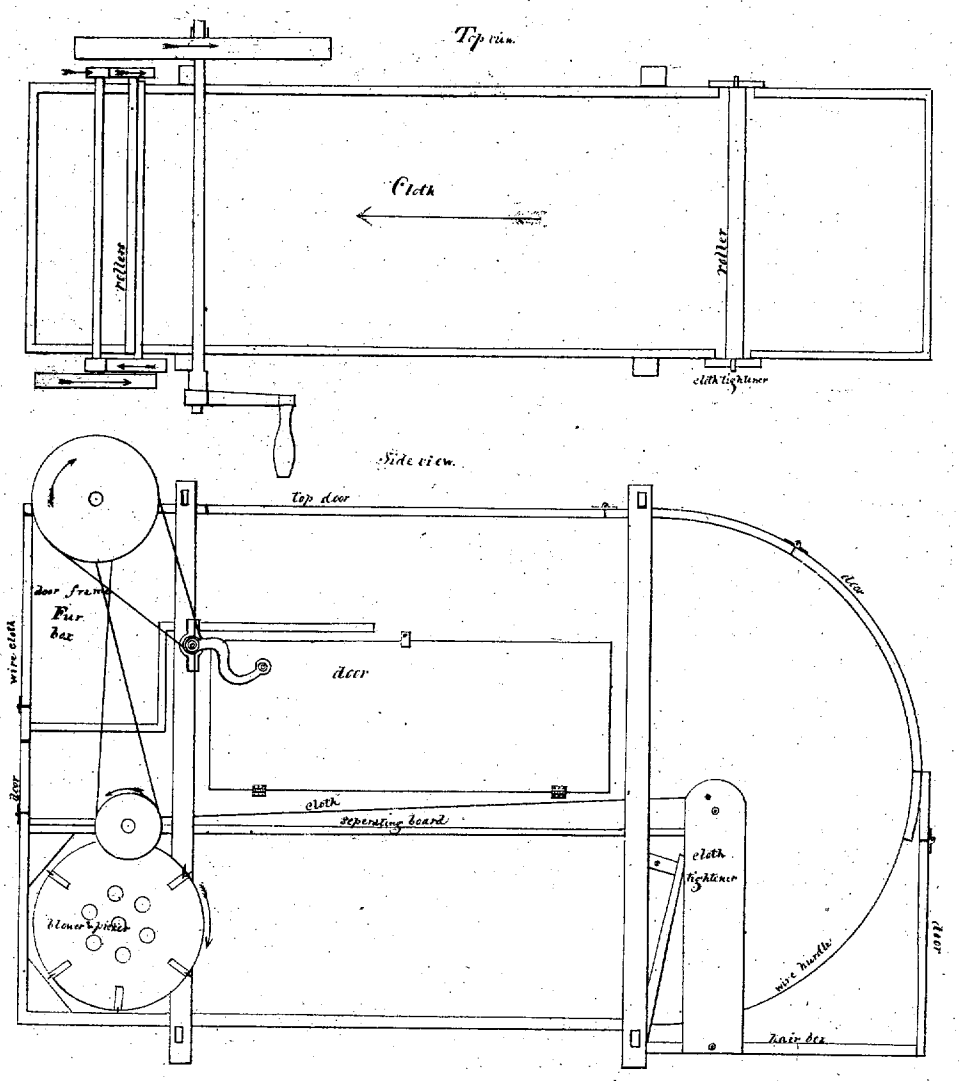
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SHEPHERD WHITMANS

Patented 23 Mar 1834.

FUR CLEANER.



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Mar. 22, 1834 231.

Shepherd Whitman.
Letters Patent

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same containing a description in the words of the said Shepherd Whitman himself of his improvement in the Blowing machine for cleaning Fur of hair. ———

To all to whom these presents shall come. Be it known that I Shepherd Whitman of New Albany in the County of Floyd & State of Indiana have invented a new and useful improvement in the process of cleaning fur of hair & that the following is a full and exact description of the construction & operation of the said machine as invented & improved by me. It consists of a frame seven feet long 2 feet wide & 4 feet high all made square excepting at the after end at the upper part where is a curve of ninety degrees. This frame is filled in with thin plank & furnished with wood as follows. At the bottom and at one end is placed a blowing wheel 16 inches diameter & two feet long. on the shaft are fastened two circles of wood 16 inches in diameter & 3/4 inch thick. 21 inches apart into the rims of these circles are inserted 4, 6 or 8 leaves or buckets 2 inches wide & 1/2 in thick. These buckets are filled with wire pins about the size of a common knitting needle 3/8 of an inch long & 1/4 of an inch apart. The ends of these teeth should be all the same distance from the center of the shaft this forms the blower & pusher.

Near the centre of the circles into which the buckets are inserted are 6 holes 2 inches diameter forming a circle round each end of the shaft (as will be seen in the drawings) to let in air for blowing. This blower is put in motion by means of a shaft from the driving wheel which is 3 feet diameter having a pulley 1 1/2 diameter & that the blower makes 12 revolutions while the driving wheel makes one. The motion are made to move slowly, reducing pulleys as easily make one revo-

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lution while the driving wheel makes 18 or 20. They are made to press each other by springs. The conveying cloth goes round one. the other is covered with fur glued to it. so as to hold the fur between them the better. the friction of the cloth on the roller causes the cloth to move with the roller or as the roller moves; thus carrying the fur which is laid on the conveying cloth to pass between the rollers. Opposite the blower at the farther end is a circular wire bundle thro' which the hair passes as it is blown in that direction while the fur from its lightness rises turning round and upwards until it gets over the conveying cloth when it either goes on in a horizontal direction until it arrives at the fur box stopped by the wire cloth at the extremity of the fur box or it falls down to the conveying cloth if it contains any hair & takes the same rout again until it is rid of all its hair. when it will rise into the fur box if the wind is properly regulated. The wind may be regulated by increasing or lessening the holes in the blower or by raising the fur box or by covering part of the wire cloth before the fur box. However I have found that the proportions above given of motions &c to answer extremely well in practice.

There are 6 doors which can be seen on the drawings. the one on the side is to put the fur in at the one at the forward & upper end is to take out the cleaned fur at the others are for convenience of getting at any part of the machine when out of repair &c. The ground on which a patent is claimed are 1st the compactness & portableness of the machine. 2nd the neatness & economy of its work. 3d causing the fur to pass from below on half circles round & upwards. thus leaving the hair at the bottom. 4th The placing the conveying cloth in the inside of the machine so as to cause the fur to pass thro' & thro' the rollers until it is divested of all its hair thereby saving the trouble of carrying round by hand. 5th

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By its falling on the cloth when floating in the air it is much more even & nice than it can be laid by hand. In testimony that the above is a true specification of my said invention or improvement as above, I have hereunto set my hand.

Witnesses
William B. Green
Christian M. Houghs

Stephen Whitman

Exd.
W.F.C.

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