(No Model.)

J. A. POIST.

MACHINE FOR TREATING LEAF TOBACCO.

No. 330,734. Patented Nov. 17, 1885.

Fig. 1.

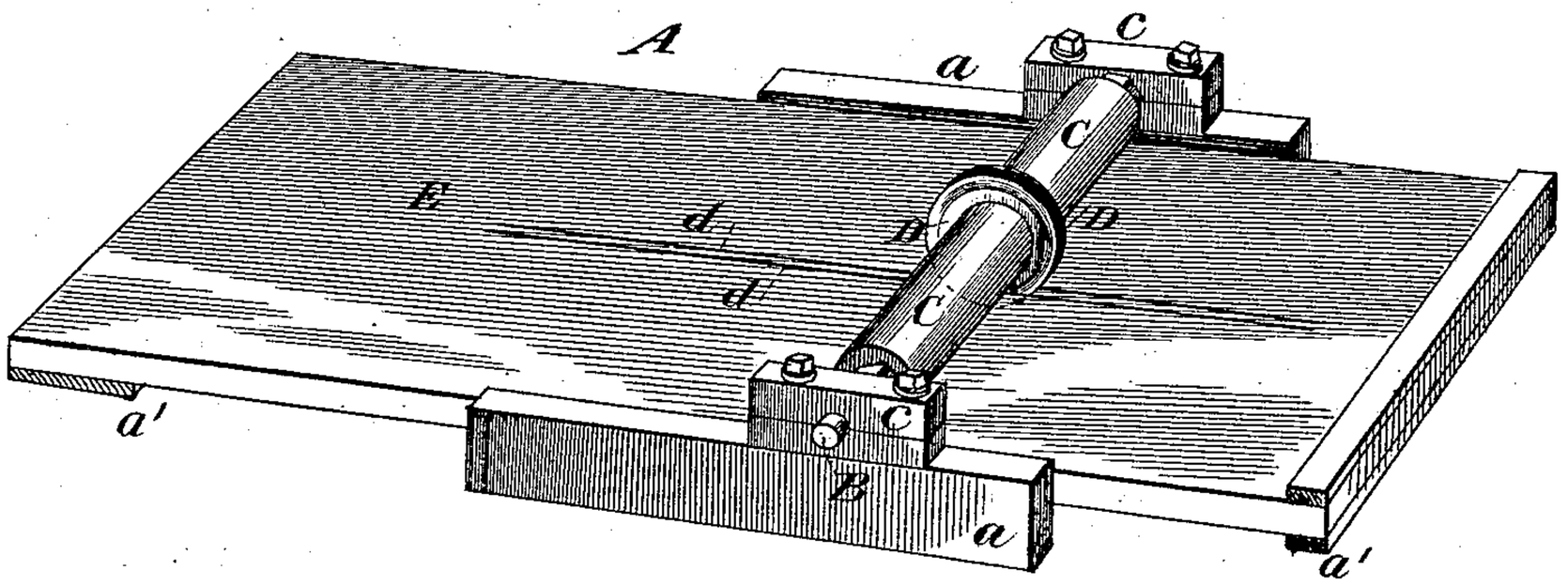


Fig. 2.

