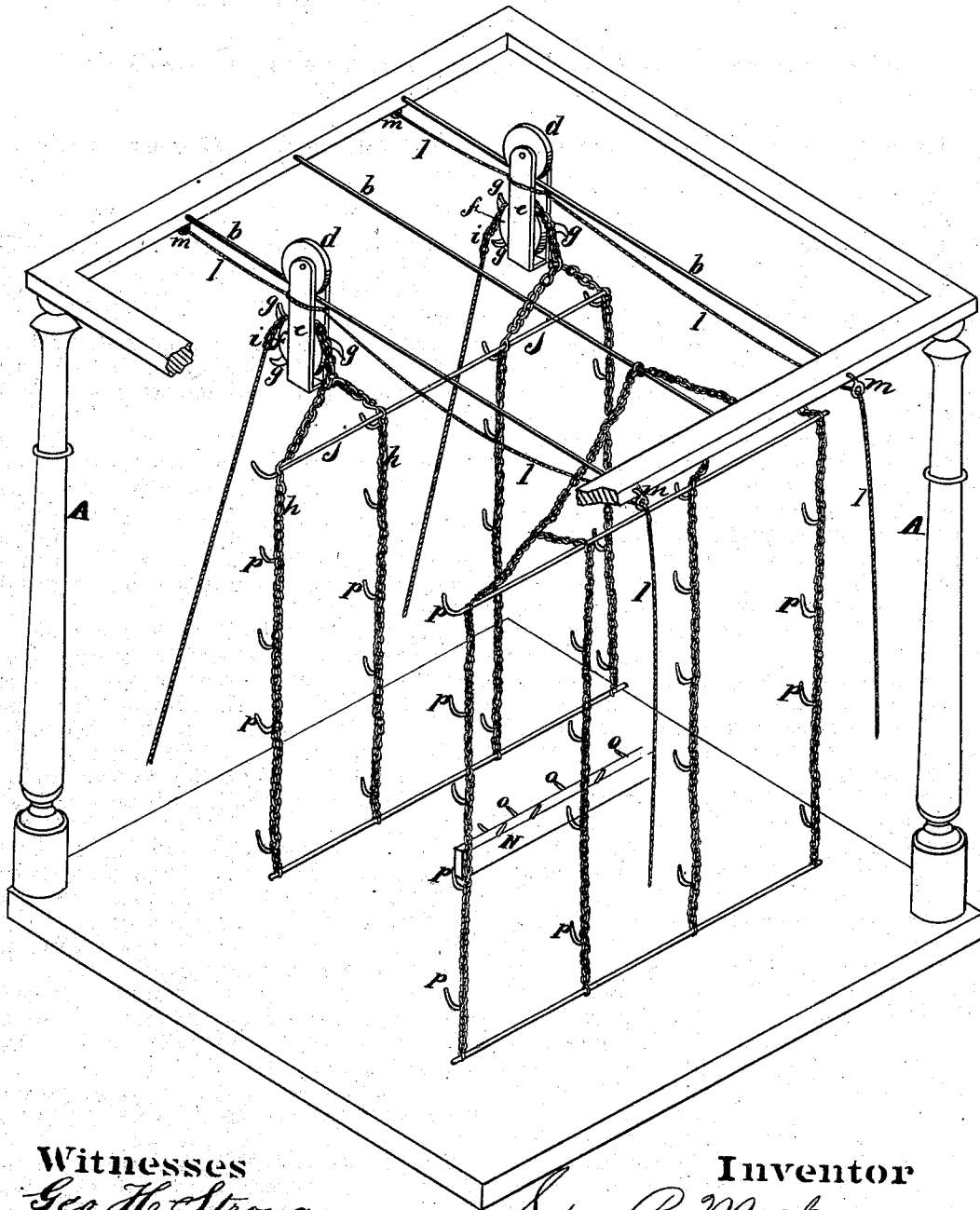


Apparatus for Suspending Tobacco.

Patented Oct. 27, 1874.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SEBRA R. MATHEWSON, OF GILROY, CALIFORNIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN APPARATUS FOR SUSPENDING TOBACCO.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **156,254**, dated October 27, 1874; application filed August 25, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SEBRA R. MATHEWSON, of Gilroy, Santa Clara county, State of California, have invented an Improved Apparatus for Drying and Curing Tobacco; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvement without further invention or experiment.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved apparatus for hanging and handling tobacco in the leaf or stalk, in order to dry and cure it.

My improvement consists in constructing a series of chains or ropes, which are formed into connected hangers, and suspended from a pulley which moves upon an overhead-rail, so that, by moving the pulley along the rail, the entire hangings, with their loads, can be shifted easily from place to place without handling the leaves.

In order to describe my invention so that others will understand its construction and operation, reference is made to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention.

Let A represent the house or inclosure in which the tobacco is to be hung for drying and curing. Across the upper part of the house or inclosure A I stretch parallel wires *b b b* a short distance apart, and secure their opposite ends to the opposite sides of the building. The pulley *d*, which travels upon the wires *b*, is secured between the upper end of two side pieces, *e e*. These side pieces extend below the wire, and have secured between their lower ends another pulley, *f*, which has one or more horns or arms, *g*, extending out from one side, so that the horns or arms will serve to hold the cord which passes over the pulley when the cord is thrown over the point of the horn between it and the side piece. The hangers consist of two or more chains or ropes, *h h*, which are united at their upper ends with the suspension cord or chain *i*. This suspension-cord passes over the lower pulley, *f*, and thence down to the floor, where

it serves to raise and lower the hangers. The chains or ropes *h h* are kept separate by one or more rods or wires, *j*, which brace them apart, as shown.

These hangers may be supported from one of the wire rods *b*; or they may be made wide enough to be suspended from two or more of the rods.

A rope or cord, *l*, is attached to each side of the pulley-frame *e*, and extends to each end of the house, where it passes through an eye, *m*, and thence down to the floor, so that by drawing upon either of the cords or ropes the pulley-frame, with its suspended hanger or hangers, can be moved from end to end of the wires.

The tobacco, either in the leaf or stalk, can be spitted on a rod or wire, or secured upon a bar, *N*, which has a short projecting spear-point, *o o*, standing outward upon each side of the bar. The rod or bar, when filled with stalks or leaves, is secured horizontally upon hooks *p*, which are attached to the chain, or in the links of the chain, until each hanger is loaded.

When thus suspended, the tobacco can be moved back and forth, as desired, by means of the rope or cords *l*; and the hangers may be raised or lowered, by means of the cord or chain *i*, and secured in any position, by means of the horns or arms on the pulley.

By this arrangement I lessen the labor of handling and curing tobacco, and greatly economize the space, by accommodating a large quantity in less space.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The parallel rods or wires *b b*, in combination with the pulleys *d* and *f*, provided with the side pieces *e*, hangers *h h*, distending-bar *j*, cords *i* and *l*, hooks *p*, and bar *N*, constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal.

SEBRA R. MATHEWSON. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

JNO. L. BOONE,
C. M. RICHARDSON.