CHAPTER ccvi.

An Act for rendering valid certain Letters Patent granted to Pierre Nicolas Goux for Improvements in collecting and in disinfecting Human Excreta and converting the same into Manure; also in the Apparatus or Means employed therein. [11th August 1876.]

A.D. 1876.

WHEREAS by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date the 20th day of February, in the 31st year of the reign of Her present Majesty Queen Victoria, Her Majesty did give and grant unto the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, her special license, full power, sole privilege, and authority that he the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, and every of them, by himself and themselves, or by his and their deputy or deputies, servants, or agents, or such others as he the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, should and lawfully might, during the term of fourteen years from the date of the said Letters Patent, make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an invention therein mentioned of "Improvements in collecting and "in disinfecting Human Excreta, and converting the same into "Manure, also in the Apparatus or Means employed therein," and in which Letters Patent is contained a proviso making void the said Letters Patent if the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors or administrators, should not cause a particular description of the nature of the said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, by an instrument in writing under his or their or one of their hands and seals, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent; and also if the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, should not pay the stamp duty of 50*l.*, and produce the said Letters Patent

A.D. 1876.

stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the office of the Commissioners of Patents for Inventions, before the expiration of three years from the date of the said Letters Patent, which term expired on the 20th day of February 1871; and also if the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, should not pay the further stamp duty of 100*l.*, and produce the said Letters Patent stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the office of the Commissioners of Patents for Inventions before the expiration of seven years from the date of the said Letters Patent, which term expired on the 20th day of February 1875:

And whereas a specification was duly filed by the said Pierre Nicolas Goux in the Great Seal Patent Office within the time limited by the said Letters Patent, whereby the said Pierre Nicolas Goux did particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed:

And whereas the said Pierre Nicolas Goux did cause the said Letters Patent to be stamped with a stamp duty of 50*l.*, and the said Letters Patent so stamped were produced at the office of the Commissioners of Patents for Inventions on the 17th day of February 1871:

And whereas the said Pierre Nicolas Goux did present a petition to Her Majesty's Commissioners of Patents for leave to enter a disclaimer and memorandum of alteration of certain parts of the said specification of the said Letters Patent, which said petition was referred to Her Majesty's Solicitor General, who granted his fiat for allowance of same on the 29th day of April 1871, and the said disclaimer and memorandum of alteration was accordingly filed in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 1st day of May 1871:

And whereas the said Pierre Nicholas Goux devoted much time and money in perfecting the said invention, and in the year 1871 a company was formed under the title of the Sanitary Improvement and Manure Manufacturing Company, Limited, for the purpose of purchasing all the rights and interests then existing under the said Letters Patent for England, and the said Sanitary Improvement and Manure Manufacturing Company, Limited, proceeded to carry out the said invention on a large scale, and laid out a large sum of money in so doing:

And whereas early in the year 1872 the said Sanitary Improvement and Manure Manufacturing Company, Limited, finding their capital insufficient for the proper working of the said invention, agreed to dissolve the said company with a view to the formation of another company with larger capital for the better extending the use of the said invention, and the Goux Manure and Sanitary

Company, Limited, (herein-after called the Goux Company,) was accordingly formed for that purpose: A.D. 1876.

And whereas the Goux Company have ever since the year 1873 worked the said invention, and the said first-named company and the Goux Company have laid out large sums of money in so doing, and the said invention is now for the first time becoming profitable:

And whereas the said duty of 100*l.* ought to have been paid on or before the 20th February 1875, but the same was inadvertently omitted to be paid:

And whereas the inventor and the Goux Company will be deprived of all advantage to accrue to them under the said Letters Patent unless the parliamentary powers herein-after contained are graciously granted to them:

And whereas the inventor and the Goux Company, on the discovery of this omission, without loss of time gave the requisite instructions for an application to Parliament for power to pay the said stamp duty, and to have the said Letters Patent duly stamped, and to render the same valid, and as their present difficulty and threatened loss arises from accident and inadvertence and not from a wilful neglect of or disobedience to the law, it is expedient that the said Letters Patent should be rendered valid in manner herein-after mentioned, but the purposes aforesaid cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Power to Commissioners of Patents to stamp Letters Patent.

