

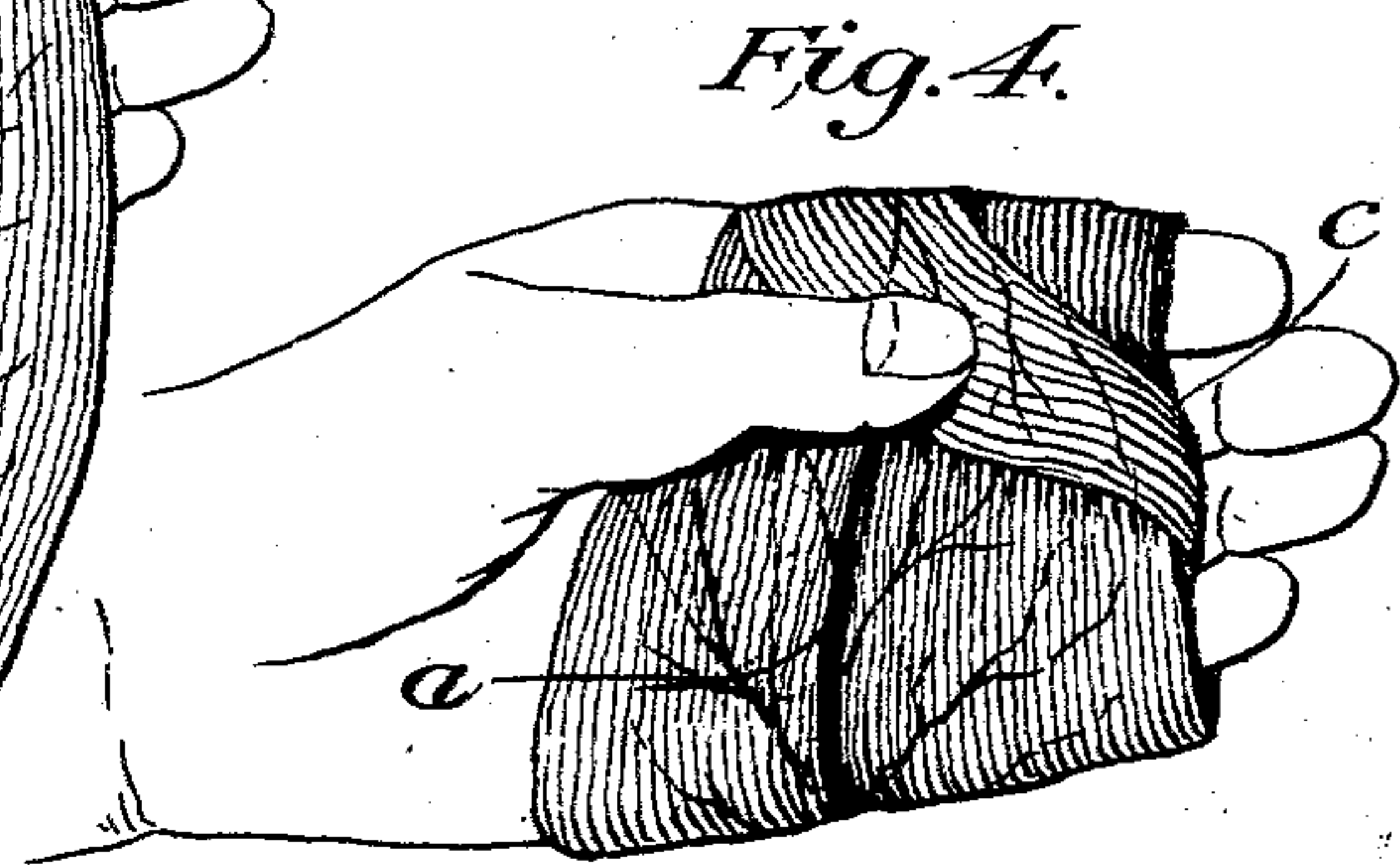
