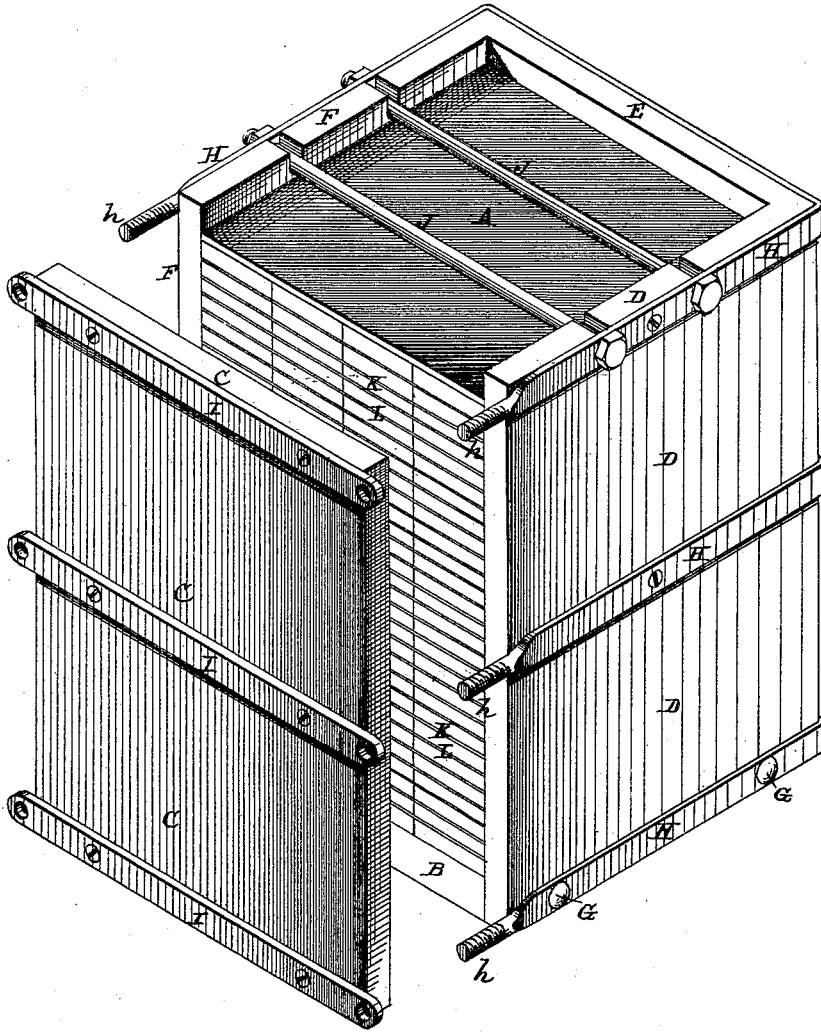


C. WORLEY.

MANUFACTURING PLUG TOBACCO.

No. 181,512.

Patented Aug. 22, 1876.



ATTEST:

Robert Burns.
H. Hutchins

INVENTOR:

Christian Worley
By Knight Bro.
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN WORLEY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO HENRY McCABE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN MANUFACTURING PLUG-TOBACCO.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 181,512, dated August 22, 1876; application filed January 22, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTIAN WORLEY, of St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Mode of Finishing Plug-Tobacco, of which the following is a specification:

The common way to proceed in finishing plug-tobacco is to press the bunches into plugs having the form seen in the retail stores. The plugs are next removed from the molds in which they are pressed, and packed in boxes, and the boxes placed in a room, where the tobacco is sweated and cured. The plugs are afterward taken from the boxes, and subjected to a second pressing before they are packed in the boxes for sale.

My improved mode consists in finishing tobacco by placing the plugs in a box in alternate layers with thin metal plates, applying extreme pressure thereto, and subjecting the plugs to dry heat for several hours while they are tightly compressed between the plates, which are in contact with the broad sides of the plugs; and, finally, removing the box, and leaving the contents therein until cold, the whole process being adapted to give a fine and smooth finish to the wrapper, and, by putting the plug in proper condition, doing away with its tendency to bulge out at the sides, as plugs are apt to do when they have not been thus treated.

The plugs are taken from the finisher, and packed directly in the boxes in which they are shipped.

The drawing is a perspective view of my finisher filled with tobacco-plugs, one side being removed to show the interior.

The finisher has a top, A, and bottom B. Of its four sides, C D E F, the side C is made removable, for convenience in packing and unpacking. The top is also removable. The sides D F are secured to the bottom by screws G, which extend through the bottom from side to side. Surrounding the box upon three sides are horizontal straps H

H H, ending at the front side C in screws *h*, which pass through the eyes of the strap-bars I I I, by which the front side C is held in place by nuts screwing on the ends *h*. J are stay-bolts, running from side to side across the finisher above the top A. The top A consists of a metallic plate.

The courses of tobacco-plugs are shown at K, and the interposed metallic plates at L.

The process is as follows: The plugs, when fresh pressed, are taken from the molds, and a layer of them is laid over the bottom of the finisher. Over this course is laid a smooth metallic plate, L, and over the plate another course of tobacco, and so on, the tobacco and plates alternating to the top of the finisher.

The side C and top A are then put in place, and the finisher, with its center, subjected to extreme pressure, and then placed in a room containing very dry air, heated to, say, 140° Fahrenheit, and retained at that temperature for, say, eight hours, at the end of which time it will be found sufficiently cured, and may be at once removed from the finisher, and packed in the boxes or caddies in which it is sold.

I consider it better, however, to allow the tobacco to cool in the finisher. In either case the plugs will be found to have a smooth and hard surface, better, indeed, than can be had by the old and tedious process, where the plugs are subjected to two distinct pressings.

By this process I am enabled to make use of wrappers costing not more than half the price of those used before my invention.

I am aware that there is not any novelty in, first, the simple finishing of tobacco by placing it in a heated room; and, secondly, the simple pressing of tobacco between metallic plates, and therefore I do not claim this distinct heating and pressing of tobacco broadly; but

What I do claim as new and of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The mode of finishing tobacco, substan-

tially as described, consisting of placing the plugs in a box in alternate layers with thin metal plates, applying extreme pressure thereto, and subjecting the plugs to dry heat of about 140° Fahrenheit for several hours while they are tightly compressed between the plates, which are in contact with

the broad sides of the plugs, and finally removing the box, and leaving the contents therein until cold.

CHRISTIAN WORLEY.

Witnesses:

SAML. KNIGHT,
ROBERT BURNS.