

L. GROSSKOPF.

MANUFACTURE OF CIGARETTES.

No. 188,796.

Patented March 27, 1877.

Fig. 1

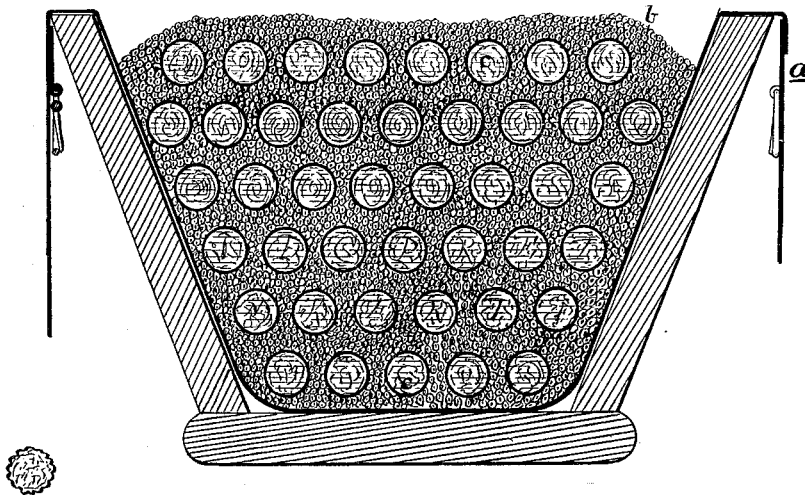


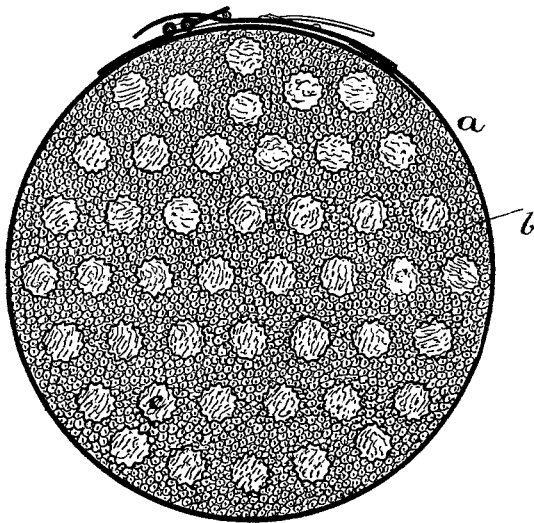
Fig. 4



Fig. 3



Fig. 2



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LOUIS GROSSKOPF, OF KÖNIGSBERG, PRUSSIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN MANUFACTURE OF CIGARETTES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **188,796**, dated March 27, 1877; application filed February 13, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS GROSSKOPF, residing at Königsberg, Prussia, have invented certain Methods of Drying and Pressing Cigarettes, of which the following is a specification:

The present invention relate to a new and useful method or process of finishing cigarettes, having a thin leaf-tobacco wrapper, whereby said wrapper is firmly united to the filling, and the cigarette made strong and durable.

The invention consists in subjecting the cigarettes to pressure in connection with stems or grasses, such as the *Aira flexuosa*, whereby the body of each cigarette is channeled or ribbed in a lengthwise direction for imparting greater strength thereto, and firmly incorporating the leaf wrapper with the filling.

The cigarettes are packed in layers of grasses, stems, or reeds, and subjected to pressure, preferably, by means of an encircling band until they are sufficiently dried to be ready for use.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional view representing the cigarettes packed in grasses or stems before undergoing the pressing operation. Fig. 2 is a similar view illustrating the position of the cigarettes, grasses, and encircling band during the pressing operation. Figs. 3 and 4 represent finished cigarettes.

In carrying out my invention I take the ordinary leaf-wrapped cigarettes *c* as they come from the machine or maker, and pack the same in layers *b* of reeds, grasses, or stems, as is shown in Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawing. The mass of grasses and cigarettes are encircled by a canvas or other flexible band, *a*, the ends of which are adjustably connected by a buckle, so that the cigarettes and grasses can be subjected to a variable pressure by simply adjusting the buckle.

The contact of the grasses or stems with the body of the cigarettes, and the subjection of the same to pressure by drawing the band around the same, as shown in Fig. 2 of draw-

ing, will cause the thin tobacco wrapper of the cigarette to be firmly embedded into the filling, or to be incorporated therewith in such a manner as to impart greater strength to the cigarette than is the case with the ordinary cigarette.

It will be obvious that the pressure of the grasses or stems upon the cigarettes will cause the same to be channeled or ribbed in a lengthwise direction, thus producing longitudinally-corrugated cigarettes, which are much stronger than the ordinary cigarettes having smooth wrappers.

While I do not limit myself to the use of any particular grasses or stems, I give preference to the *Aira flexuosa* or hair-grass, as the same will permit the most perfect circulation of air through the bunch or mass of cigarettes, to facilitate the drying of the same.

By my invention it is possible to manufacture cigarettes with a thin wrapper of leaf-tobacco, and to adapt the same for general use. This has heretofore not been the case, because a single leaf wrapper is entirely too fragile, and if more wrappers are used the article so made ceases to be a cigarette and becomes a cigar.

I avoid the objections of the paper cigarette, the smoke of the burning paper of which is held to be injurious, and also avoid the disadvantages of the ordinary cigar—viz., incomplete combustion and exertion of the respiratory organs to draw the smoke.

The objections to the common pipe are well known, and are also overcome by the present invention, the great object of which is to furnish as an article of manufacture or commerce a cigarette having a thin wrapper of tobacco, which is strong and durable, so as to prevent the disintegration or breaking of the cigarette, and permit the same to be smoked with ease, and to enable a perfect combustion of the tobacco to take place.

Figs. 3 and 4 represent the finished cigarette with ordinary tip or mouth-piece.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The method, herein described, of drying and pressing cigarettes, consisting in packing the same in loose layers of grasses or stems, which entirely surround them, and while in such state subjecting both the grasses and cigarettes to pressure, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LOUIS GROSSKOPF.

Witnesses:

GERARD WENSESLAUS V. NAWROCKI,
RICHARD SIMONY.