

(No Model.)

V. GONZALEZ.
SMOKING DEVICE.

No. 455,614.

Patented July 7, 1891.

Fig: 1.

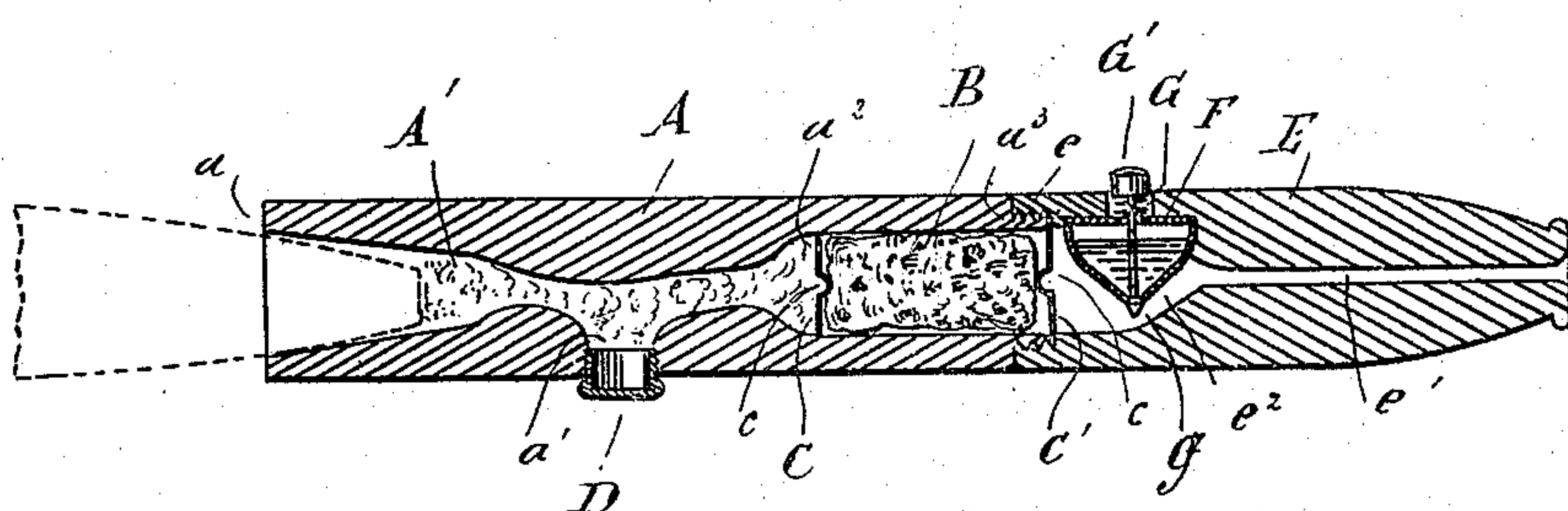
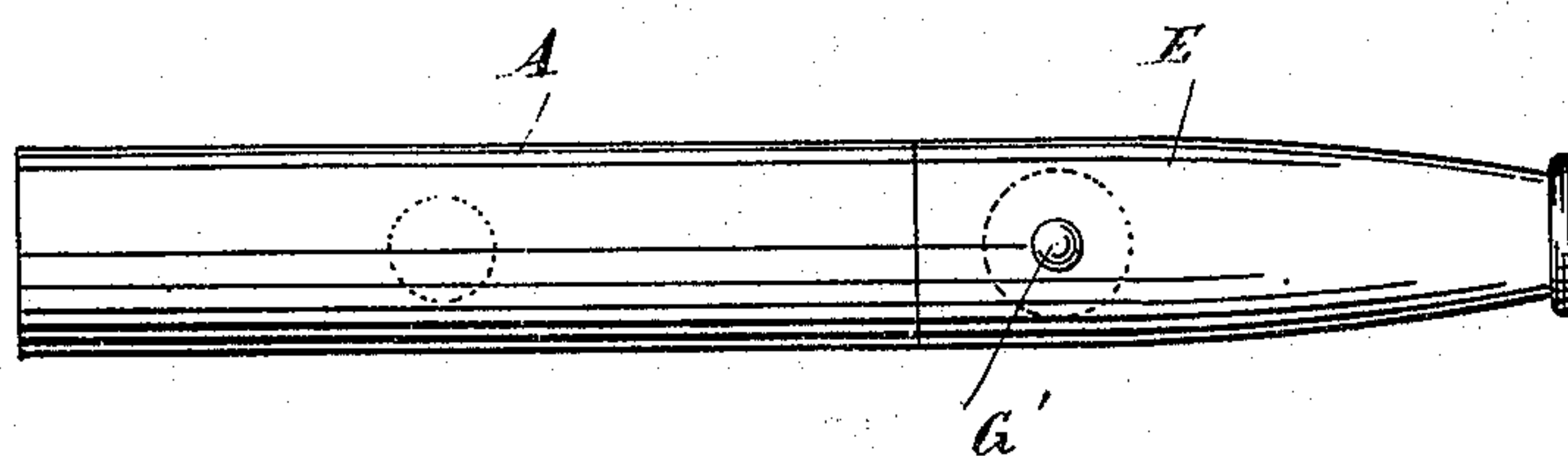


Fig: 2.



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VALERIANO GONZALEZ, OF DURANGO, MEXICO.

SMOKING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 455,614, dated July 7, 1891.

Application filed March 6, 1891. Serial No. 384,002. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VALERIANO GONZALEZ, of Durango, Mexico, have invented a new and Improved Smoking Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in smoking devices; and the object of my invention is to render the habit of smoking tobacco harmless and in some cases beneficial, as said device can prevent some contagious or epidemic diseases that we know are caused by living germs that enter the constitution when contagious air is inspired.

