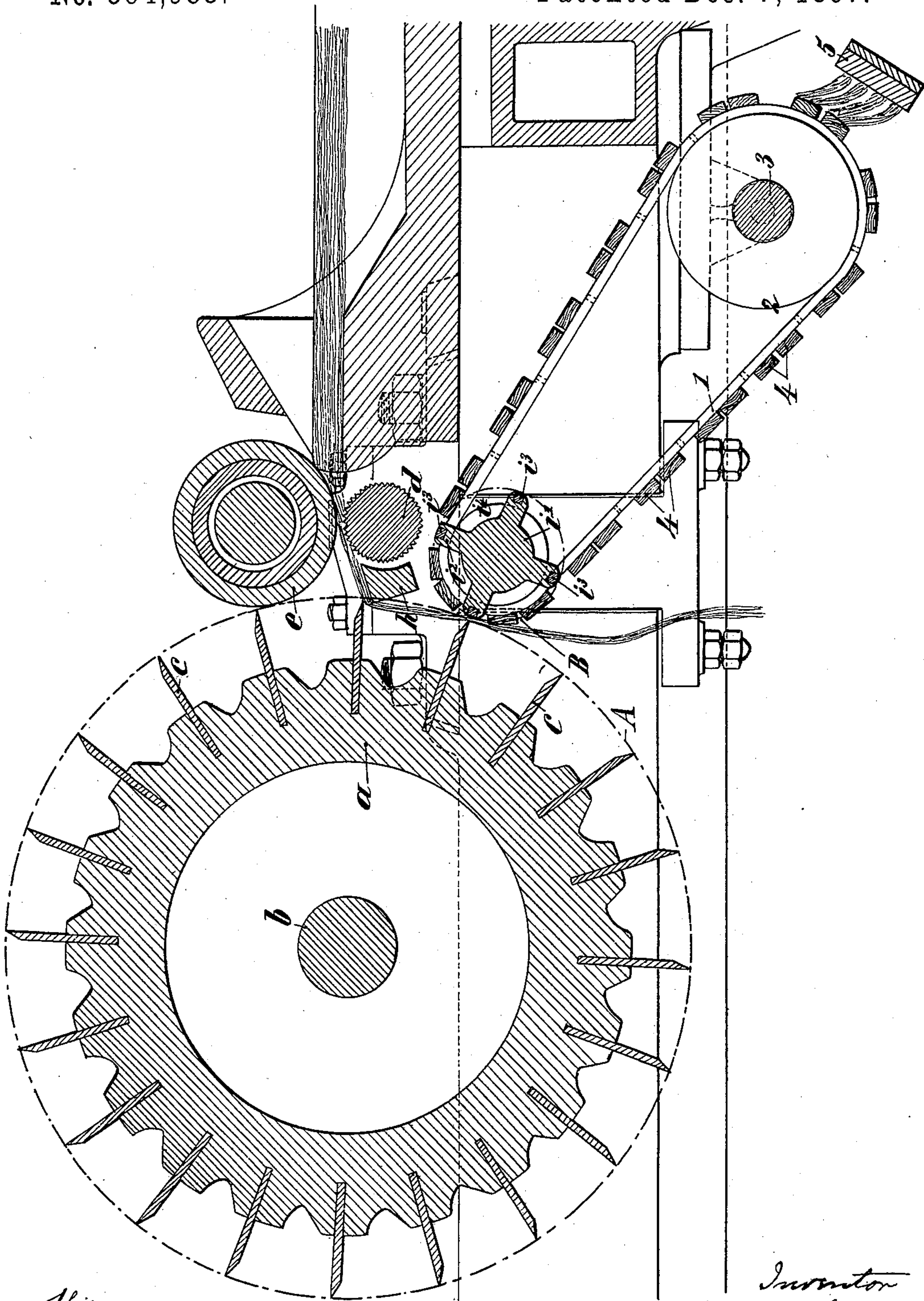


(No Model.)

A. D. ESTIENNE.
DECORTICATING MACHINE.

No. 594,988.

Patented Dec. 7, 1897.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED DIEUDONNÉ ESTIENNE, OF MARSEILLES, FRANCE.

DECORTICATING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 594,988, dated December 7, 1897.

