

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER SCHEPPACH, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

CIGAR-BUTT CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,726, dated October 31, 1882.

Application filed April 24, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER SCHEPPACH, of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigar-Butt Cutters, of which the following is a specification.

Clamps, a cutting-knife, a supporting-frame, and means for gaging the length of the cigar have heretofore been used; but this invention relates to an improved cigar-butt cutter by which the butt of the cigar is cut off square, whatever be the length and thickness of the same; and it consists essentially of a vertically-adjustable crutch or bridge that is arranged alongside of the main frame and clamped thereto jointly with a longitudinally-adjustable gage.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an end view of my improved cigar-butt cutter with raised clamp and cutting-knife. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same with clamp and knife lowered for cutting off the butt. Fig. 3 is a side view of the device, and Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section of said device on line *x x*, Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a detached view of the crutch or bridge.

Similar letters of reference indicate the corresponding parts.

In the drawings, A represents the supporting-frame of my improved cigar-butt cutter, which frame is made of cast metal with an elongated middle portion and supporting end standards, *a a'*, that may be attached by screws or otherwise to the cigar-maker's table or bench. The left-hand standard, *a*, is made higher than the right-hand standard, *a'*, so as to support the clamping and cutting mechanism. This clamping mechanism consists of a lower fixed clamp, *b*, and of a vertically-movable clamp, *b'*, both of segmental shape. The latter is guided by a vertical stem or shank, *b²*, in a dovetailed recess, *b³*, of the extended end standard, *a*. An oscillating cutting-knife, B, is rigidly screwed to an elbow-shaped arm, B', that is keyed to a longitudinal shaft, B², supported in bearings of rearwardly-extending arms *a²* of the standards *a*. The oscillating knife B is lowered by means of a lever, B³, applied to the right-hand end of the shaft B² and raised again by the action of a strong spiral spring, *d*, that is connected to the shaft and to the frame A, as shown clearly in Fig. 4.

The extent of oscillating motion of the cutting-knife B is governed in one direction by a fixed radial pin or stud, *d'*, of the shaft, which abuts against the longitudinal portion of the frame A, as shown in Fig. 4, in the opposite direction by the contact of the lever B³ with the frame A. The oscillating motion imparted to the cutting-knife by the lever and shaft also operates the movable butt-clamp *b'* by means of an intermediate rod, *e*, that is pivoted at the lower end to a rear extension of the arm B' of the cutting-knife B. To the threaded upper end of the rod *e* is applied a screw-nut, *e'*, and below the same the perforated rear end of a fulcrumed lever, *e²*, the slotted front end of which engages a pin on the shank *b²* of the vertically-movable clamp *b'*. Intermediately between the rear end of the fulcrumed lever *e²* and the shoulder *e³* of the connecting-rod *e* is interposed a spiral spring, *f*, that tends by its pressure upon the fulcrumed lever *e²* to move the clamp *b'* in downward direction in advance of the cutting-knife as soon as it is oscillated by the actuating-lever B³ and shaft B². The clamp *b'* presses thereby the butt of the cigar down upon the fixed clamp *b*, both clamps holding the butt of the cigar firmly for the cutting action of the knife. During the cutting action of the knife the rod *e* is raised above the rear end of the fulcrumed lever *e²*, as shown in Fig. 2. As soon as the knife has cut off the butt of the cigar the lever B³ is released, whereby the cutting-knife B is returned by the spring *d* into raised position. The rod *e* engages by its nut *e'* the rear end of the fulcrumed lever *e²*, and returns thereby the movable clamp into its former raised position. As the motion of the movable clamp *b'* is controlled by the motion of the cutting-knife in such a manner that the clamping action takes place before the cutting action of the knife, a regular and uniform cutting off of the butt of the cigar is obtained.

The elongated body of frame A is provided with a longitudinal groove, *g*, of dovetail shape, in which is guided the dovetailed base-plate *g'* of a clamp-post, *g²*. To this clamp-post is applied the perforated lower part of a vertical gage, C, which slides by an inwardly-extending flange, *h*, along the body of the frame A. To the clamp-post is further applied the end of a rectangularly-bent arm of a crutch or

bridge, D, which serves to support the cigar when the same is placed in position so as to extend from the gage to the fixed clamp *b*, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3. The gage and bridge are jointly adjustable in longitudinal direction in the dovetail groove of the frame A, the bridge being, furthermore, vertically movable on the clamp-post g^2 by the fingers and held in position by clamp-nut g^3 , operated by the fingers. When they are adjusted to the length and thickness of the cigars to be trimmed they are tightly clamped to the frame by means of a clamp-nut, g^3 , that turns on the threaded end of the clamp-post g^2 . The object of the vertical adjustment of the crutch or bridge D is to provide for the different thicknesses of cigars, a thick cigar requiring a lower adjustment of the bridge than a thinner one, so that the center line of the cigar is always parallel to the frame A. In this position of the cigar the butt is cut off at right angles to the center line, which is not the case in the cigar-cutters heretofore in use, which are used indiscriminately for cigars of different thicknesses, so that the butt is not in all cases cut off square, but at a slight angle of inclination to the vertical line. This is entirely obviated by the use of the adjustable bridge, as the same is set accurately to the thickness of the cigar, while the gage determines the length of the same.

As the cutting mechanism is arranged at the left hand of the device, the cigar, after being rolled and wrapped, is placed in position on the cutter with the left hand and the lever carried down by the right hand, whereby the turning over of the cigar which is required with the

butt-cutting devices heretofore in use is dispensed with, and consequently time and labor saved and the trimming of the cigars facilitated.

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

1. A cigar-cutter having an oscillating cutting-knife, a fixed clamping-jaw having a semicircular inclosing face, a vertically-movable clamping-jaw having a semicircular inclosing face, a vertically-adjustable crutch, whereby cigars of different sizes may be so presented to the knife as to secure a straight cut at right angles to the axis of the cigar, means for actuating the knife, and means for causing said clamping-jaws to grasp the cigar in advance of the cutting-knife, substantially as described.

2. A cigar-butt cutter having a longitudinally and vertically adjustable crutch for raising or lowering the tip end of a cigar, a gage for measuring the length of the cigar, movable longitudinally on the bar A, and means for securing the crutch and gage, substantially as described.

3. A cigar-butt cutter having the frame A, provided with guide-groove *g*, clamp-post g^2 , having base-plate g' , vertical gage C, crutch or bridge D, and clamp-nut g^3 , substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PETER SCHEPPACH.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,
SIDNEY MANN.