of March in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty nine.

John Ames L.S.

Witnesses
Sylvanus Stebbins
William Bliss

(Received and Recorded 9 mon February 17. 1844.)

(725 words)

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JJR