J. L. JONES.

PLUG-TOBACCO MACHINE.

No. 172,746. Patented Jan. 25, 1876.

FIG. I.

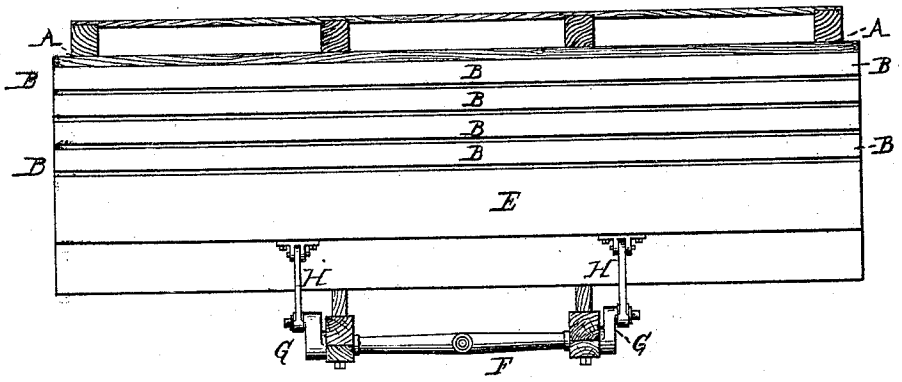


FIG. II.

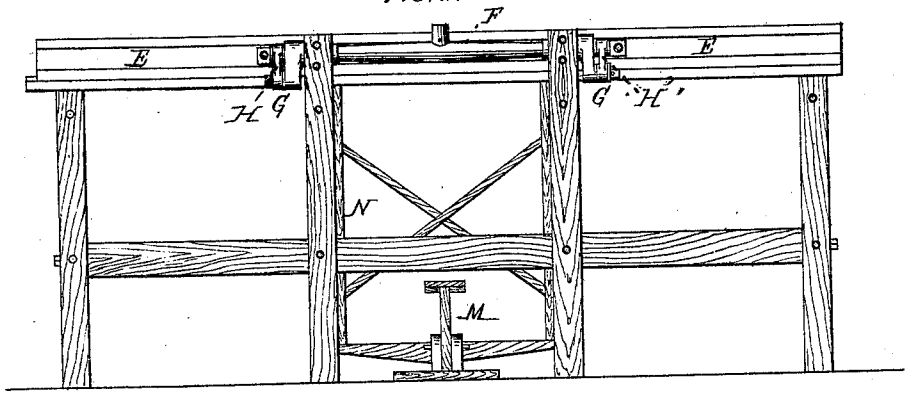


FIG. III^a.

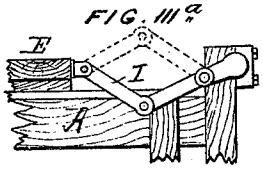


FIG. III.

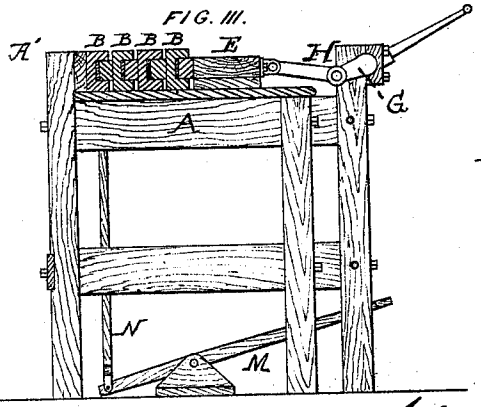
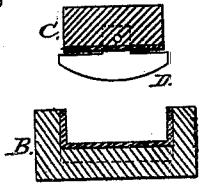


FIG. IV.



WITNESSES:

A. H. Norris

John L. Boomer

INVENTOR:

John L. Jones

By James L. Norris

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. JONES, OF GREENSBOROUGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN PLUG-TOBACCO MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **172,746**, dated January 25, 1876; application filed November 13, 1874.

CASE A.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. JONES, of Greensborough, in the county of Guilford and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tobacco-Presses, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of apparatus for manufacturing plug-tobacco in which molds are employed to receive the tobacco, and which molds are provided with a follower carrying a series of knives, in such manner that, when the follower is forced into the molds, the same will act to press the tobacco, and, at the same time, cut it into the desired sized plugs.

My invention consists of a horizontal table provided with a vertical abutment, and a follower or presser-bar constructed to slide on said horizontal table, between which presser-bar and abutment a series of the molds are placed, with a vertical plunger and a treadle for operating the same, whereby, when the presser-bar has pressed the series of molds, the one adjacent to the abutment can be forced upward by the plunger, the remaining molds moved against the abutment, a fresh mold placed between the presser-bar and the molds, and thereby the entire series of molds are subjected to successive pressing operations, in order to effectually attain a perfect pressing of the tobacco in all the molds.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a plan or top view of a tobacco-press constructed according to my invention, showing the presser-bar operated by a crank-shaft and connecting-rods; Fig. 2, a front elevation of the same; Fig. 3, a transverse section, representing the position of the molds and other parts; and Fig. 3ª illustrates the presser-bar operated by toggle-levers. Fig. 4 is a cross-section of one of the molds, its follower-plate, and series of cutting-knives.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, A represents the table, which is of a sufficient size to receive the series of molds B, which are placed edgewise on the top of the table, and against a vertical abutment, A′, at one edge of the table.

The molds, which are made in the form of troughs or boxes, are provided with open ends, and with one side, which is closed by means of a follower-plate, C, after the mold has been filled with tobacco.

The follower-plate of each mold is constructed with a series of knives or cutters, D, (see Fig. 4,) said knives being designed to cut the tobacco-plug into pieces of the desired length at the same time that the pressing operation is taking place.

The molds, after having been filled with tobacco, and the follower-plate adjusted in place, are arranged on the table in order to be pressed, a series of molds being always pressed at the same time.

The pressing operation is performed by means of a follower or presser-bar, E, which is moved upon the horizontal table toward or from the molds by means of a rock-shaft, F, having cranks G at its ends, which carry connecting rods or links H, attached to the presser-bar E. By turning the said rock-shaft in the proper direction, through the medium of a lever or handle, made either detachable or fixed, the presser is forced against the outside mold, and the pressure is thus transmitted throughout the entire series of molds.

In order to effectually attain a perfect and uniform pressing and cutting of the tobacco in the molds, I successively remove the mold which is against the abutment A′ of the table, and move the remaining molds toward the said abutment, and then arrange a fresh mold between the presser-bar and the molds on the table, thereby subjecting the entire series of molds to successive pressing operations.

In order to conveniently remove this mold from the series of molds, I employ a vertical plunger or lifting-bar, N, which passes up through the table A adjacent to the abutment A′. The lower end of this plunger is connected with a lever or treadle, M, which is pivoted beneath the table, and adapted to be operated by the hands or feet. By depressing this treadle the plunger is forced up, and, coming in contact with the end mold, forces the same up and expels it from the series of molds.

It will, of course, be evident that any suitable mechanism can be employed for operating the horizontally-moving presser-bar—for instance, the toggle-levers I, (represented in Fig. 3ª,) or a screw, can be used with advantage.

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

The combination, in a machine for making plug-tobacco, of the horizontal table for supporting a series of molds, and having an abutment, against which they rest, a horizontally-moving presser-bar, for pressing the molds, and a vertical plunger or lifter-bar, connected with a treadle, for expelling one of the molds from the table, substantially as described, for the object specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand.

JOHN L. JONES.

Witnesses:

JAMES L. NORRIS,

JOS. L. COOMBS.