

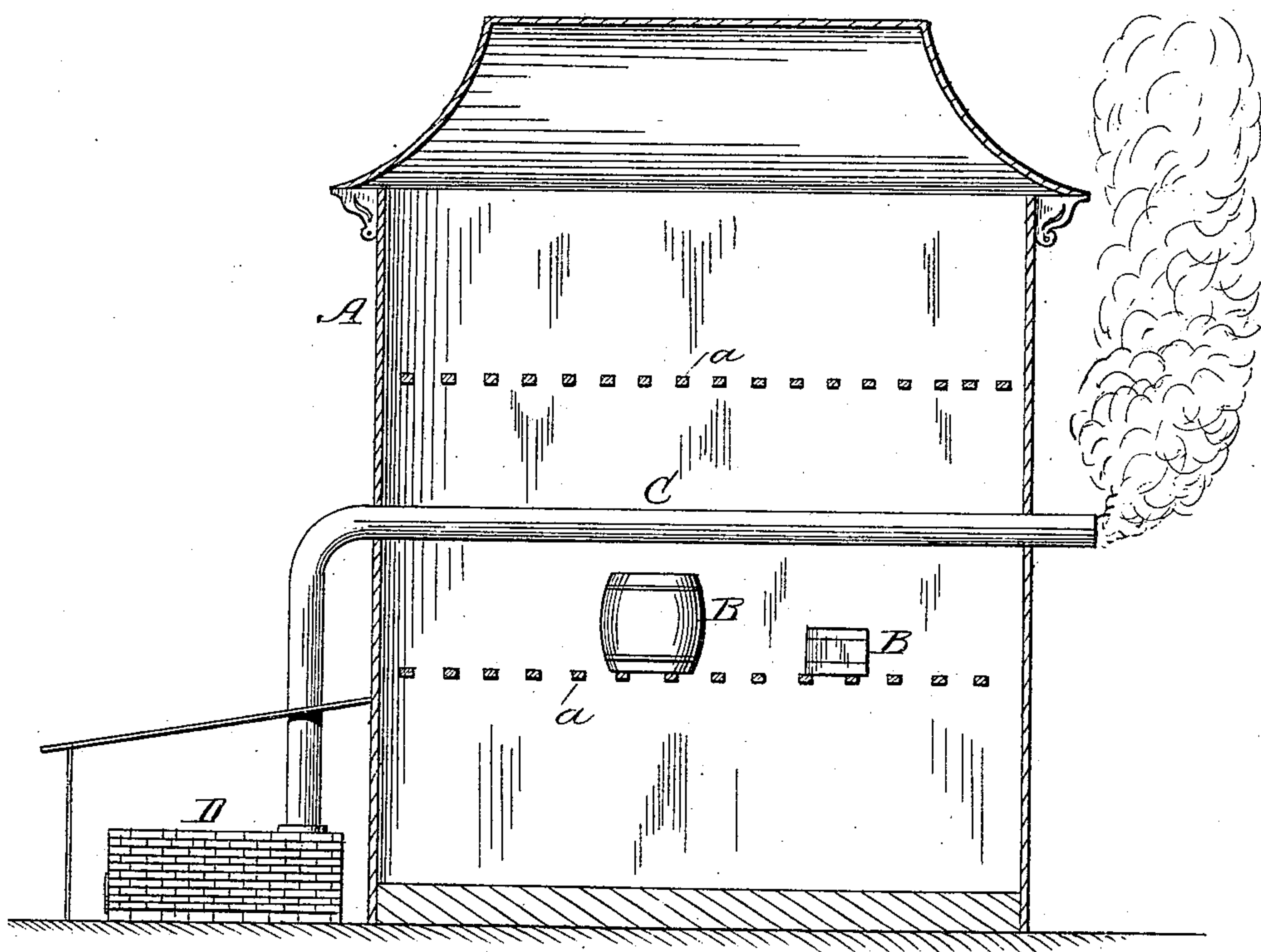
(No Model.)

J. W. DANIEL.

PROCESS OF AGING LEAF TOBACCO.

No. 269,832.

Patented Jan. 2, 1883.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. DANIEL, OF AUGUSTA, KENTUCKY.

PROCESS OF AGING LEAF-TOBACCO.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 269,832, dated January 2, 1883.

