

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. JONES, OF GREENSBOROUGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN PLUG-TOBACCO.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,117**, dated December 11, 1877; application filed September 11, 1877.

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 Wrappers for Plug-Tobacco, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to certain improvements in the manufacture of plug-tobacco; and consists in plugs of tobacco inclosed and pressed in wrappers made of paper, linen, or other fibrous or textile fabric, colored in different shades, in imitation of tobacco-leaf, to designate or distinguish different grades or orders of tobacco.

In the manufacture of plug-tobacco it has heretofore been customary to wrap the plug in a wrapper formed of the natural leaf of the tobacco. This wrapper, in order to meet the requirements of the trade, has necessarily to be of a fine quality and good color, and is, consequently, very expensive, while by my invention is furnished a substitute very much cheaper, the color of which may be controlled as desired, and which is, in all respects, equally adapted to the purpose of a wrapper. Besides, when wrapped in the usual way—that is, with a tobacco-leaf wrapper—the lumps or rolls must be dried and packed away, excluded from the air, for some time before pressing, in order to secure a perfect “order” of the tobacco; but when wrapped according to my invention—that is, with a wrapper of paper, linen, or other fibrous or textile fabric—the lumps or rolls may be dried before wrapping, and subsequent drying dispensed with, as the temperature or condition of the atmosphere with respect to moisture will have no effect upon a wrapper composed of such materials.

In carrying out my invention I prefer to employ a strong, thin variety of paper for the wrapper, although muslin, linen, or other fibrous or textile fabric may be employed with advantage. Upon the said fabric I print or

otherwise produce an imitation of the natural tobacco-leaf, and I make the paper of various shades, each to imitate in color and design, and to correspond in general appearance with, the wrapper of natural tobacco-leaf, which is ordinarily used for wrapping different grades of tobacco.

The surface of the wrapper may, in addition to the imitation of tobacco-leaf, be printed in other variegated colors or designs, if desired, without departing from the nature of my invention.

The fabric, as thus prepared, is preferably cut in strips of convenient width to be wrapped spirally around the plug previous to the pressing, and secured thereon by said pressing, in the same manner as would be the ordinary leaf-wrapper. If preferred, however, the wrapper may be gummed with any innocuous gum or cement prior to the application of the said wrapper, in order to more firmly secure it to the plug.

By my invention I am enabled to designate different or particular grades of tobacco by the different colors of my wrappers.

When a chew of tobacco is cut from the plug for use, the portion of the wrapper attached thereto can be readily stripped off and discarded, if desired.

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

As a new article of manufacture, plugs of tobacco inclosed and pressed in wrappers of paper, linen, or other fibrous or textile fabric, colored in imitation of tobacco-leaf, whereby different grades of tobacco are distinguished by the color or appearance of the wrappers.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

JOHN L. JONES.

Witnesses:

JAMES A. RUTHERFORD,
A. H. NORRIS.