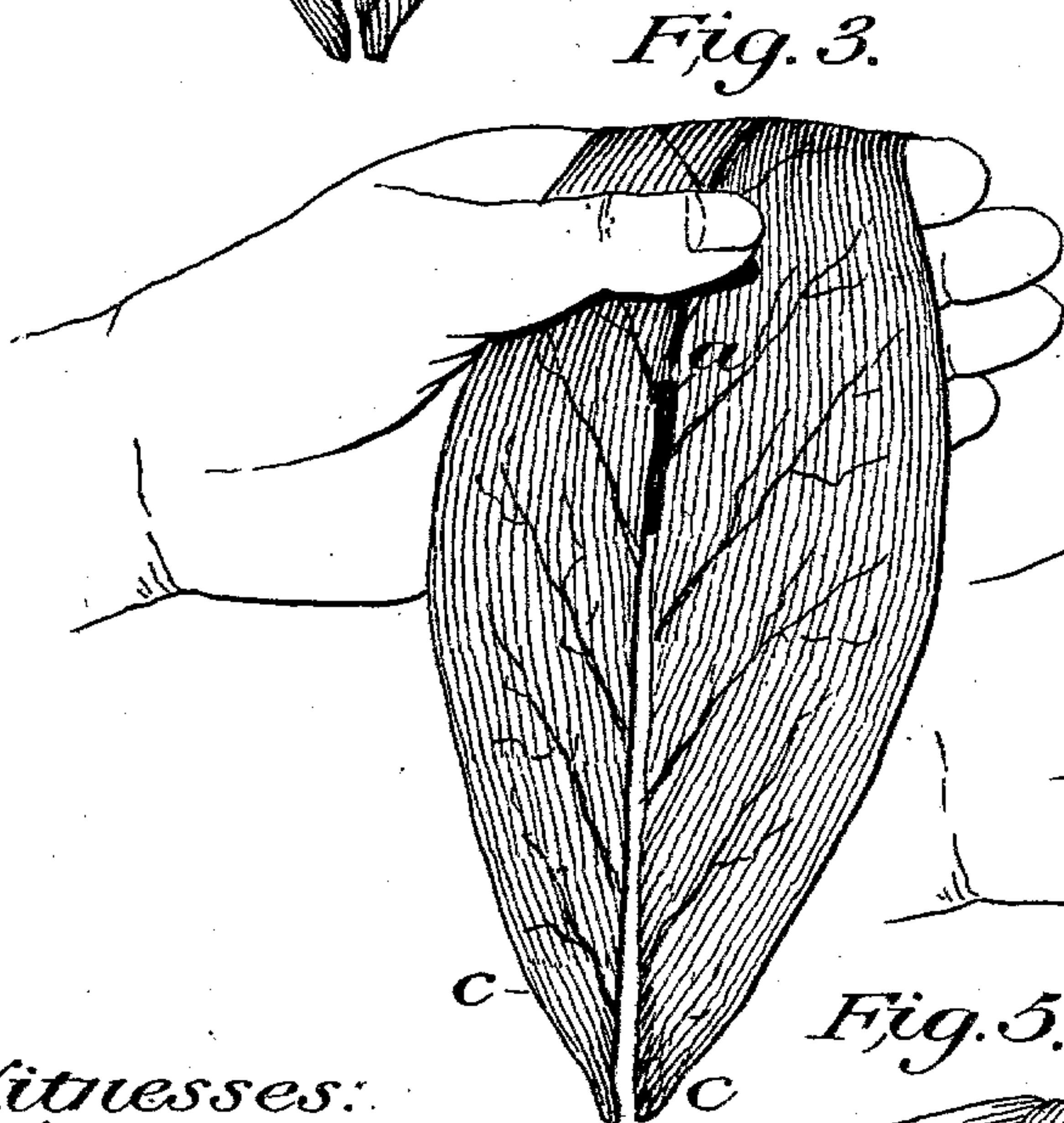
