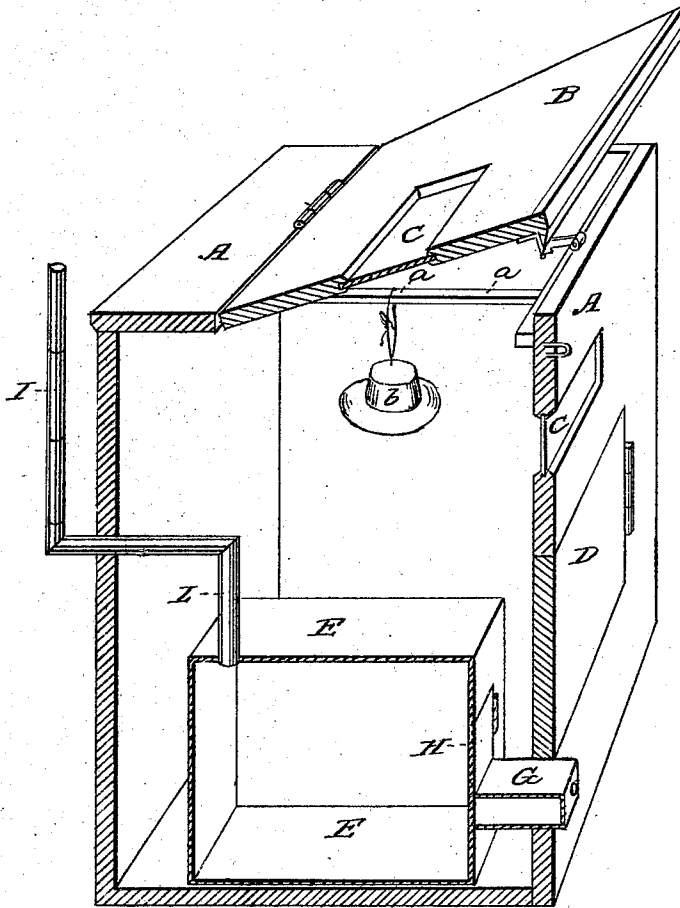


A. M. ROSBRUGH,  
Bleaching Straw Goods.

No. 102,868.

Patented May 10, 1870.



Witnesses:  
John W. Ealy  
W. Pierce

Inventor:  
A. M. Rosbrough  
per Thomas G. Orwig  
Attorney.

# United States Patent Office.

AMANDA M. ROSBRUGH, OF PANORA, IOWA.

Letters Patent No. 102,868, dated May 10, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BLEACHING STRAW GOODS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

I, AMANDA M. ROSBRUGH, of Panora, in the county of Guthrie and State of Iowa, have invented certain Improvements in Bleaching Box and Process, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is designed to provide a simple, convenient, and expeditious means of bleaching straw and straw goods of every form and variety, and also woollen and other textile fabrics that require bleaching.

It consists of a box adapted for the purpose of bleaching, and the manner and process of using the box and preparing the articles to be placed therein to be operated upon.

The drawing is a perspective view of a half section of my bleaching box, representing the stove or fire-box, and all the doors, fastenings, glass windows, and other details hereafter specified.

A A is the wall or frame of the box.

B is the hinged cover of the box.

C C represent the glass windows, one of which is in the hinged cover, and another in the front wall. Other glass windows may be placed in the ends of the box or wherever desired.

D is a door in the front of the box providing a means of access to the stove or fire-box.

E E is the stove or fire-box, made of sheet metal, in a square form. This stove may be made of cast metal, and of various forms.

G is a ventilator by which the draught and fire in the stove may be regulated.

H is a door in the front of the stove to admit the fuel.

I I is the pipe of the stove.

The hinges and fastenings of the several doors are such as commonly used for similar purposes.

*a a* represent one of the movable bars upon which the articles are suspended.

*b* is a straw hat suspended from the bar.

To perform the bleaching process a fire of charcoal or its equivalent is required in the stove. All articles to be bleached must be well cleaned with soft water and good hard soap. All straw goods must be coated on both sides with a paste made of pure white corn-meal and a strong solution of bicarbonate of soda and soft water. The articles are then ready to suspend in the box. White thread or cord must be used to secure them. For woollen goods and other textile fabrics the paste, composed of pure white corn-meal,

and a strong solution of bicarbonate of soda, should be made thin enough with soft water to admit of its being strained through white flannel. Leave it in this state twenty or thirty minutes before straining. With the fluid thus produced the articles must be well saturated before being placed in the box. After the articles are in the box, place pure roll-brimstone, broken into particles, on the top of the stove, and start the fire in the stove. Close the box securely. Through the glass windows you can observe the bleaching process. The smoke of the brimstone will permeate the goods, and first turn it yellow and then white. For old goods the smoking process must be continued from six to twelve hours. For new goods less time is required. If any part of the goods is imperfectly bleached, it should be again treated as before directed, and subjected to further smoking process. By the use of the glass windows the condition of the goods can be seen, and the further continuance of the process may be thereby determined.

My bleaching-box is made of wood, and may vary in form and size as desired, and may be movable or permanently fixed.

I am aware that boxes have been used, and that brimstone has been burned in them for the purpose of bleaching. But they have been rude, inconvenient, and imperfect, and poorly adapted to the purpose. My bleaching-box differs from them by being complete in all its parts, as specified, and by providing windows through which the process may be observed. I am also aware that corn-meal has been used for bleaching purposes. But my manner of using it, in connection with bicarbonate of soda, I claim as new.

### Claims.

I claim as my invention—

1. The bleaching-box, with hinged cover B, glass windows C C, door D, stove E E, and movable frames *a a*, as described and for the purposes specified.

2. The use of bicarbonate of soda in the process of bleaching, substantially as described.

AMANDA M. <sup>her</sup> ROSBRUGH.  
mark.

Witnesses:

DANL. BROWN,  
F. H. LENON.