

E. HOLBROOK, Jr.  
Lump Tobacco Machine.

2. Sheets—Sheet 1.

No. 42,485.

Patented April 26, 1864.

Fig. 2.

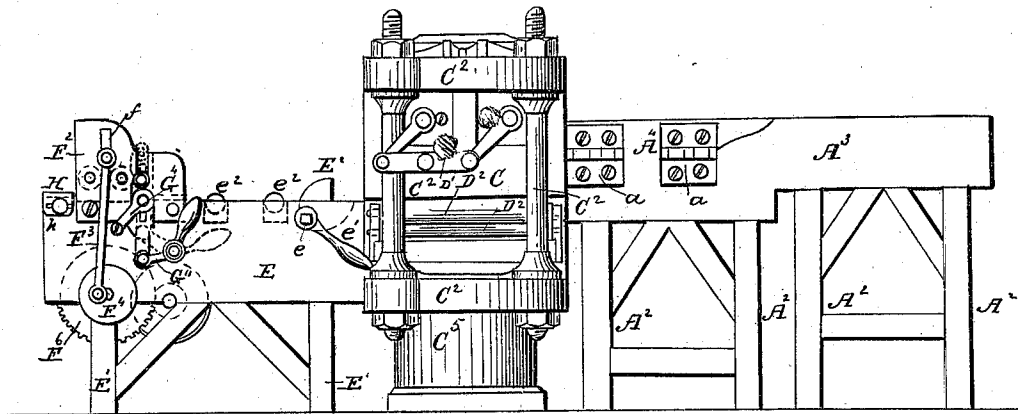


Fig. 1.

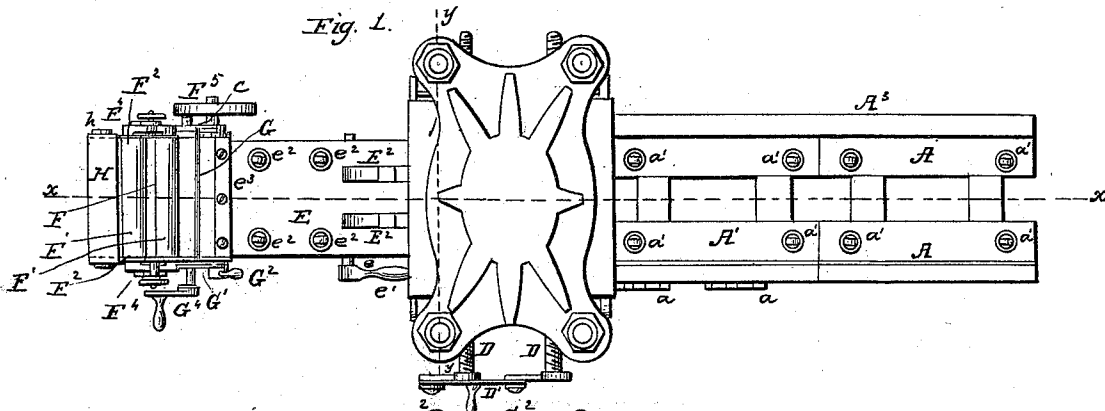
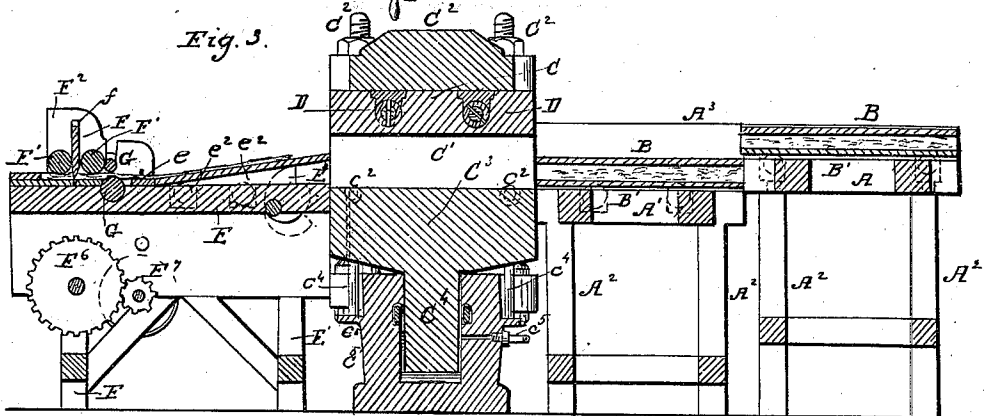


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:  
John L. DuBois  
Detlevus Knight.

Inventor:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD HOLBROOK, JR., OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

## LUMP-TOBACCO MACHINE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 42,455, dated April 26, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern.*

Be it known that I, EDWARD HOLBROOK, Jr., of Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Forming Tobacco Sheets; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan of a machine illustrating my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section in the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an end elevation. Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse section in the line *y y*, 1.

