W. A. ABBOTT.

Apparatus for Bundling Cigars.

No. 203,867. Patented May 21, 1878.

Fig. 1

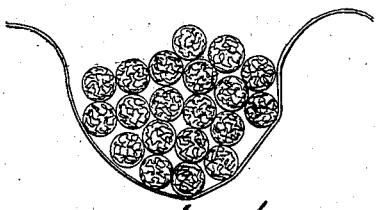


Fig. 4

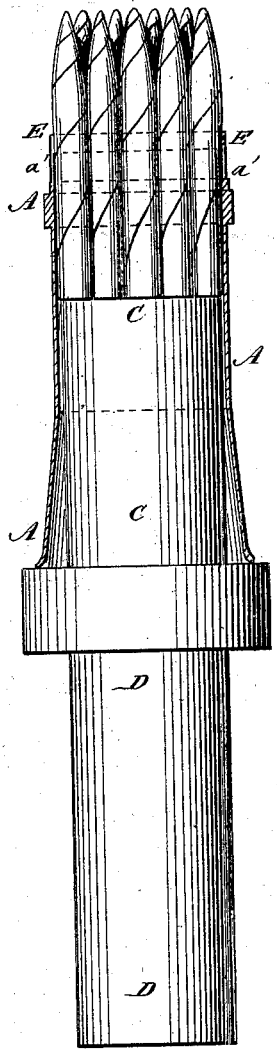


Fig. 2

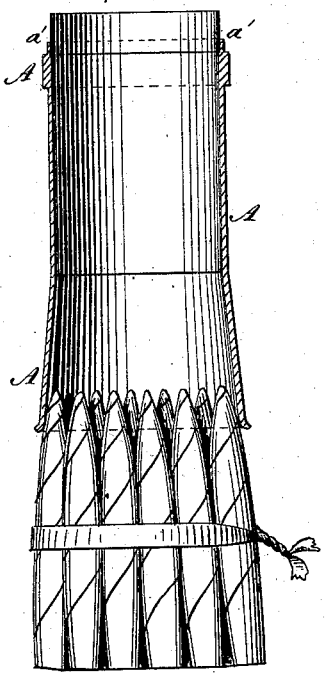


Fig. 6

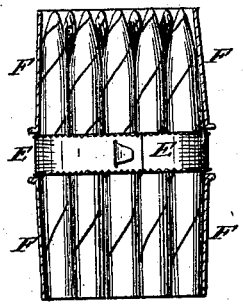


Fig. 7

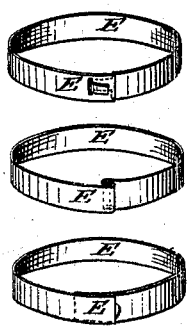


Fig. 3

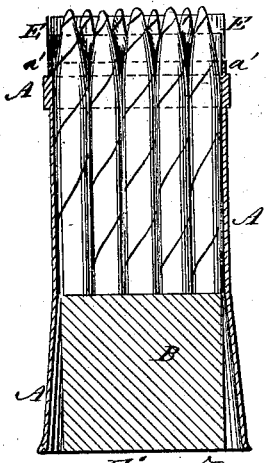
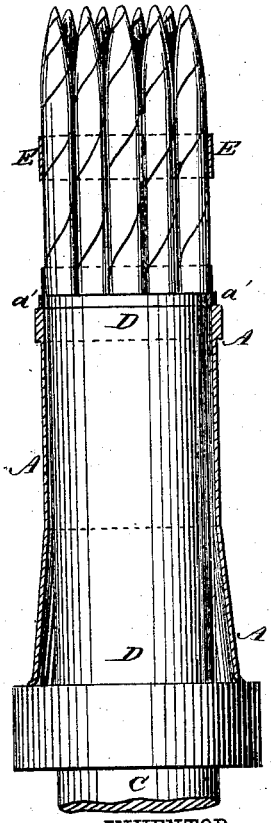