The habit of smoking tobacco is generally recognized as a vice, owing chiefly to its bad effects on the system, which effects result in a great degree from the nicotine which is inhaled with the smoke, and which results are also obtained from microbes and zymotic germs which enter the mouth with the smoke, and most particularly those carried by the current of air through the nose by the mere act of respiration and affect the respiratory organs and the membranes of the mouth and throat and through them find their way into the system. My invention is intended to obviate these dangers; and to this end the invention consists in the particular construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of a cigar-holder embodying my invention, and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same.

I have shown the device in the drawings as adapted for cigar-smoking, as this is the most popular form of smoking tobacco; but the invention may be applied to a pipe-stem or to any stem through which smoke or air is carried to the mouth.

The body A of the cigar-holder is provided with a central flue or smoke-passage A', extending entirely through it, which passage is enlarged at one end, as shown at a, to receive a cigar, is provided with a reservoir a' to collect the nicotine, which reservoir opens through the body of the holder, as described below, and the inner end of the flue is enlarged to form a chamber a², in which the

sponge B is held. On the extreme inner end of the body A is formed a threaded boss a³, to which the mouth-piece is screwed, as described below.

The sponge B is saturated with a strong solution of tannin, that being a well-known precipitant of nicotine, and the sponge is held in place by a perforated diaphragm C, which is held in the chamber a² and which has a central indentation c in order that a greater part of the smoke may strike centrally upon the sponge, and by a similar diaphragm C', which has also a central indentation and which is held between the body A and the mouth-piece.

The reservoir a' is closed by a screw-cap D, which screws into the reservoir, and when any considerable quantity of nicotine has collected the cap may be removed and emptied.

The mouth-piece E is shaped to fit the mouth, and is of the same diameter as the body A, the outer end of the mouth-piece being internally screw-threaded, as shown at e, so that it may be screwed upon the boss a³ of the body and form a smooth joint. The mouth-piece E has a smoke-passage e' extending longitudinally through it; the passage being enlarged at its inner end, as shown at e², to form a continuation of the chamber a² in the body A. Within the chamber e² is the medicine-cup F, which is secured to the upper wall of the mouth-piece and which has a small opening in the bottom. A rod G extends vertically through the medicine-cup, said rod terminating at its lower end in a conoidal plug g, which is adapted to close the opening in the cup, and the upper end of the rod G extends through an opening in the mouth-piece E and terminates in a button G'. The rod G is normally pressed upward, so that the plug g will be held in the opening of the medicine-cup by a spiral spring, which is inserted between the button and the top of the cup, and the opening in the top of the cup through which the rod passes may be made large enough so that the material with which the cup is filled may be inserted through it.

The cup F should be filled with some substance which evaporates at a low temperature—such, for instance, as mirtol, chloroform, ether, &c.—the substance inserted depending upon the taste of the smoker; or a

substance may be inserted which possesses curative properties beneficial to certain diseases of the throat and mouth, or a mere germicide. For ordinary purposes, however, some substance would be inserted which would impart an agreeable flavor to the smoke.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the smoke entering from the end *a* of the cigar-holder will pass through the smoke passage or flue of the body of the holder and of the mouth-piece, the larger portion of the nicotine being first gathered in the reservoir *a'*. The sponge B fits closely within the chamber *a''* and the smoke passes through the sponge, the tannin in the sponge precipitating the nicotine and other volatile properties, and the purified smoke passes on through the mouth-piece and into the mouth. After the smoke leaves the sponge it is perfumed or impregnated by the material in the medicine-cup, so that by means of the invention the smoking habit, which is ordinarily a pernicious practice, becomes agreeable, harmless, and a prophylactic to infectious diseases that carried by living germs find their way through the respiratory membranes.

It will be seen that the medicine-cup will be ordinarily closed, and when a small quantity of the material therein is to be allowed to drop into the smoke-passage the button *G'* is pressed downward, thus opening the bottom of the cup and the material therein will drip through into the smoke-passage of the mouth-piece. It is only necessary to allow a little of the material in the cup to drip occasionally, as it will be diffused through the smoke-passage of the mouth-piece and will perfume or medicate the smoke for a considerable period of time.

When the sponge B has taken up a considerable quantity of nicotine, the sponge is removed, the mouth-piece being first taken off for the purpose, and the sponge is washed in water, when it may be again inserted.

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

1. A smoking device comprising a body portion, having a longitudinal passage extending through it and provided with a nicotine-reservoir, sponge-chamber, and a medicine or perfume receptacle, substantially as described.

2. A smoking device comprising a body portion, having a longitudinal passage extending through it and provided with a nicotine-reservoir, a sponge-chamber, and a medicine or perfume receptacle, said receptacle being provided with means for opening and closing it, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. The combination, with the body of the device, having a smoke-passage through the same, of a medicine-cup held in an enlargement of the smoke-passage, and means for opening and closing the cup, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with the body of the device, having a smoke-passage therein, of a medicine-cup held in the smoke-passage and provided with an opening in the bottom, and a spring-pressed rod extending through the cup and through one side of the body, said rod terminating at its lower end in a plug and at its upper end in a button, substantially as described.

5. A smoking device comprising a body portion having a smoke-passage therein, which passage is enlarged at its inner end, a reservoir opening laterally from the passage, a sponge held in the enlargement of the passage and saturated with a solution of tannin or equivalent, perforated diaphragms at each end of the sponge, a mouth-piece screwed to the body and provided with a smoke-passage having an enlargement, as described, a medicine-cup held in the enlargement of the mouth-piece, and means for opening and closing the cup, substantially as set forth.

VALERIANO GONZALEZ.

Witnesses.

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