S. R. PARKHURST.

Machine for Mixing Wool.

No. 163,687. Patented May 25, 1875.

Fig. 1.

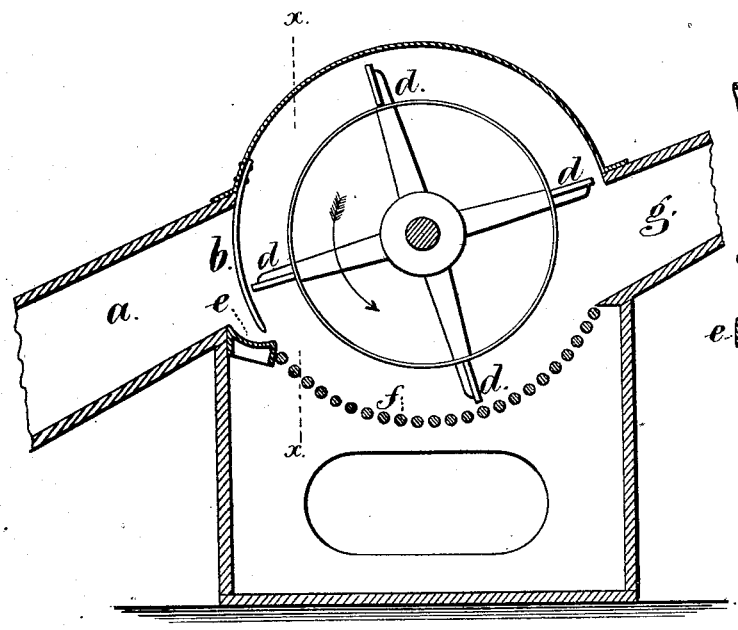
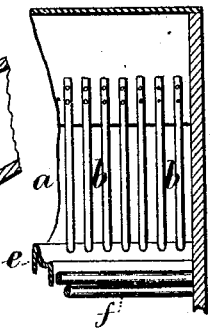


Fig. 2.



Witnesses,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN R. PARKHURST, OF MONT CLAIR, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO EMILY R. PARKHURST, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINES FOR MIXING WOOL.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,687**, dated May 25, 1875; application filed February 18, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN R. PARKHURST, of Mont Clair, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Machines for Mixing and Cleaning Wool, of which the following is a specification:

In machines for picking wool, it is usual to place upon the feeding-apron different-colored wools when a mixture is to be made, and these are carried through the picker together; but in consequence of the wool being in flocks the fibers are not mixed, but the flocks pass off in a more or less open condition, and often separately, so that the mixture is not perfectly made.

My invention is made for more thoroughly mixing the wool, and at the same time the dust and particles of foreign matter are blown out of the wool.

I make use of a range of fingers in the blast-trunk, through which the wool is thrown by the pickers, and against which the wool lodges, and is held by the blast until the fibers that project through the fingers are taken by the edge of a revolving beater that carries the fibers off the ends of the fingers and mixes the different colors together, and the wool is carried around in contact with a semicircular grate made of iron bars, that allow dust and fine particles to escape, and the wool is thrown from a trunk into a room or receptacle.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a section of the revolving beater and parts connected therewith; and Fig. 2 is a section at the line *x x*, showing a portion of the comb.

The trunk *a* extends from the blower or brush of any ordinary picking-machine to the range of fingers *b*, and the fingers of this range are preferably made of half-round iron, and curved, with the flat side toward the beater *d*, that is made in the form of a blower, with the fans traveling contiguous to this range of fingers. The fingers *b* are attached firmly at their upper ends, and the lower ends are contiguous to a trough, *e*, that lies along the bottom edge of the trunk *a*, and the grating *f* extends from *e* to the delivery-trunk *g*.

The machine, when in operation, works as follows: The particles of wool and locks that are thrown off by the picker fly through the trunk *a*, and lodge against the inside surfaces of the fingers *b*, and accumulate until the fibers project through between the fingers, and are caught by the edges of the beaters, and carried down and off the ends of the fingers.

In this operation the fibers of wool are mixed intimately, and the locks that would otherwise pass off separately remain upon each other as they are arrested by the fingers, and then they are matted together more or less as they are passed along upon the fingers, and delivered at the lower ends of such fingers.

As the wool is carried down and above the semi-circular grate of bars *f* the dust and particles of foreign matter can fall out, and the wool is still more intimately mixed in passing over the grate to the delivery-trunk *g*.

I claim as my invention—

The range of fingers *b* at the end of the trunk *a*, in combination with the revolving beaters *d* and grate *f*, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 15th day of February, A. D. 1875.

S. R. PARKHURST.

Witnesses:
GEO. T. PINCKNEY,
CHAS. H. SMITH.