

# United States Patent Office.

H. WEBSTER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

*Letters Patent No. 94,799, dated September 14, 1869.*

## IMPROVED PROCESS OF RECTIFYING AND REFINING WHISKEY AND OTHER SPIRITS.

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

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, H. WEBSTER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Process of Rectifying and Refining Whiskey or other crude liquors; and do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to practise and use the same.

The nature of my invention consists in heating the crude liquor and charcoal employed, and agitating the mass during filtration, by means of which treatment of the crude liquor I am enabled to separate (or measurably so) the fusil and essential oils from the pure liquor, and produce a better article and of greater commercial value in much less time and at less expense than by any other known method of rectifying or refining crude liquor, excepting distillation.

The apparatus in which I conduct my rectifying process comprises a large tub or like vessel having a perforated false bottom, between which and the bottom proper I place a coil of heating-pipe, and, if necessary, I continue the coil up and around the interior of the tub. In this tub I place an agitator, completing the apparatus, the construction of which being within the compass of the skill of any person conversant with the art, I deem further illustration unnecessary.

In this tub I place the whiskey or crude liquor and pulverized charcoal, or its equivalent, in proportionate quantities, and I suffer steam or other artificial heat to pass through the coil of heating pipe, and I set the agitator within the tub in motion by steam or other power, and in this manner I heat and agitate the mass of crude liquor and charcoal, whereby I am enabled to neutralize and separate, to a certain extent, the fusil and essential oils contained in the crude liquor, from the purer portion, and by rapid filtration pro-

duce pure or neutral spirits of superior quality and greater commercial value, at less expense and in a fraction of the time required by the ordinary process of rectifying.

As a manufacturer I found that the ordinary method of rectifying whiskey or crude liquors was a very tedious, expensive, and defective process, inasmuch as it required a large number of small leach-tubs which required constant care and replenishing, the filtration from which was very slow, and, being exposed to the atmosphere, a portion of the lighter or purer spirit was lost by evaporation, and it was necessary to have five hundred barrels of crude liquor in twenty-five leach-tubs in order to produce sixty barrels of pure spirits per day.

I can now, by my improved process, with a stock of only one hundred barrels, produce the same amount of pure spirit in the same time, using but one tub.

These defects in the ordinary method of rectifying and refining liquors suggested to me my improved process, which, from repeated experiments, I have found to produce the result herein set forth.

Having described my invention,

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In rectifying and refining whiskey or crude liquor, the use of artificial heat and agitation of the liquor and charcoal during rectification, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my signature, this 26th day of June, A. D. 1869.

H. WEBSTER.

Witnesses:

A. NEILL,

ARTHUR B. WILLIAMS.