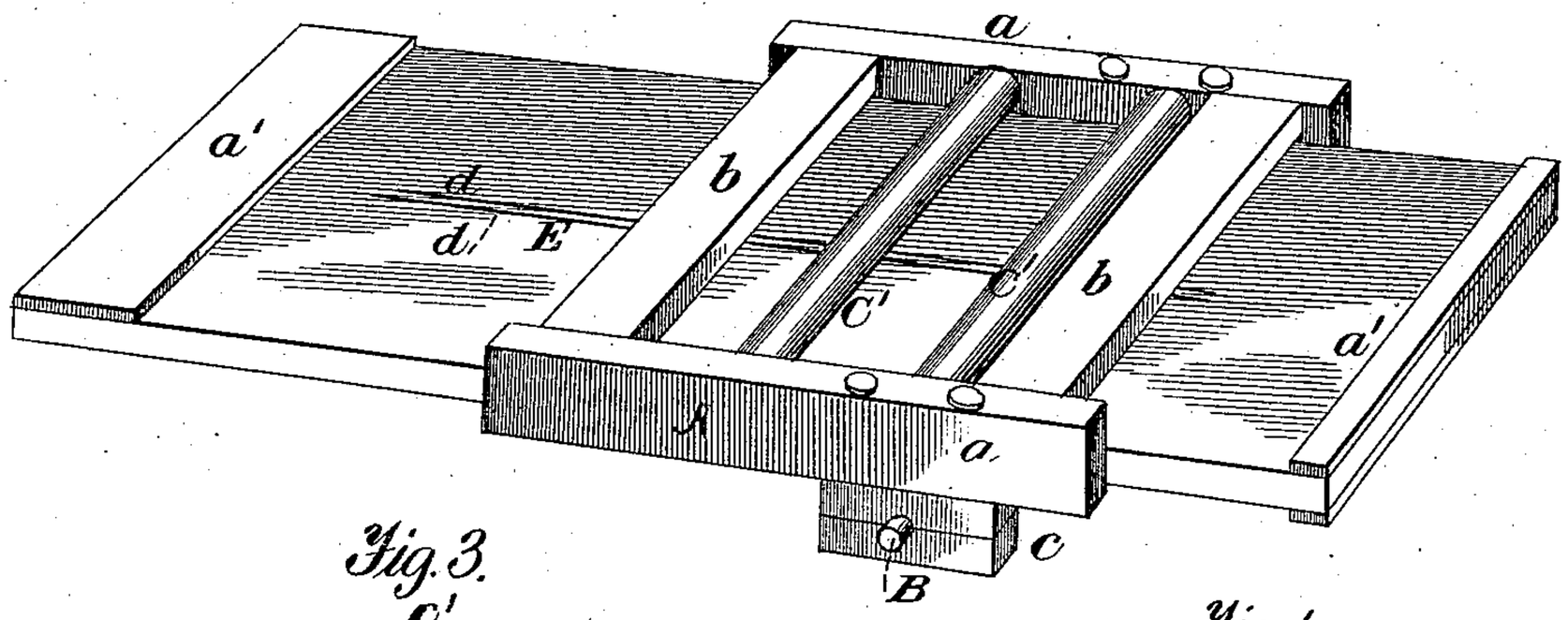


Fig. 3.

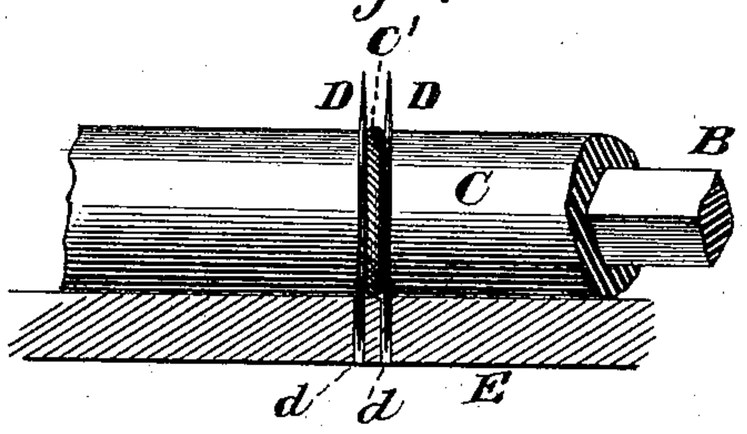
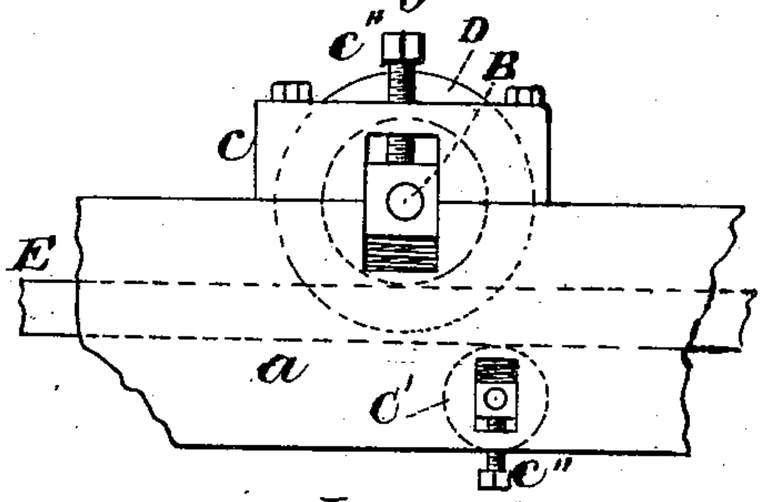


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. POIST, OF McSHERRYSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

MACHINE FOR TREATING LEAF-TOBACCO.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 330,734, dated November 17, 1885.