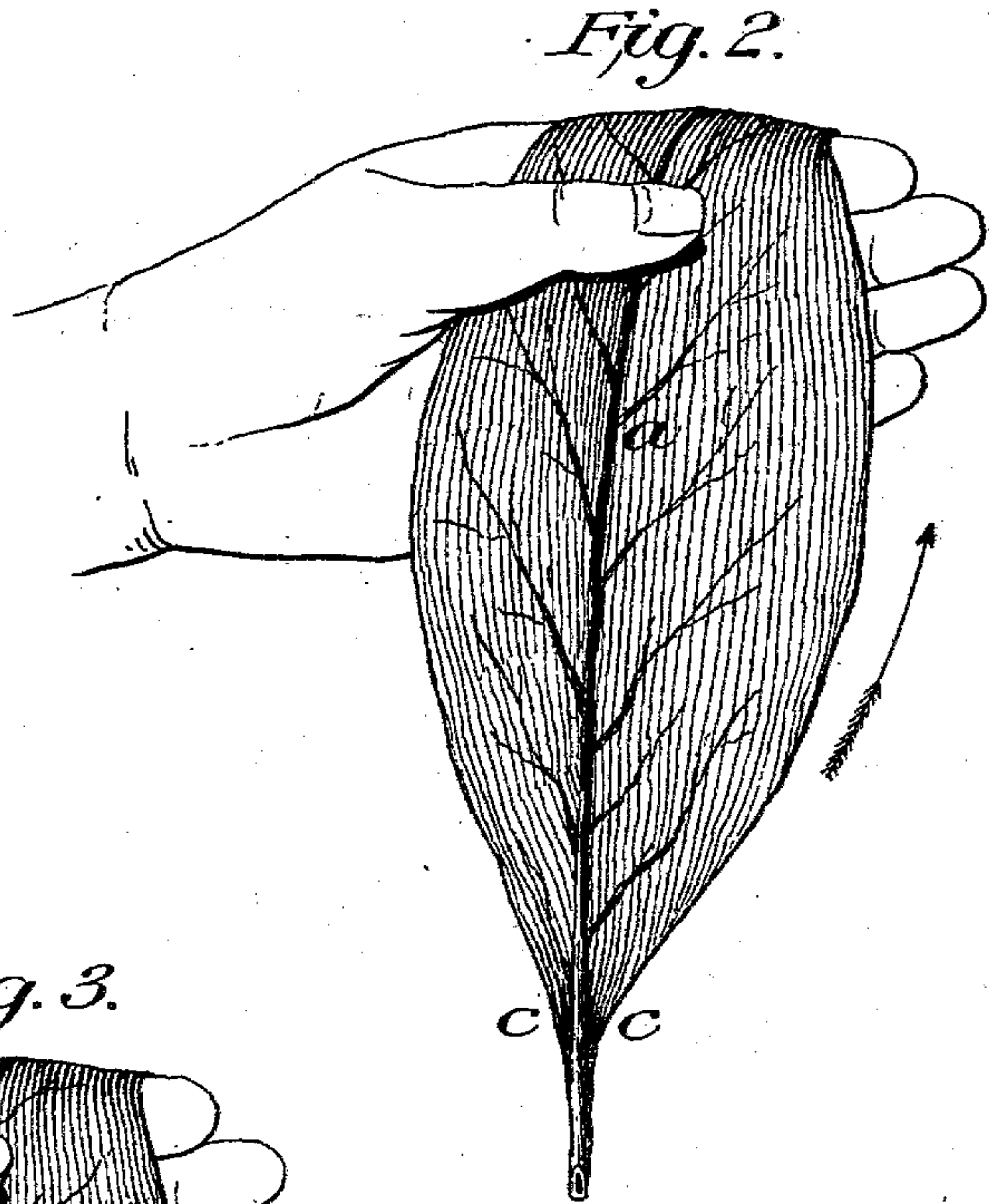
