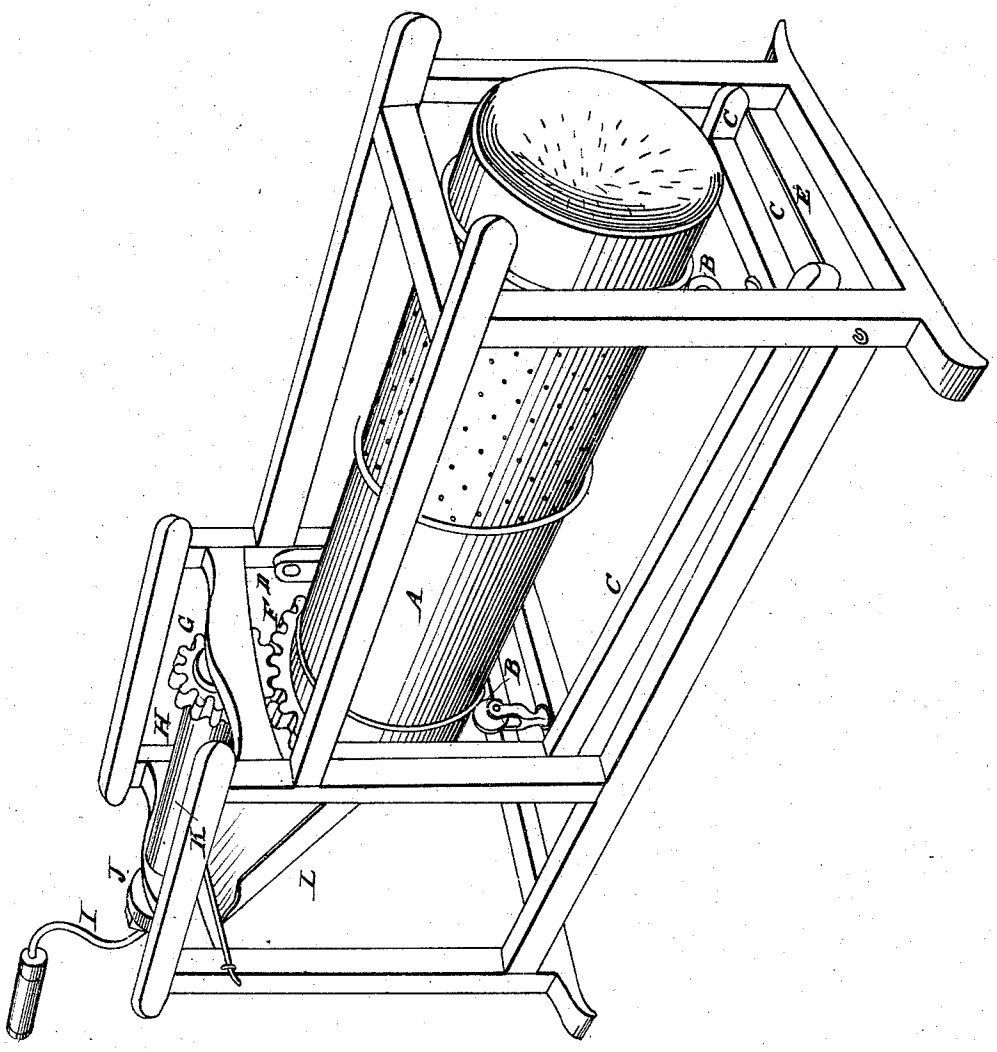
G. WALES.

METHOD OF DRESSING CUT TOBACCO.

No. 7,226. Patented Mar. 26, 1850.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GIDEON WALES, OF LIBERTY, NEW YORK.

IMPROVED METHOD OF DRESSING CUT TOBACCO.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **7,226**, dated March 26, 1850.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GIDEON WALES, of the town of Liberty, in the county of Sullivan and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Machine for Dressing Cut Tobacco; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

A is the tube. B B B B are rollers, on which the tube rests. C is a frame or platform sustaining the rollers. F is a cog-wheel around the end of the tube. G is a smaller cog-wheel; H, shafts. I is a crank. J is a pulley. L is a slide-board.

The nature of my invention consists of a tube with teeth on the inside, having an inclination below a horizontal line, and through which, under a slow revolving motion, the tobacco is made to pass.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my machine, I will describe its construction and operation.

I make a tube or barrel (without bulge) of staves sufficiently hooped, from eight to sixteen feet long, and from sixteen to thirty inches in diameter. The inside is furnished with teeth as near each other as one on every two inches square. The teeth should be of metal from one to two inches long, round, sharp-pointed, and a little hooking, in order to carry the tobacco up to the top, or nearly to the top, of the tube before it falls. Its own gravity causes the tobacco to be detached from the hooks or teeth, and in leaving them the flakes are pulled apart without breaking the threads of the tobacco. The tube is perforated with holes from one-fourth to five-eighths of an inch in diameter for the escape of the short tobacco. These holes should be as near to each other as the teeth are, and from one-half to the whole length of the tube. The tube should be left open at both ends, except a small rim on the inside of the end where the tobacco enters. It is sustained on the rollers B B B B. These rollers should have an indentation on their outer surface, into which two of the hoops of the tube should be made to fit, in order to keep it in its proper place. One end of the platform, on which the rollers rest, is suspended or hung in the frame-work by bolts or a rod, as at D. The other end rests on a rod, as at E. The tube has an inclination below a horizontal line, which inclination may be increased or diminished by raising or lowering the rod at E, in order to expedite or retard the passage of the tobacco through the tube, as circumstances require. The revolving motion is given to the tube by means of the cog-wheel F, surrounding one end of the tube, and a smaller cog-wheel, G, attached to the shaft H. There is a crank, I, attached to the shaft to turn it by hand; or when other power is used motion may be given it by a band passing round the pulley J. The shaft may be enlarged and rounded, as at K, and around and from this an apron may run to and around another roller beneath the cutting-machine to convey the tobacco to the dressing-machine or tube; or the tobacco may be put in by hand. A slide-board, L, may be used to carry the tobacco directly into the tube. The motion of the tube should be slow—say from fifteen to thirty revolutions per minute.

Dressing cut tobacco or shaking the flakes apart (especially the fine-cut or chewing) is an operation of great tediousness, and to do it without breaking the threads of the tobacco is the most delicate part of its manufacture. Heretofore it has ever been done by manual labor. It is to save this manual labor and expedite its performance that my machine is intended.

What I claim as of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The method of dressing cut-tobacco by passing it through a revolving cylinder having holes through it to sift the short from the long pieces, and with hooks or pegs projecting from its inner surface toward the center for lifting the threads of tobacco, as described above.

GIDEON WALES.

In presence of—

HENRY WALES,

PETER LAMOREUX.