1. Within one month after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for the said Pierre Nicholas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, or the Goux Company, to pay the said stamp duty of one hundred pounds, and for the said Letters Patent (a true copy of which is set forth in the schedule to this Act) or a duplicate thereof to be stamped with the proper stamp, showing the payment of the said stamp duty, and to be produced at the office of the said Commissioners of Patents, and for the said Commissioners of Patents for Inventions, or their clerk, to stamp the said Letters Patent or a duplicate thereof, specifying the date of such production, and to endorse on the said Letters Patent or duplicate thereof a certificate of the production of the same duly stamped, and to endorse a like certificate upon the warrant for such Letters Patent filed in the said office.

A.D. 1876.

Letters Patent confirmed.

2. The said Letters Patent so stamped as aforesaid shall be considered, deemed, and taken to be and to have been as good, valid, and effectual to all intents and purposes as if the said stamp duty of one hundred pounds had been paid, and the said Letters Patent had been stamped with the proper stamp, and had been produced at the office of the Commissioners of Patents for Inventions before the expiration of seven years from the date of the said Letters Patent, as in the said Letters Patent provided.

Saving of rights.

3. Provided always, that no action shall be commenced or prosecuted, nor any damage recovered for or in respect of any infringements of the said Letters Patent which shall have taken place after the expiration of the said seven years from the date of the said Letters Patent, and before the stamping of the said Letters Patent in pursuance of this Act, nor shall any action be commenced or prosecuted, nor shall any damage be recovered in respect of the use of any apparatus made within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man, or any part thereof respectively, in infringement of the said Letters Patent between the expiration of the said period of seven years and the stamping of the said Letters Patent in pursuance of this Act, provided that such use is by the person by or for whom any such apparatus was bonâ fide made, or his executors, administrators, or assigns.

SCHEDULE.

1868. No. 566.

VICTORIA, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Whereas Pierre Nicolas Goux, of No. 49, Rue de Longchamps, Paris, in the Empire of France, agricultural proprietor, hath by his petition humbly represented unto us that he is in possession of an invention for "Improvements in collecting and in disinfecting Human Excreta and con-"verting the same into Manure, also in the Apparatus or Means employed "therein," which the petitioner believes will be of great public utility, that he is the first and true inventor thereof, and that the same is not in use by any other person or persons to the best of his knowledge and belief: The petitioner therefore most humbly prayed that we would be graciously pleased to grant unto him, his executors, administrators, and assigns, our Royal Letters Patent for the sole use, benefit, and advantage of his said invention within our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, for the term of fourteen years, pursuant to the statute in that case made and provided, and we, being willing to give encouragement to all arts and inventions which may be for the public good, are graciously pleased to condescend to the petitioner's request: Know ye therefore that we, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant unto the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, our especial license, full power, sole privilege, and authority that he the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, and every of them, by himself and themselves, or by his and their deputy or deputies, servants, or agents, or such others as he the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns shall at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times hereafter during the term of years herein expressed, shall and lawfully may make, use, exercise, and vend his said invention within our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, in such manner as to him the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, or any of them, shall in his or their discretion seem meet; and that he the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, shall and lawfully may have and enjoy the whole profit, benefit, commodity, and advantage from time to time coming, growing, accruing, and arising by reason of the said invention for and during the term of years herein mentioned. To have, hold, exercise, and enjoy the said licenses, powers, privileges, and advantages herein-before granted or mentioned to be granted unto the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and

