

H. MOORE.

Preparing Tobacco.

No. 4,314.

Patented Dec. 16, 1845.

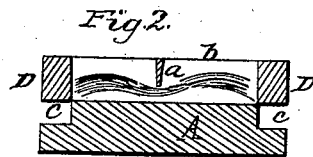
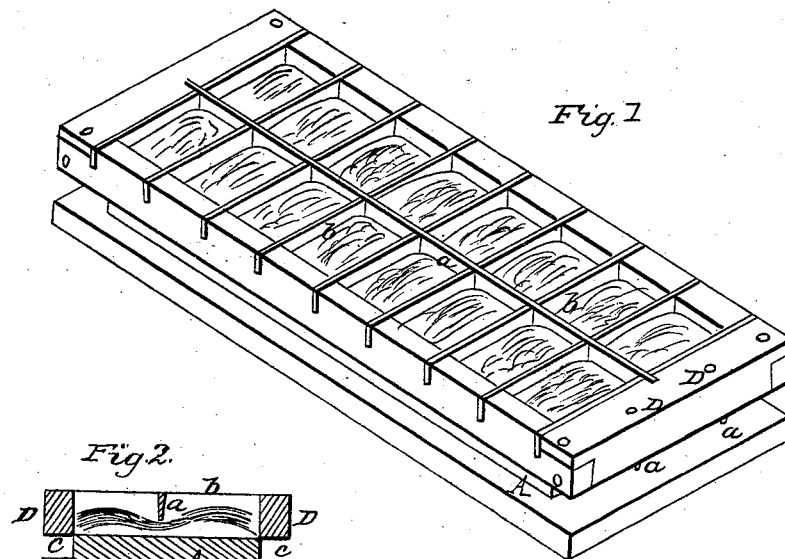
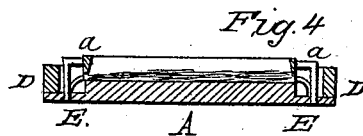
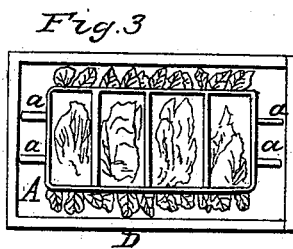
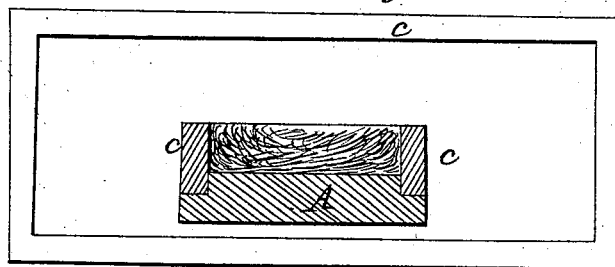


Fig. 5



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERVEY MOORE, OF REEDSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PRESSING AND CUTTING TOBACCO.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 4,314, dated December 16, 1845.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HERVEY MOORE, of Reedsville, in the county of Rockingham and State of North Carolina, have invented new and useful Improvements in the Method of Manufacturing Chewing-Tobacco into "Lumps," as it is termed; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the principle or character thereof which distinguishes it from all other things before known, and of the manner of making, constructing, and using the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective representation of the apparatus preparatory to being submitted to the action of the press; Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section of the same, and Figs. 3 and 4 a plan and transverse vertical section of a different mode of applying the same principle.

The same letters are used to indicate like parts.

Instead of making the lumps of tobacco into rolls and pressing them into the flat shape in a former, in the usual way as generally practiced, I lay the leaves evenly over a bed, A, within a movable frame of a size sufficient for any given number of lumps to a thickness suitable for said lumps when pressed. A section of the bed A and movable frame C is shown in Fig. 5. The frame serves to confine the leaves to a proper size, which their ends are doubled in to suit. A layer of fine covering-leaves is first placed on the bed, then the ordinary filling, and lastly a layer of the fine covering-leaves. The frame C is then removed from the bed, and a frame, D, Figs. 1 and 2, hereinafter described, is put on top of the layer of tobacco and the whole submitted to the action of a powerful press, by which the whole mass of tobacco is pressed and divided into any required number of lumps and the covering-leaves drawn tight and smooth over the surface. The frame D is provided with two series of blades, *a* and *b*, made of iron, steel, or other suitable metal, one series parallel with the sides of the frame and crossing the other at right angles, leaving quadrangular spaces between them of the length, width, and depth of the lumps to be formed. The lower edges of these blades should be thin and rounded smooth, so as to sever the tobacco under the operation of the press, but not so sharp as to cut with facility.

The covering-leaves are drawn down by these edges to smooth the surface before they are secured. The lower surface of the frame D projects below the lower edges of the blades *a* and *b* sufficiently to take the place of the forming-frame *c* and embrace the bed A when the edges of the blades are brought down on the tobacco, and thereby prevent the ends of the tobacco from being pressed out, the edges of the bed A being rabbeted, as represented at *c*, to admit the frame to move down until the lower edges of the blades reach the bed. When this apparatus is placed under the press a board should be placed on the top of the frame D, so that the tobacco is pressed between the bed A and this board; but the board may be dispensed with and the follower of the press used for that purpose. The frame D is guided in its movements by means of dowel-pins *d*, projecting from the bed and passing in holes in the frame, or by any other known mode of effecting such an end. After the lumps have been thus formed the apparatus is removed from the press, and they are pushed out of the spaces between the blades by the hand of an attendant or in any other desired manner, the blades being thicker at top than bottom to facilitate this operation.

For the finer kinds of tobacco I modify this apparatus in the manner represented in Figs. 4 and 3. The outer frame, D, in this modification, instead of being made to embrace and pass over the rabbeted edges of the bed A, is of the same size as the bed A, and when pressed down the projecting edges of the leaves are gripped between the frame and bed, and may then be trimmed off with a knife, the bed beyond the frame D being cut out, as at E, to receive the ends of the leaves without being pressed, so that when cut off the cuttings may be used for an inferior quality of tobacco. In this modification the guide-pins *d* are attached to the frame and slide in holes in the bed, and project so far from the edges of the frame as as not to interfere with the ends of the leaves of tobacco.

It will be evident that the frame D may have any desired number of blades and spaces within the capacity of the press to be used, and that the operation may be reversed by piling the leaves onto the blades, the frame D being reversed for that purpose, which in the arrangement first described will dispense with the

former C; but I mention this simply for the purpose of showing what alterations may be made without changing the principle of my invention, although I give the preference to the first and second modes described.

Having thus fully described my invention and the mode of proceeding in carrying into practice my said invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The method of forming tobacco-lumps by means of the frame C and series of blades, arranged and formed substantially as herein de-

scribed, in combination with the bed, whereby I save much labor in arranging the tobacco-leaves, &c., and I am enabled to form and press a large number of lumps at one operation, to lay the covering smooth and even, give a more perfect form, and discharge them from the molds in which they have been formed with greater facility than by the old method.

HERVEY MOORE.

Witnesses:

SAML. F. ADAMS,  
DANIEL MALLEROY.