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

The object of this invention is to press stemmed leaf-tobacco into sheets with rapidity, economy, and cleanliness, preparatory to its being divided into slabs and lumps.

To this end the invention consists, first, in laying the leaves in flat form between movable boards or plates, and by the aid of a suitable press compressing them into sheets, as hereinafter described; second, in the employment or use of a feeding-table in two or more sections of unequal height, for the objects hereinafter explained; third, in the employment of a feeding-table provided with suitable rollers or wheels to facilitate the conveying of the tobacco to the press, as hereinafter described; fourth, in the combination, with the feeding-table, of one or more adjustable stops or gages to arrest the motion of the feed-boards when passed to a proper position within the press.

In order that others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may be enabled to fully understand and use the same, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the drawings, A A' may represent a feeding-table mounted upon supports A<sup>2</sup>, and inclosed by the side pieces, A<sup>3</sup> A<sup>3</sup>. This table, as shown in Fig. 2, is formed in two sections, which are indicated, respectively, by the letters A A', one of said sections, A, being elevated somewhat above the other, in order that two persons may work with convenience and expedition at the table, and thus have a

constant supply of tobacco in readiness to be submitted to the action of the press.

B B' represent flat boards, between which the tobacco is arranged in proper quantity to form a sheet before being passed into the press, said boards being moistened or lubricated to prevent the gummy matter in the tobacco from accumulating thereon, and permit the tobacco to readily slide therefrom after having been pressed in sheets.

A portion, A<sup>4</sup>, of the side pieces, A<sup>3</sup>, is provided with hinges *a*, whereby it is adapted to be turned down to allow the workman to feed the tobacco onto the table A' with facility. The table or tables A A' are provided with casters *a'*, to adapt the boards B B', with the tobacco between them, to be more readily slid into the press.

C represents the upper wall, C' C' the adjustable side walls, and C<sup>3</sup> the bottom, of a press, which is inclosed by a suitable retainer, C<sup>2</sup>.

D D represent screws which pass through the walls C' C' of the press and are employed in connection with a compound crank, D', by means of which the screws may be turned in such manner as to move the walls C' in opposite directions, thus increasing the space between the latter and allowing the boards B B', with their charge of tobacco, to be passed into the press without interception, which done the crank D may be operated reversely, so as to cause the walls C, to approach each other until they come in contact with the carrying-boards.

To facilitate the feeding of the tobacco to the press, I employ one or more adjustable gages, E', which may be of semicircular or other shape, and may be provided with a hand-lever and a spring-catch to place and retain them in their prominent or working position. These gages, when turned to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 3, serve to arrest the feed-boards B B' at the proper point as they are passed into the press with tobacco between them. The correct adjustment of the sheets within the press is thus effected without difficulty or delay, and when the pressing has been completed the said gages, by turning them forward or backward, as the case may be, are lowered to the level of the table, so as to permit the feed-boards to pass freely over them

in forwarding the pressed sheets to the cutting mechanism.

The bottom  $C^3$  of the press is formed with a projection,  $C^4$ , which enters a receiver,  $C^5$ , to which latter water or other liquid may be supplied through a pipe,  $c$ , and aperture  $c'$ . This bottom  $C^3$  constitutes a ram or a compressing medium similar to a piston. Liquid being introduced into the receiver  $C^5$ , the ram  $C^3$  ascends with great force and compresses into compact sheets the tobacco which may be placed between the same and the upper wall,  $C$ . The tobacco having been thoroughly compressed, the liquid in the receiver  $C^5$  is allowed to pass out at a suitable valve, when the ram  $C^3$  falls to its lower position. This operation of elevating and lowering the ram  $C^3$  may be performed as rapidly as the workmen can supply the tobacco from the feeding-table.

I have thus described a form of press which I have applied to my invention with good effect; but having made this the subject of a separate application, I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself to the use of this particular press.

The drawings also represent an improved slabbing apparatus, which, having been made the subject of a separate application, requires no specific description here.

I do not desire to be understood as limiting myself to the use of a table with two sections only. The object of this part of my invention

is to provide a succession of different levels on which the feed-boards may be placed for the reception of the leaves, so that when the series of feeds or layers are completed they may, with convenience, be slipped successively one upon another and all passed into the press together. It will be manifest that for this purpose a table of three, four, or more sections or levels may be employed to receive as many pairs of feed-boards.

Having thus described my invention, the following is what I claim as new therein and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. Forming tobacco sheets from the leaves by laying the leaves in flat form between movable boards or plates and pressing, substantially as set forth.

2. A feeding-table formed in two or more sections,  $A A'$ , arranged at different heights, substantially as and for the purpose explained.

3. The wheels or rollers  $a$ , in combination with the table  $A A'$ , adapted for use, substantially as and for the purposes described.

4. In combination with the aforesaid feeding-table, one or more adjustable gages,  $E^2$ , employed, in the manner described, to regulate the introduction of the tobacco into the press.

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Witnesses:

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