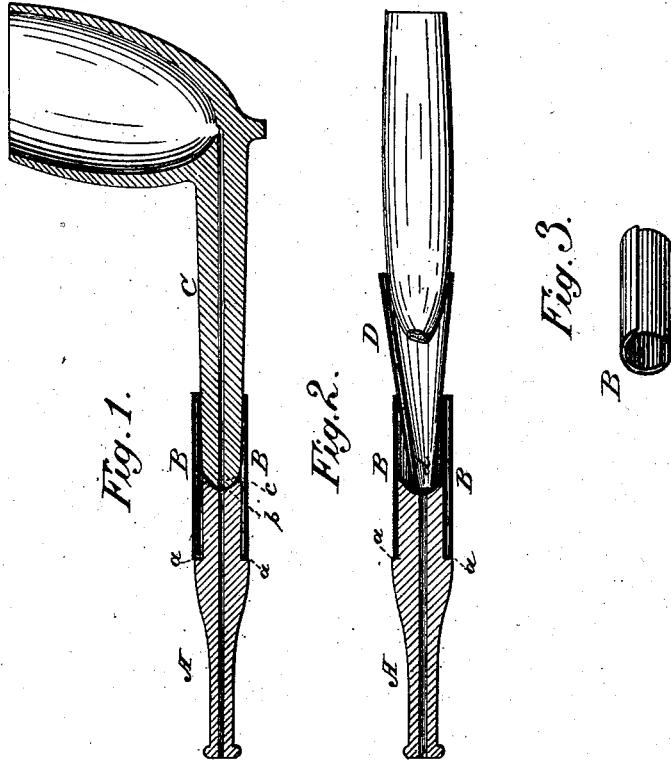


E. S. MAY.  
SMOKING PIPE.

No. 192,123.

Patented June 19, 1877.



Attest.  
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Inventor:  
Edward S. May  
by Louis Baggett & Co.  
his Attorneys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD S. MAY, OF CAMPBELLTOWN, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SMOKING-PIPES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,123**, dated June 19, 1877; application filed March 7, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD S. MAY, of Campbelltown, in the county of Steuben and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gripes or Holders for Pipes, Cigars, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention consists in the construction of a gripe or holder to be used interchangeably with a cigar-holder or clay pipe, its use with the latter being for the purpose of obviating the several objections, hereinafter more fully referred to, to this class of pipes, substantially as hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of my improved gripe, with pipe-stem inserted. Fig. 2 is a similar view, with cigar-holder and cigar inserted into the gripe instead of pipe; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the coiled steel-spring tube, which forms part of my improvement.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A is the mouth-piece, which may be made of wood, bone, hard rubber, meerschaum, amber, or any other suitable material, straight or curved, and of any suitable length. *a* denotes an annular shoulder, encircling the mouth-piece about half an inch from its end, so as to form a rest or abutment for the spring-tube B. The latter consists of a coiled metallic tube, as shown in Fig. 3, and is sprung upon the mouth-piece A on the cylindrical part below the shoulder, in the manner shown in Figs. 1 and 2, where it will be retained in place by its own tension. The end of the mouth-piece projecting into the spring-tube B has a cone-shaped recess, *b*, and the pipe-stem C, which projects into tube B from the other end, is scraped or cut off, so as to form a corresponding conical point, *c*, which, by fitting into the recess *b*, will insure an air-tight joint.

The cigar-holder D is made, preferably, of

hard rubber; but may be made of metal or other material. It is formed, preferably, by rolling a blank into the funnel shape represented in the drawing, the cigar being inserted into the mouth or large end, while the small end *d* of the holder is inserted into the spring-tube B, in the same manner as the stem of a clay pipe.

It is obvious that this cigar-holder may be made of any suitable size, so as to be used not only for cigars, but also for cigarettes; and also that the cigar or cigarette holder may be made from a coiled blank in the same manner as the spring-tube B, the edges overlapping each other, and forming an air-tight joint by pressing closely against each other; or that the edges may be united by soldering, or it may be struck up or molded in one piece, according to the nature of the material employed in its manufacture.

It is universally conceded by the best medical authorities, and others who have investigated the subject, that the injurious effects of tobacco-smoking are attributable more to the fact that pipes as ordinarily constructed after a short use become charged with foulness and nicotine, than to the direct effects of the tobacco-smoke; and hence the desirability, in a sanitary point of view, of frequently changing the pipe. But clay pipes are the only kind of pipes in the market sufficiently cheap to warrant constant changing, and these are objectionable on account of their brittleness, causing the smoker often to bite the stem off, and also on account of the adherence of the mouth-piece, when wet, to the lips, unless protected by sealing-wax or a similar coating. By my improvement, however, the smoker cannot bite the stem in two, nor will it adhere to the lips, as it does not touch them, while at the same time the old pipe may be readily withdrawn from the gripe and a new one inserted.

As my improved gripe may be made of costly as well as cheap material, the use of it will, if desired, obviate or set off the "cheap" look of clay pipes, which is another objection to their general introduction among the better classes, notwithstanding the fact that no pipes are better absorbers of nicotine, and therefore less injurious.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

As an article of manufacture, the spring pipe gripe or holder herein described, consisting of the mouth-piece A, having annular shoulder *a* and conical recess *b*, and spring-tube B, substantially as described, for use interchangeably with a pipe or with a cigar-

holder, in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD S. MAY.

Witnesses:

SOL. A. CASS,  
JAMES M. KENT.