

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM McMURTRIE, OF OXFORD TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, N. J.

IMPROVEMENT IN PROCESSES OF CHARRING THE INTERIOR OF BARRELS, CASKS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **193,826**, dated August 7, 1877; application filed February 15, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM McMURTRIE, of the township of Oxford, in the county of Warren and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful method for charring to any desired extent the interior of barrels, casks, or other vessels of wood destined to contain distilled alcoholic spirits, or for other purposes, of which the following is a specification:

Into the barrels, casks, or other vessels in question I introduce air previously heated to any temperature above that at which wood will char, (about 160° centigrade,) or steam or other gases heated to any temperature above 230° centigrade, according to the degree of charring desired, in order to produce over the entire internal surface of the vessel a stratum of charcoal of uniform thickness and quality.

The air or gases may be introduced in any convenient manner, by which the temperature of the same may be readily observed—as, for

instance, that described in Letters Patent No. 187,162, granted me February 6, 1877.

I am aware that steam and other non-oxidizing gases have been used for the purpose of charring the interior of barrels, &c.; but they have been employed to produce only a limited amount of charring, and at a temperature below that at present claimed.

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

The process of charring the interior of barrels or other vessels of wood, which consists in introducing to the said vessels air heated previously to any temperature above 160° centigrade, or steam or gases previously heated to any temperature above 230° centigrade, according to the degree of charring desired, substantially as described.

WM. McMURTRIE.

Witnesses:

R. L. PACKARD,  
THOMAS C. CONNOLLY.