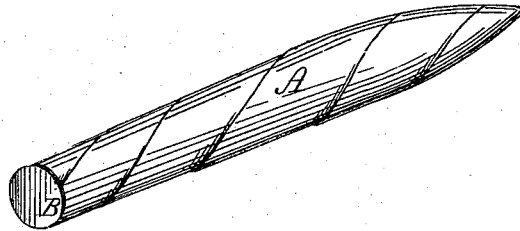


W. D. O'CONNOR.
Method of Stamping Cigars with Revenue Stamps.

No. 205,127.

Patented June 18, 1878.



Witnesses:
M. George
J. L. Freeman

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM D. O'CONNOR, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN METHODS OF STAMPING CIGARS WITH REVENUE-STAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **205,127**, dated June 18, 1878; application filed May 8, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM D. O'CONNOR, of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in the Methods and Means for Stamping Cigars with Revenue-Stamps, of which the following is a specification:

Attempts have heretofore been made to apply stamps to cigars themselves in contradistinction to applying the same to boxes containing the cigars.

A stamp in the form of a fillet or tube has been suggested to encircle the cigar. It has also been suggested to bind the stamp to the cigar by means of the cigar-wrapper. These plans, however, are open to objections on various scores. The latter plan is applicable only in the process of manufacture of the cigar, and consequently cannot be applied to imported cigars. The former plan permits the stamped fillet to be easily removed, unless it is so made as to be expensive and troublesome to apply; and, furthermore, it, too, cannot be applied to cigars in bundles, as imported cigars generally are. The bundles must be broken, and the cigars composing any one bundle separated and taken apart before the stamps can be applied. This is a serious and indeed quite insurmountable objection, because imported cigars are generally in bundles, and are so tightly put together that each has its particular shape and place in the bundle, and consequently when they are once disturbed it is difficult, if not impossible, to put them properly together again.

It has also been proposed to line the cigar-box with stamped paper with the ends of the cigars stuck thereto in such manner that the paper will be destroyed in removing the cigars; but this plan is defective, in that it is by no means certain that all the cigars will adhere to the paper; and, further, no provision is made for stamping individual cigars which will permit sales of small quantities less than a box, or which will admit of cigars being exposed for sale in any other place than the box which contains the stamped paper.

The plan which I have adopted is open to none of the objections above recited. My method of procedure is to provide a stamp, preferably of disk form, and of a size to fit the cut end of the cigar. It is, in fact, a wafer-like stamp, which is affixed to the cut end of the cigar. I stamp each individual cigar with its own stamp, thus avoiding the objection to stamping cigars in bulk with one common stamp, and the stamp is so formed that it may be applied to each cigar in bundle, without necessitating breaking or taking apart the bundle.

The stamps are printed upon paper or other material, and are to be issued in sheets perforated for the purpose of separation after the manner of postage-stamps, and sold in this form by the government to the cigar-manufacturer. The sheets should be prepared with adhesive substance, as sheets of postage-stamps are.

In applying the stamp, the ends of the cigars also should be touched with adhesive substance, with a view to securing a perfect mutuality of adhesion between the cigar and the stamp.

When the cigar thus stamped is lighted the stamp is instantly destroyed.

In the accompanying drawing is represented a cigar stamped in accordance with my invention.

A is the cigar, and B the stamp.

Having described my invention, I shall state my claim, as follows:

The method herein described of applying revenue-stamps, of the form and construction described, to cigars, by affixing a separate and distinct stamp to the cut end of each individual cigar, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature this 7th day of May, 1878.

W. D. O'CONNOR.

Witnesses:

M. GEORGES,
M. BAILEY.