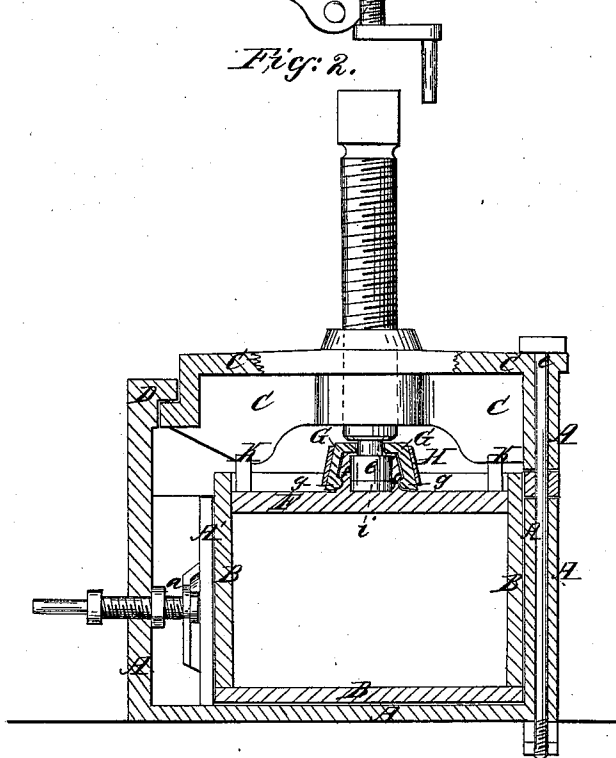
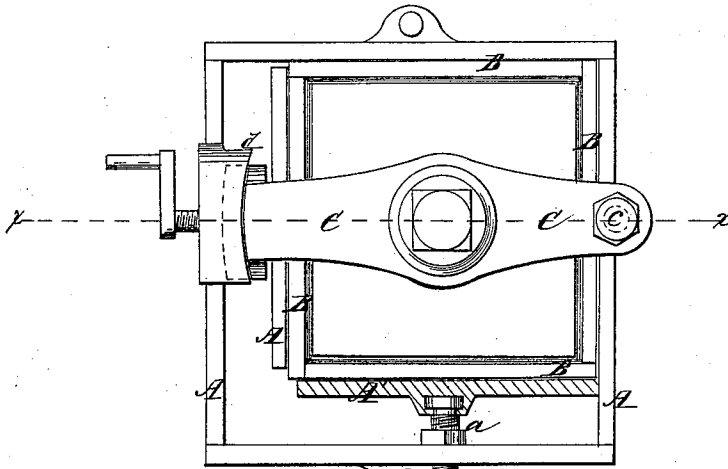


T. N. Read,
Tobacco Press.

N^o 70,900.

Patented Nov. 12, 1867.



Witnesses:
Theo. Trusche
J. Allen Chase

Inventor:
T. N. Read
Per Munnell
Attorneys

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS N. READ, OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA.

Letters Patent No. 70,900, dated November 12, 1867.

IMPROVED TOBACCO-PRESS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, T. N. READ, of Danville, in the county of Pittsylvania, and State of Virginia, have invented a new and improved Tobacco-Press; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improved tobacco-press. It consists of a box of iron or other suitable material, in which are two false sides or plates, movable within the box-frame, in the direction of a line at right angles to their planes. These false sides serve to clamp the pressing-box, and hold it securely by means of two screws operated by cranks bearing in the walls of the box-frame. The toe of a screw which works in a hinged cross-head sets into a socket made for it in the centre of a presser-plate or follower, which fits into the pressing-box. A sleeve, divided into two equal portions, each provided with an internal rim, fits over the socket on the follower and toe of the screw, holding the latter to the follower, but allowing the screw and follower to turn independently of each other. A band or tire passes over the sleeve, and holds the two portions thereof together. In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a top view, partly in section, of my improved tobacco-press, and

Figure 2 is a vertical section thereof at line *x x* of fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A A is a box or shrouding of iron or other suitable material, having two false sides A' A', adjustable by means of the clamping-screws *a a*, or by cams, or other equivalent means, so as to clamp the presser-box B inserted in box A, and preventing the sides from bursting when the tobacco is pressed. C is a hinged cross-head to the iron box or shrouding A, hinged at *c*, and setting into the bearing D, having a stop at *d*, to prevent the cross-head from going too far. Through cross-head C the screw E passes, its toe *e* setting into the receptacle *f* on follower F. By the hinged arrangement of cross-head C, the screw E and follower F can be swung out and away from box B, enabling it to be filled or emptied without moving it from shrouding-box A. Fitting round the socket *f* and over the toe *e* is the L-shaped truncated conical body G G, formed in two equal parts, having a rim, *g*, fitting into a groove on the outer circumference of the socket *f*, and held together by a band or tire, H, surrounding said body G G. By this arrangement the screw E and follower F are held together, each being at the same time free to turn without the other. Beneath the toe *e* are two washers, *i*, the larger being above and the smaller below, whereby, the larger, turning on the smaller, the friction and wear on the toe *e* are sensibly diminished. K K are stops placed on the follower F, preventing the follower from being turned with the screw when drawn up out of the friction-box B.

Among the advantages possessed by my improved tobacco-press over those now in use, the following may be enumerated: It is cheaper, both in original cost of construction and in maintenance; it is operated in less time, and is far more durable. The operator being enabled to fill and empty the box by revolving the cross-head screw and follower without releasing the presser-box from the shrouding-box, saves much time, and avoids much wear and tear. The lifting of heavy bands and blocks, as required in ordinary presses, is dispensed with. It is more compact, and needs less space in which to be operated.

It is obvious that, although designed for use as a tobacco-press, my press may be applied to press other substances and materials.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The shrouding-box A, provided with false sides A A, substantially as and for the purpose described.
2. The hinged cross-head C, when combined with the screw E, as and for the purposes and operating in manner substantially as specified.
3. The truncated conical body G G, in combination with socket *f*, toe *e*, and band H, substantially as and for the purposes above set forth and described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 10th day of September, 1867.

THOS. N. READ.

Witnesses:

E. E. BOULDIN,
P. BOULDIN.