Application filed May 1, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WESLEY DANIEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Augusta, in the county of Bracken and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Converting or Changing New Tobacco-Leaf into Old Tobacco-Leaf; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

This invention has relation to certain new and useful improvements in the method of treating leaf-tobacco, by which the same is converted into old tobacco-leaf without changing the natural color, injuring its tobacco qualities, or losing any of its weight, and retaining its sweetness, thereby rendering it suitable and ready for any and all manufacturing purposes, as will be hereinafter described, and subsequently pointed out in the claim.

In carrying out my invention I construct or build a suitable house, A, as shown in section in the accompanying drawing, having one or more floors, *a*, formed of a series of timbers; or the floors may be slatted or constructed of slats, as found desirable—or, in other words, “open floors”—to allow a free circulation throughout the rooms. Upon these floors are placed and supported the barrels, boxes, or other closed receptacles B, containing the leaf-tobacco.

Through the room of the house A and through the side walls thereof passes a large sheet-metal pipe or flue, C, the outer end thereof extending beyond the wall of the house to carry away all smoke, &c. The pipe C is connected with a furnace, stove, or other heat-generator, D, located outside the house A at a suitable distance therefrom.

The method of aging or treating the tobacco-leaf is as follows: The tobacco is taken after it has been cured on the stock, stripped, and tied, and in a condition moist enough to be handled without breaking or injuring the leaves or spoiling the tobacco, its condition being simply merchantable. In such condition it is packed or prized tightly with lever-power in closed barrels, boxes, or other receptacles, B, after which said receptacles are placed upon the open floors *a* in a closed room or house, A. The

room or interior of the house is supplied with a dry heated atmosphere by means of the pipe or flue C, through which the heat passes from the furnace D, the heat being brought to about 85° to 100° Fahrenheit, and kept thus constantly heated for about five days, at the expiration of which time all the fire and heat is withdrawn. At this juncture the tobacco-leaf is left remaining in the barrels, boxes, or other receptacles from about two to five days, in proportion to the weight or body of the tobacco, said time being necessarily consumed in absorbing its own heat and in passing from its new into the old state. The tobacco may then be taken out of the receptacles, and will be found entirely changed and transformed into old tobacco-leaf, perfectly sweet, not having become diminished in weight, and not having lost any of its tobacco qualities or having its natural color affected, thus rendering it suitable and ready for any and all manufacturing purposes.

By the employment of the pipe or flue extending through the house or room, as hereinbefore described, the dry heated atmosphere is equally distributed throughout the interior of said house or room, thereby rendering its effect upon the tobacco more uniform.

I am aware that leaf-tobacco has been colored, cured, and matured by what is known as the “sweating process”—that is to say, placing the tobacco in a moist condition in a closed receptacle within a sweat-house, into which is introduced a moist heated atmosphere or vapor generated from water; also, placing the wet tobacco contained in a closed receptacle in a hot oven; and therefore I lay no claim to such process. I do not wet or moisten the tobacco-leaf contained in the receptacle, and in place of a moist heated atmosphere or vapor generated from steam I employ a perfectly dry atmosphere without injuring the natural color or the qualities of the tobacco-leaf. In place of unpacking the tobacco while hot and re-pressing it in boxes, as heretofore, for shipment, I allow the tobacco to remain in the receptacles within the closed room or house a certain length of time, whereby it will retain its sweetness and tobacco qualities much longer, and can be shipped direct to the manufacturers without the necessity of rehandling or re-

prizing, the tobacco lasting much longer without changing its color, molding, or spoiling.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by
5 Letters Patent, is—

The method, substantially as herein described, of treating or aging leaf-tobacco, which consists in first taking the tobacco after it has been cured on the stocks, stripped, tied, and
10 packed ready for delivery in the market, re-packing it in closed barrels, boxes, or other receptacles, supported upon an open floor within a closed room or house, and afterward subjecting the tobacco thus inclosed to an at-
15 mosphere of dry heated air at a temperature of about 85° to 100° Fahrenheit and for a period

of about five days, then withdrawing the heat and allowing the leaf-tobacco to remain in the closed barrels, boxes, or other receptacles within the room or house for a period of from 20 two to five days, in proportion to the weight and body of the tobacco, for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence 25 of two witnesses.

JOHN WESLEY ^{his} + DANIEL.
mark.

Witnesses:

JOHN M. HARBESON,
E. H. KILPATRICK.