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. ABBOTT, OF WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN APPARATUS FOR BUNDLING CIGARS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,867**, dated May 21, 1878; application filed January 10, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. ABBOTT, of Westfield, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Means for Bundling Cigars, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 represents the cigars for a bundle and on a band; Fig. 2, the flared tube for compressing the bundle; Fig. 3, the flared tube and the first follower employed; Fig. 4, the tube with a longer follower to force the bundle partially through the tube and its band; Fig. 5, the tube with a still longer follower that forces the bundle almost through the tube; Fig. 6, a tube on each side of band to taper the ends of the bundle. Fig. 7 represents the band, having its ends secured by a hook and cross-slot, double hooks, and a button and slot.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved means for bundling cigars, which will enable the work to be done much quicker than when done in the usual way, will produce neater and more uniform bundles which will enable the bundles to be put up in solid metallic bands, and will enable a taper to be given to the ends of the bundles when desired.

The invention will first be described in connection with the drawing, and then pointed out in the claims.

A represents a tube of such a size as to contain a bundle of cigars. The lower end of the tube A is made flaring to enable the cigars to be readily put into it, and its upper part, for the length of a cigar, is made straight.

B is a follower, which is made of a length equal to the length of the flaring lower part of the tube A and of a diameter equal to the inner diameter of the straight part of said tube. C is a follower of the same diameter as the follower B, and of such a length as to extend through the flaring part and about half-way through the straight part of the tube A. D is a follower of the same diameter as the followers B C, and of such a length as to extend almost through the tube A. The followers C D may be made in one piece, and separated from each other by a collar, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

Upon the upper end of the tube A is formed a shoulder, *a'*, to receive a solid metal band, E. The ends of the metal band E may be soldered together, as shown by the lower band in Fig. 7, or seamed to each other, as shown by the middle band of Fig. 7; or a tongue may be formed upon one end to be passed through a cross-slot in the other end, and bent back, as shown in the upper band in Fig. 7.

In using the apparatus the proper number of cigars for a bundle are arranged in an ordinary bundling-trough, or in the hand, and are drawn together by an open ribbon, or by the hand, are placed upon their ends upon the bench, and their upper ends are inserted into the flaring end of the tube A, as shown in Fig. 2, and the said tube is pushed down upon them until its lower end rests upon the bench. The tube A is then raised, placed over the follower B, and again pushed down until its lower end rests upon the bench, which brings the cigars into the straight part of the tube A, as shown in Fig. 3. A band, E, is now placed upon the shoulder at the upper end of the tube A, and the said tube A is then raised from the follower B, and pressed down upon the follower C until its lower edge rests upon the collar of the said follower C. This brings the band E, which rises about half its width above the upper end of the tube A to the middle of the collection of cigars. In case two or three tubes A are used, each collection of cigars is allowed to stand two or three minutes after being forced into the straight part of the tube A before it is placed upon the follower C. In case only one tube A be used, the follower B is omitted, and the tube A is placed upon the follower C as soon as the cigars have been pressed into the said tube A. The tube A is now removed from the follower C, placed upon the follower D, and pressed down until its lower end rests upon the collar of the said follower D. This forces the cigars out of the tube A, with the band E around their middle part, as shown in Fig. 5.

It should be observed that while the tube A is being pressed down upon the follower C the lower part of the band E should be pressed against the said tube A, to keep the said band

from slipping off the said tube; and that while the tube A is being pressed down upon the follower D the upper part of the band E should be pressed against the cigars, to cause the said band E to slip off the said tube A and remain upon the cigars, as shown in Fig. 5.

If it is desired to give a taper to the ends of the bundles, the tapering bands or cups F are pressed upon the said ends and allowed to remain there until the cigars have set. In this way the cigars are bundled very rapidly, very uniformly, and without any danger of breaking the cigars or tearing their wrappers, which often happens when the bundles are tied with a ribbon in the usual way.

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

1. The tube A, having a flare at one end, in combination with a follower, B, equal in length to said flare, as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination, with tube A, having flare at one end, of the collared follower C, equal in length to the flare and about one-half the length of the tube, to force the bundle of previously-compressed cigars about halfway through the machine.

3. The combination, with the tube A having the shoulder *a'*, of the collared follower D, that passes nearly through the tube to enable the band E to be applied, as specified.

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Witnesses:
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