Application filed July 20, 1885. Serial No. 172,097. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. POIST, of McSherrystown, in the county of Adams and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Machines for Treating Leaf-Tobacco, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention has reference to a machine designed for preparing leaf-tobacco for cigar-making; and it consists in devices whereby the leaf is stripped and "booked," and the veins of the leaf flattened out, so that when the leaf is used for cigar-wrappers, the exterior surface of the leaf shall be found smooth and even. By "booking"—which is a term technically used by cigar-makers—is meant the removal of the wrinkles or unevennesses of the leaf. This cannot be effectually accomplished by hand, and one of the objects of my invention is to effect in an efficient manner what heretofore has been imperfectly effected by hand.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the machine. Fig. 2 is a view showing the under side of the machine. Figs. 3 and 4 show details.

Similar letters of reference indicate similar parts in the respective figures.

A is the frame of the machine, which, as shown in Fig. 2, consists of the side pieces, *a*, and the end pieces, *b*, suitably attached together.

B is a shaft or mandrel mounted in bearings *c*, placed upon the side pieces, *a*. The bearings may be of any suitable form, and are arranged to take up the wear of the journals in the usual manner. Upon the shaft B is placed a roller, C, preferably in two sections and of iron, and at the center of the shaft are placed two knives, D D, of thin sheet-steel, having sharpened edges. The construction is such that the roller and knives are fixed upon the shaft B against revolution, the shaft revolving in its bearings. I do not confine myself to the construction of the shaft and roller or their arrangement with respect to each other, as they may be variously modified.

E is a table, which is of a width equal to the distance between the side pieces, *a a*, of the frame, and which table rests under the roller C. The table is provided centrally and longitudinally with two slits, *d*, of a width about equal to the thickness of the metal of which the knives D are formed. The top or top and bottom of the table may be covered with plate-iron. The knives D are placed a short distance apart, as shown, the distance being equal to that of the width of the cut intended to be made in the leaf for the removal of the stem. The collar *c'* between the knives is preferably rubber-coated or milled upon its outer edge, to give it increased frictional hold upon the removed stem to carry or draw it out. (See Fig. 3.)

The under side of the frame A is provided with two or more rollers, C', of metal or wood, mounted upon shafts which run loosely in the side pieces, *a*, of the frame, or in bearings attached thereto. The under side of the table E is provided at each end with a strip or batten, *a'*, for purposes of strength, and which may also serve as stops to limit the movement of the table.

It will be understood that the table is arranged to run freely between the upper and the lower rollers.

The operation is as follows: The leaf of tobacco, having been suitably moistened in the usual manner, is placed lengthwise and centrally upon the sliding table E, and the table is then pushed forward by the operator, the leaf being caught under the rollers C and the knives D, which extend below the upper surface of the table. The stem is thus removed. The effect of the rollers C is to straighten out or "book" the leaf in a more effectual manner than has heretofore been accomplished by hand.

It is found that tobacco treated in the foregoing manner retains its level or flat state, not assuming its wrinkled or uneven condition. The veins of the leaf are also flattened out, so that when the leaf is used for a cigar-wrapper the veins are practically level with the general surface of the cigar.

The upper and lower rollers may, if desired, be made adjustable, so as to increase or decrease the pressure upon the leaf, and for this

purpose the adjusting screws and nuts *c''*, as shown in Fig. 4, are used.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. In a machine for the purposes specified, the combination, with the upper roller provided with two circular knives, of lower rollers and a sliding slitted table adapted to reciprocate between the rollers, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the rollers C C', knives D, collar *c'*, and slitted table E, for the purposes specified.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal.

JOHN A. POIST. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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