(No Model.)

E. L. LEWIS.

NICOTINE ABSORBENT.

No. 495,186. Patented Apr. 11, 1893.

Fig. 1.

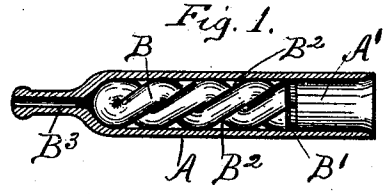

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3

Fig. 5.

Fig. 4

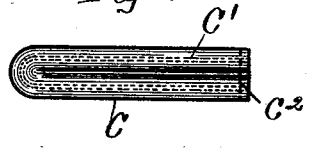

Fig. 6.

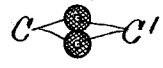

Fig. 7.

Fig. 8

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELLIOTT L. LEWIS, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

NICOTINE-ABSORBENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 495,186, dated April 11, 1893.

Application filed May 31, 1892. Serial No. 434,952. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLIOTT L. LEWIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Troy, county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nicotine-Absorbents, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to such improvements and it consists of the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter described and subsequently claimed.

Reference may be had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in the several figures therein.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a central longitudinal section of a cigarette holder containing my improved nicotine-absorbent shown in side elevation. Fig. 2 is a plan view of a long strip of flexible absorbent material provided with a stiffening core extending lengthwise of the strip. Fig. 3 is a vertical cross-section of the strip. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a short strip like that shown in Fig. 2, folded upon itself and having its ends stitched together. Fig. 5 is an end view of the folded end of the folded strip. Fig. 6 is an end view of the stitched end of the folded strip. Fig. 7 is an end view of the folded end of an absorbent like that shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 8 is an end view of the opposite end of the absorbent shown in Fig. 7.

My improved nicotine-absorbent constitutes a new article of manufacture and consists of a short strip of flexible absorbent material provided with a stiffening core, and having one end of the strip folded upon the other. The strips of absorbent material so made can be easily and quickly inserted in and expelled from the stem of a tobacco-pipe or cigarette holder. When an inserted strip is saturated with nicotine, it is expelled from the stem and a clean one inserted.

Referring to the drawings, A— is a cigarette holder and B— one of my improved nicotine absorbents inserted in the stem of the holder, in position for use.

C— is a long strip of absorbent material consisting of fibrous strands of absorbent material woven about the central wire, C'—. This strip may be made in long pieces, and short pieces or strips of the desired length cut therefrom. The short strips are folded with one end upon the other, as shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6, and the ends may be bound in any known manner to prevent raveling or fraying.

In Fig. 4 the ends of the strip are shown bound together by a line of stitching, C^2—, which can be inserted by hand or by a sewing-machine. In Fig. 1 the ends are shown bound by an encircling wire or thread, B'.

The folded strip may be used in the form shown in Fig. 4, in which form the folded ends are straight and parallel with each other; but I prefer to twist the ends, one, or each, about the other. When the ends are twisted as shown in Fig. 1, a double spiral groove, B^2—, is formed from one end of the folded strip to the other which connects the cigarette-chamber, A'—, with the tube, B^3—, in the mouth-piece, constituting open channels for the smoke, except that the extreme ends of the strip outside the binding, B'—, may be frayed out as shown in Fig. 8, to loosely fill the stem-aperture, thereby affording a filter or strainer to catch and arrest any particles of tobacco or other solid substance which might otherwise pass through the stem to the mouth of the smoker.

One object of the core, C'—, is to reduce the flexibility of the folded strip so that it will retain its form when inserted in the stem, and by folding the strip having such a core, the bends in the core and flexible cover prevent the core from slipping lengthwise of the core when the device is forced into the stem. It would be more difficult to force a single unfolded strip into the stem because if the covering adhered to the inner wall of the stem-aperture, the core would slip through the covering and afford little or no assistance in forcing the latter into the stem. I prefer to make the core of fine annealed wire for the reason that the wire is easily bent and will cause the ends of the folded strip to retain the twisted form shown in Fig. 1, which is the preferred form.

One object of my invention is to produce an absorbing device which shall be so cheap

and easy of manipulation that a new one may be used with each cigar, and the soiled one thrown away. Folding one end of the strip upon the other is a much quicker and cheaper method of securing the absorbent material upon the core than winding one end, as heretofore practiced with similar strips; and the folded portion of the device makes a tapering end which can be more easily inserted than a square or blunt end. A soiled absorbent can be easily expelled from a stem or holder by inserting the butt end of a match through the smoke aperture in the mouth-piece, and pushing it against the folded end of the absorbent. By folding and twisting the strips, I not only produce two elongated smoke channels or conduits as before described, which cool the smoke and deprive it of much of its nicotine and other impurities in a manner well known to those skilled in the art; but I, am able to render the device stiffer and more compact. By stiffening the device it is rendered more easy of insertion and removal from a cigarette holder or pipe stem, and by compacting the device, it occupies less room before use, and quantities of them can be carried about loose in the user's pocket without inconvenience to him or injury to the absorbents.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a nicotine absorbent for tobacco-smoke stems consisting of a strip of flexible absorbent material provided with a stiffening core, one end of the strip being folded upon the other end, substantially as described.

2. A nicotine absorbent for tobacco-smoke stems consisting of a flexible strip of absorbent material provided with a metallic core, folded and twisted one end about the other, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of May, 1892.

ELLIOTT L. LEWIS.

Witnesses:

FRANK C. CURTIS,

WM. H. HOLLISTER, Jr.