

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY BINGHAM, OF FRESHFIELD, NEAR LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

TOBACCO-SMOKING MIXTURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 445,438, dated January 27, 1891.

Application filed July 31, 1890. Serial No. 360,555. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY BINGHAM, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, residing at Freshfield, near Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, England, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Tobacco-Smoking Mixture, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object the manufacture or production of a tobacco-smoking mixture in which the last portion of a charge of tobacco of a pipefull or the end of a cigar or cigarette shall not become wet or charged with moisture, as usually occurs—that is to say, when ordinary cut tobacco is smoked in a pipe, or a cigar or cigarette is smoked, the last portion of the tobacco or the end of the cigar or cigarette usually is found to be charged with moisture and is not so agreeable to smoke, and acts, moreover, in consequence, detrimentally upon the system and health; and the end sought to attain is to render the last portion of a pipe of tobacco, cigar, or cigarette harmless or as agreeable to the smoker as the first and main portion thereof.

To this end and according to this invention I mix with the tobacco a certain portion of non-combustible material, preferably asbestos fiber, or in lieu of asbestos any other analogous or equivalent fiber—such as silica fiber or silicated fiber, or the like—may be used. A suitable and sufficient proportion of asbestos fiber (when this fiber is used) I have found to be from one to two per cent., by weight, of the tobacco; but in tobacco of lighter or stronger or drier or wetter kind, respectively, a less or greater proportion of the fiber may be used.

In manufacturing the mixture for smoking in pipes or cigarettes I, according to one method, take two, three, four, or more tobacco-leaves and arrange them one upon another, and then lay upon them a layer of the fiber or material and repeat these alternate layers of tobacco-leaf and fiber or material until a sufficient quantity is piled up, and

this pile may be then wrapped in another leaf or leaves. This pile I then subject to pressure in a suitable press and for sufficient length of time until the whole is pressed into a cake. This cake thus made is then ready to be cut up into ordinary smoking tobacco or mixture, and when so cut or spread or mixed the asbestos or other fiber becomes invisible.

The modification of this method of manufacturing consists in damping or wetting the leaves and fiber before or at the time of making the pile, the result of which is that the fiber becomes stained the same color as the tobacco, and is invisible before it is cut and spread or mixed. If, however, the tobacco-leaves are not very dry, the natural moisture of the leaves stains the fiber to the color of themselves when under pressure, and hence the wetting process is not required.

Another method of combining the tobacco and asbestos or other fiber consists in sprinkling or spreading such fiber loosely among the tobacco-leaves, and then manufacturing such mixture in the manner above described, or in the ordinary or any other suitable mode of manufacturing.

In applying the invention to the manufacture of cigars from tobacco-leaf the asbestos or other analogous fiber is sprinkled or laid or otherwise distributed among the leaves prior to being rolled up and formed in their usual shape, and the percentage of tobacco and asbestos fiber being preferably about the same as above specified.

Having thus described fully and clearly the nature, object, and effects of this invention, I wish it to be understood that it is not confined to such particular methods, although such methods are the ones I at present prefer for effecting the object and purposes of the invention, but that

What I claim in respect of the herein-described invention is—

1. As an article of manufacture, the herein-described smoking-mixture for pipes and for the fillers of cigars and cigarettes, consisting

of tobacco and incombustible fibrous material mixed together, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. A smoking-mixture for pipes and for the
5 fillers of cigarettes and cigars, consisting of tobacco and asbestos mixed together, substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. A smoking-mixture consisting of from
10 about ninety-nine to ninety-seven parts, by weight, of tobacco and of one to three parts,

by weight, of asbestos, substantially as described.

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

HENRY BINGHAM.

Witnesses:

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