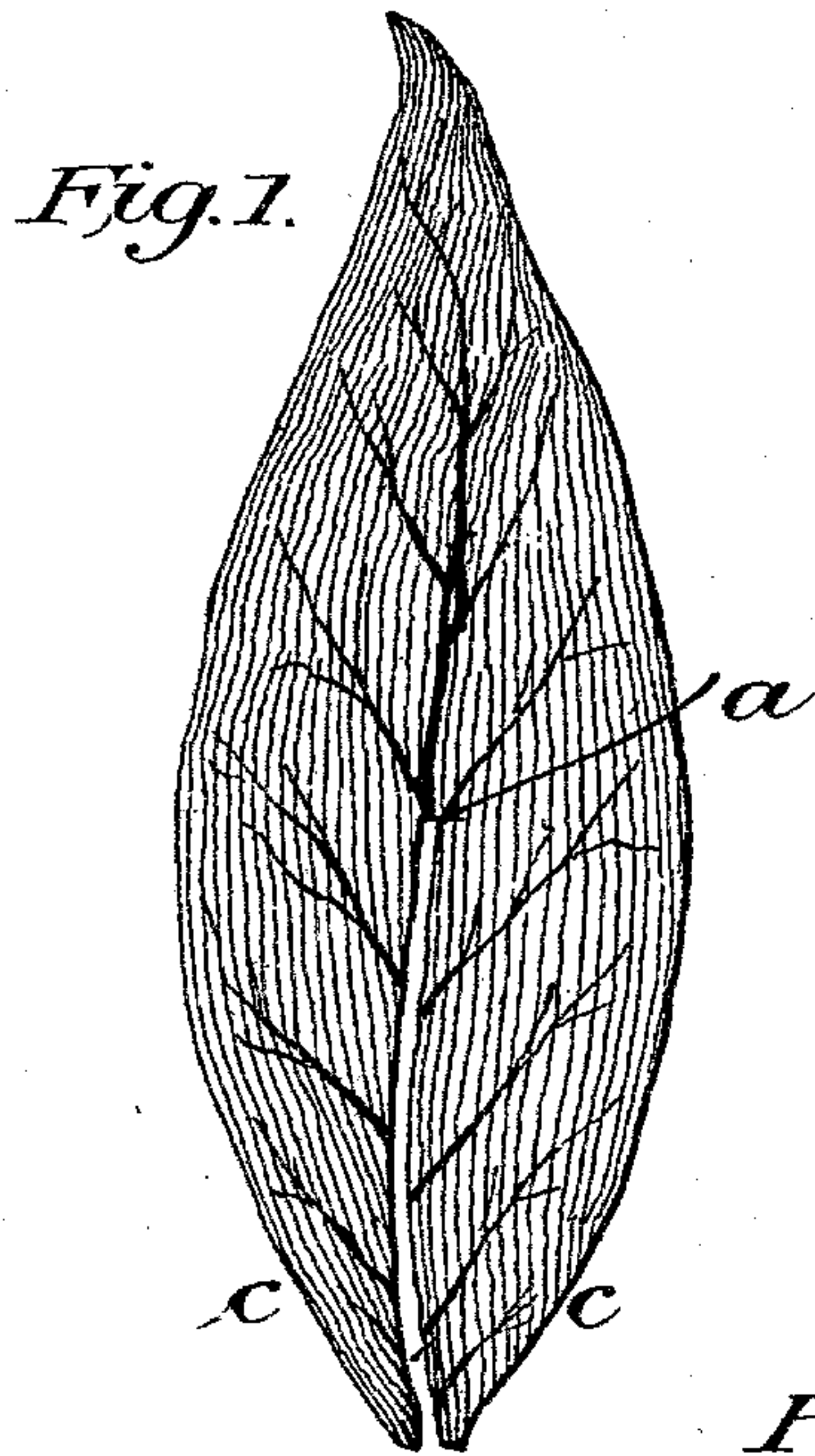
No. 702,130.