Application filed March 6, 1897. Serial No. 626,266. (No model.) Patented in France October 1, 1894, No. 229,095; in Belgium October 12, 1894, No. 112,217; in Germany November 7, 1894, No. 84,738; in India December 6, 1894, No. 336; in Turkey December 21, 1894, No. 277; in Italy December 31, 1894, LXXIII, 427; in Spain January 10, 1895, No. 16,523, and in Argentine Republic April 1, 1895, No. 1,582.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED DIEUDONNÉ ESTIENNE, of the city of Marseilles, France, have invented Improvements in Decorticating-Machines, (for which I have obtained Letters Patent in France, for fifteen years, dated October 1, 1894, No. 229,095; in Belgium, for fifteen years, dated October 12, 1894, No. 112,217; in Spain, for ten years, dated January 10, 1895, No. 16,523, L. 20, Fol. 445; in Italy, for fifteen years, dated December 31, 1894, Vol. 73, No. 427; in Germany, for fifteen years, dated November 7, 1894, No. 84,738; in Argentine Republic, for ten years, dated April 1, 1895, No. 1,582; in India, for fourteen years, dated December 6, 1894, No. 336, and in Turkey, for fifteen years, dated December 21, 1894, No. 277,) of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to an improvement in the decorticating-machine forming the subject of previous Letters Patent, numbered 531,307 and 549,116, respectively; and it has for its object to prevent the stalks after being formed into stricks adhering to the revolving bed which receives the impact of the beater-blades.

My improvement consists in the combination, with the beater-cylinder of a bed-cylinder revolved at the same surface speed as the beater-cylinder and furnished with bed-grooves between which and the beaters the tresses or stricks are nipped and scraped and of an endless series of stripping-slats running on the bed-cylinder intermediate of the elastic beds for preventing the adhesion of the stricks to the bed-cylinder.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, which represents a cross-section of the improved machine.

According to my invention the endless apron and contact-roller of the former arrangement are replaced by a bed-roller *i'*, provided with longitudinal ribs *i*², each bearing a longitudinal groove *i*³ in its outer edge, in which a strip of india-rubber or other elastic material may be inserted. The grooves co-

incide with and receive the edges of the blades *c* of the beater-drum *a*, the shafts of the drum *a* and roller *i'* being geared together by a wheel A and pinion B, so that the drum and bed-roller revolve at the same surface speed. The stalks fed in by the rollers *d e* over the breaker-bar or anvil *h* are struck and broken by the beater-blades *c*, the strick of filaments then being nipped between the edges of the blades and the bed-grooves of roller *i'*, into which the filaments are pressed and between which and the blades the filaments are continuously rubbed and scraped both on their upper and under surfaces.

In order to prevent the stricks adhering to the ribs *i*², there is combined with the bed-roller *i'* an endless series of stripper-bars or slats 4, attached to belts or chains 1, running on end pulleys or pinions *i*⁴ on the shaft of bed-roller *i'* and on pulleys 2 or a drum upon a counter-shaft 3. The stripper bars or slats 4 are of sufficient breadth to prevent the stricks coiling around them and may be arranged in groups of two, as shown, the ribs *i*² of the bed-roller passing through the intervening spaces. By this means the stricks after being acted on by the beater-blades are stripped from the bed-grooves of the bed-roller by the succeeding pairs of slats 4.

The stripper-slats are kept clean by coming in contact with a stationary brush 5.

I claim—

1. In a machine for decorticating ramie and other textile materials, the combination of a beater-cylinder provided with beater-blades, a bed-cylinder cooperating therewith and provided with grooved ribs receiving and coinciding with an edge of the beater-blades between which ribs and the beater-blades the filaments are nipped and scraped, a counter-shaft, an endless series of stripper-slats running around the bed-cylinder and the counter-shaft, the said slats during the operation of the machine lying between the said ribs of the bed-cylinder, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. In a machine for decorticating ramie and other textile materials, the combination of a

beater-cylinder provided with beater-blades,
a bed cylinder or roller provided with grooved
ribs, beds of elastic material lying in the
grooves, the said beater-cylinder and bed-cyl-
5 inder being so arranged that the filaments
will be nipped between the blades of the
beater-cylinder and the ribs of the bed-cyl-
inder and thereby scraped, a counter-shaft,
an endless series of stripper-slats running
10 around the bed-cylinder and the counter-

shaft, and a stationary brush adapted to reach
contact with and keep the slats clean during
operation of the machine.

The foregoing specification of my improve-
ments in decorticating-machines signed by 15
me this 15th day of February, 1897.

ALFRED DIEUDONNÉ ESTIENNE.

Witnesses:

A. AUZEE,

V. N. FOUQUE.