

capital, owing to the numberless failures in the Peat Industry. The Trying-Out of this mill has been a peat-education in itself, and while to those who are sufficiently interested to examine the mill, the fullest information is freely available, it is not my intention to go too closely into details, nor to exhibit the detail drawings of this mill.

The plant from the ground up is divided into 11 parts:

1. Supporting Aprons.
2. Platform and Transmission.
3. The Motive Power.
4. The Excavator.
5. The Cross Conveyor.
6. The Peat Mill.
7. The Spreading Box.
8. The Smoothing Device.
9. The Longitudinal Cutting Knives.
10. The Cross Cutting Knives.
11. The Housing.

**1. Supporting Aprons** The idea of supporting and moving a peat mill on the same sort of supports as are used in Caterpillar Traction-Engines and in ditching-and-tile-laying machines, designed to go over sand and soft ground, was first conceived by me in January 1909. Since then I have spent much time and work looking up the different designs of these caterpillar drives, choosing and altering not only to get a satisfactory design, as applied to an automatically moving self supported peat mill, but also to get a design which might be protected by letter patents. There are numbers of unique features in connection with these supports, one of which is an over-lapping steel plate arrangement on the slabs of the moving aprons, which makes the bottom smooth, continuous plain and prevents sinking even in the softest ground.

How efficient these aprons are was shown at our first trial when the total weight of our machine rested upon and travelled over not only the ordinary surface of the bog but also over a considerable strip which had been cleared of all surface covering, exposing the soft sticky peat mud. On the very softest places the mill did not sink over two inches.