A.D. 1876. assigns, for and during and unto the full end and term of fourteen years from the day of the date of these presents next and immediately ensuing, according to the statute in such case made and provided. And to the end that he the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, and every of them, may have and enjoy the full benefit and the sole use and exercise of the said invention according to our gracious intention herein-before declared, we do by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, require and strictly command all and every person and persons, bodies politic and corporate, and all other our subjects whatsoever, of what estate, quality, degree, name, or condition soever they be, within our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, that neither they nor any of them at any time during the continuance of the said term of fourteen years hereby granted, either directly or indirectly, do make, use, or put in practice the said invention, or any part of the same, so attained unto by the said Pierre Nicolas Goux as aforesaid, nor in anywise counterfeit, imitate, or resemble the same, nor shall make or cause to be made any addition thereunto or subtraction from the same, whereby to pretend himself or themselves the inventor or inventors, devisor or devisors thereof, without the consent, license, or agreement of the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, in writing under his or their hands and seals, first had and obtained in that behalf, upon such pains and penalties as can or may be justly inflicted on such offenders for their contempt of this our royal command: and further to be answerable to the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, according to law for his and their damages thereby occasioned. And moreover, we do by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, will and command all and singular the justices of the peace, mayor, sheriffs, bailiffs, constables, headboroughs, and all other officers and ministers whatsoever of us, our heirs and successors, for the time being, that they or any of them do not nor shall at any time during the said term hereby granted in anywise molest, trouble, or hinder the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, or any of them, or his or their deputies, servants, or agents, in or about the due and lawful use or exercise of the aforesaid invention or anything relating thereto: Provided always, and these our Letters Patent are and shall be upon this condition, that if at any time during the said term hereby granted it shall be made appear to us, our heirs or successors, or any six or more of our or their Privy Council, that this our grant is contrary to law, or prejudicial or inconvenient to our subjects in general, or that the said invention is not a new invention as to the public use and exercise thereof within our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, or that the said Pierre Nicolas Goux is not the first and true inventor thereof within this realm as aforesaid, these our Letters Patent shall forthwith cease, determine, and be utterly void to all intents and purposes, anything herein-before contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding: Provided also, that these our Letters Patent or anything herein contained shall not extend or be construed to extend to give privilege unto the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, or any of them, to use or imitate any invention or work whatsoever which hath heretofore been found out or invented by any other of our subjects whatsoever, and

A.D. 1876.

publicly used or exercised within our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, or Isle of Man, unto whom our like Letters Patent or privileges have been already granted for the sole use, exercise, and benefit thereof: It being our will and pleasure that the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, and all and every other person and persons to whom like Letters Patent or privileges have been already granted as aforesaid, shall distinctly use and practise their several inventions by them invented and found out, according to the true intent and meaning of the same respective Letters Patent and of these presents: Provided likewise, nevertheless, and these our Letters Patent are upon this express condition, that if the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors or administrators, shall not particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, by an instrument in writing under his or their or one of their hands and seals, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of these our Letters Patent; and also if the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, shall not pay the stamp duty of 50*l.*, and produce these our Letters Patent stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the office of our Commissioners of Patents for Inventions before the expiration of three years from the date of these our Letters Patent, pursuant to the provisions of the Act of the sixteenth year of our reign, chapter V.; and also if the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, shall not pay the stamp duty of 100*l.*, and produce these our Letters Patent stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the said office of our said commissioners before the expiration of seven years from the date of these our Letters Patent, pursuant also to the said Act; and also if the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, or assigns, shall not supply or cause to be supplied for our service all such articles of the said invention as he or they shall be required to supply by the officers or commissioners administering the department of our service for the use of which the same shall be required in such manner, at such times, and at and upon such reasonable prices and terms as shall be settled for that purpose by the said officers or commissioners requiring the same; that then and in any of the said cases these our Letters Patent, and all liberties and advantages whatsoever hereby granted, shall utterly cease, determine, and become void, anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the granting of licenses in such manner and for such considerations as they may by law be granted. And, lastly, we do by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, that these our Letters Patent, or the filing thereof, shall be in and by all things good, firm, valid, sufficient, and effectual in the law according to the true intent and meaning thereof, and shall be taken, construed, and adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial sense for the best advantage of the said Pierre Nicolas Goux, his executors, administrators, and assigns, as well in all our courts of record as elsewhere, and by all and singular the officers and ministers whatsoever of us, our heirs and successors, in our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, and amongst all and every the subjects of us, our heirs and successors, whatsoever and wheresoever;

A.D. 1876. notwithstanding the not full and certain describing the nature or quality of the said invention or of the materials thereunto conducing and belonging. In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent this 20th day of February 1868, in the 31st year of our reign, and to be sealed as of the said 20th day of February 1868.

By warrant.

Great Seal.

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