No. 721,615. PATENTED FEB. 24, 1903.

W. W. SMITH.

TOBACCO LEAF HANGER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 20, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

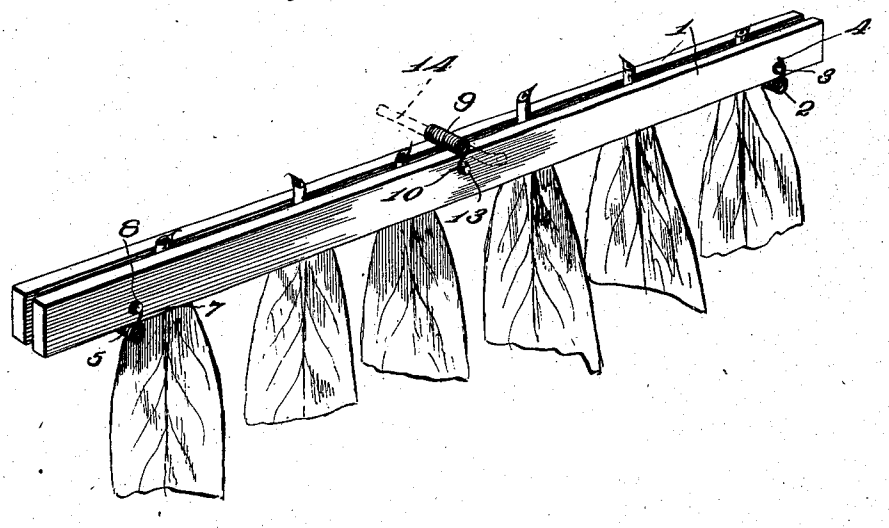


Fig. 2.

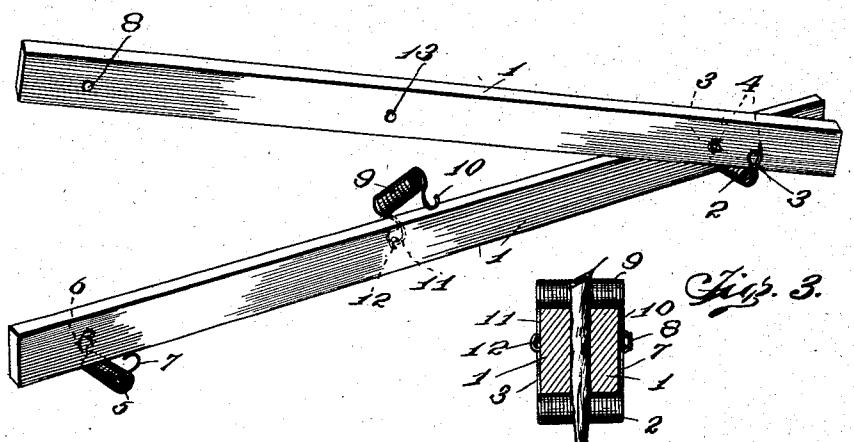


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. SMITH, OF BROWNS SUMMIT, NORTH CAROLINA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JAMES H. McNEILL, OF BROWNS SUMMIT, NORTH CAROLINA.

TOBACCO-LEAF HANGER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,615, dated February 24, 1903.

Application filed December 20, 1902. Serial No. 136,050. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Browns Summit, in the county of Guilford and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tobacco-Leaf Hangers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in tobacco-hangers.

The object of my invention is the production of a device for holding the leaves of tobacco-plants positively between the members and with a uniform pressure, even though the same are of unequal thickness.

Another object of my invention is the construction of a device which can be supplied with the leaves, and said leaves by means of the construction can be positively secured between the parallel members of the hanger.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combinations and arrangements of parts, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention, showing the parts assembled and the device carrying a number of leaves. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of my invention, showing the members disassembled. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional end view of my invention, illustrating the parts assembled and a stem retained between the same.

Like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates the parallel members, which may be formed from any suitable material. The members are positively secured near one of their ends by means of a coiled spring 2, said spring having looped ends 3 and suitable securing means 4. The coiled spring 5 is permanently secured near the opposite end of one of the members, said spring having a loop 6 formed at one of its ends and a hook 7 at its opposite end. Suitable means 8 is provided upon the parallel member for the engagement of a hooked end 7 of the coiled spring 5. Secured intermediate the ends of the two members is a suitable suspending and locking device 9, comprising a coiled spring, having one of its ends forming a hook 10 and its opposite end provided with a loop 11, which is permanently secured to one of the members 1 by suitable means 12. The hook 10 of the spring 9 is adapted to engage suitable means 13, mounted upon the opposite member 1, when the members are secured in a locked position. Owing to the construction of the spring 9, it not only provides suitable locking means, but also provides means for engaging a hook for suspending the hanger, as is indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1. A hook or nail 14 can be employed for the purpose of engaging the spring 9, and thereby suspend the hanger.

In operation the springs 5 and 9 can be easily detached from one of the parallel members, and the said detached member can be quickly swung out of position and a row of leaves placed in a horizontal position when the device is placed upon the ground in the field or a house, and after the leaves have been placed in position the member which has been swung out of the parallel position can be placed over the same, and the spring 5 by means of the hook 7 can be easily connected to the said member, and before the member which has been swung out of position is permanently locked in a parallel position with the corresponding member the hook 10 on the spring 9 is placed into engagement with the suitable means 13.

The coiled springs permit of the retraction of the members, as the leaves, which are placed between the same in a green or unripe condition, shrink, and therefore would, if retained together by means of a cord or like device, become detached therefrom; but owing to the construction of my invention the parallel members conform with the shrinkage of said leaves.

One of the great advantages of my invention is that the hanger can be filled in the field by detaching one of its ends and swinging the detached member out of position and

after the same is filled can be easily and quickly assembled and permanently locked.

In the foregoing description I have described the preferred form of my invention; but I do not limit myself thereto, as I am aware that modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit of my invention or sacrificing the advantages thereof, and I therefore reserve the right to make such changes as fairly fall within the scope of my invention.

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

1. A tobacco-hanger comprising a plurality of members, means flexibly and permanently connecting said members together at one of their ends, flexible detachable securing means detachably attached at their opposite ends for retaining such ends together, and flexible locking means intermediate the length of said members, substantially as described.

2. A tobacco-hanger comprising two members, a flexible connection permanently securing said members together retained upon one side near their ends, a flexible connection detachably secured near the opposite end upon the same side, and a flexible hanging and locking device interposed intermediate the ends of the members upon the opposite side, substantially as described.

3. A tobacco-hanger comprising two members, a coiled spring having a loop at each of its ends, each loop permanently secured to one of the members, a coiled spring having a loop at one of its ends and a hook at the other, means for permanently securing the looped end to a member at one of its ends, and means for engaging the hooked end of said spring upon the parallel member, and a detachable coiled spring locking and suspending device interposed intermediate the ends of said members, substantially as described.

4. A tobacco-hanger comprising two members, a coiled spring having an extended loop at each end, means for permanently securing said loops to the members near one of their ends, a coiled spring having a loop and a hook detachably secured upon the same side of the members near the opposite ends, and a coiled spring forming a locking and suspending means permanently secured to one member and detachably secured to the other interposed centrally upon the opposite side of the members, substantially as described.

5. A tobacco-hanger comprising two members, flexible means permanently connecting said members together at one of their ends, flexible means detachably securing said members together at their opposite ends, and flexible locking means arranged centrally of said members, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM W. SMITH.

Witnesses:
JAMES H. MCNEILL,
ARCHIE J. LAMBETH.