Patented June 10, 1902.

W. A. FRETWELL.
MANUFACTURED TOBACCO.

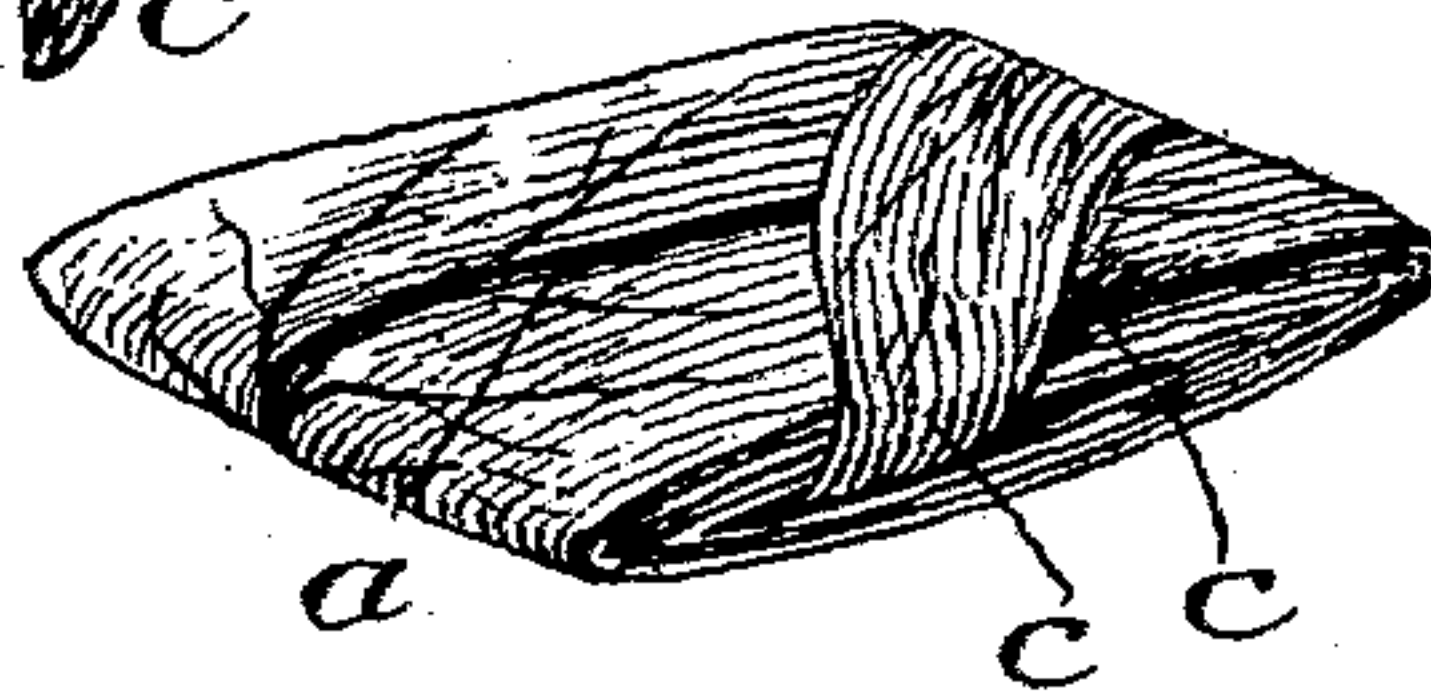
(Application filed Feb. 15, 1902.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:
H. H. H. H.
Jno. C. Lawson

Fig. 5.



Inventor:

Wm. A. Fretwell

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. FRETWELL, OF SOUTH BOSTON, VIRGINIA.

MANUFACTURED TOBACCO.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,130, dated June 10, 1902.

Application filed February 15, 1902. Serial No. 94,231. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. FRETWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Boston, in the county of Halifax and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Manufactured Tobacco, of which the following is a specification.

Manufactured tobacco heretofore has meant stemmed leaves of tobacco cuttings, trash tobacco, refuse or scrap tobacco made up into plugs, lumps, twists, &c., with wrappers on, and later flavored free-leaf tobacco, a partial manufacture retaining the stem intact. The objection of the plug, lump, twist, &c., has been and is that it often has a beautiful wrapper, while the interior of same is of a low grade—mean leaf and trash, scraps, sweepings, cuttings, inferior goods, unclean and unhealthy, make up the interior. The objection to the flavored free leaf, patented May 30, 1899, No. 625,970, is that the whole stem makes it bulky and the large end (butt-end) carries more or less grit into the chew.

My invention relates to improvements in manufactured tobacco; and the objects of my improvements are, first, to make a clean leaf chew and to simplify the operation, so that a farmer can readily manufacture his crop at home with his wash-pot and tobacco-barn and compete with the product of the expensive plant on the market and at the same time make more acceptable and salable goods. I attain these results by the operations illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a leaf of tobacco with the butt-end of the stem removed. Fig. 2 shows the leaf folded once around the hand, when the stem is broken at *a*; and Fig. 3 shows the butt-end pulled out. Fig. 4 shows the entire leaf folded up and the blade ends *c c* tucked in under the fold. Fig. 5 shows the finished leaf as an article of manufacture.

In the operation of manufacturing plugs, lumps, twists, &c., the stock is first cased, (sweetened and flavored,) then stemmed, then wrapped, then dried, then drawn, and oftentimes wrapped and dried and drawn again,

then shaped, (by light pressing into iron molds,) then greased, then pressed into boxes, then stamped, when it is ready for the market.

My entire operation after casing is folding the leaf around the hand once, when the butt-end half of the stem is pulled out, then tucking the ends *c c* of the butt blades of leaf under the fold, then drying, drawing, and pressing lightly into suitable receptacles, when it is stamped and ready for the trade; but the farmer stops at tucking the blade ends under the fold and dries it, when it is wrapped in paper packages and stamped and ready for peddling off of wagons.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in the several views.

I first take the tail end (or small end) of the cased leaf in the left hand and fold it around the hand once, as in Fig. 2. I then break the stem at *a*, pulling out the butt-end, as shown in Fig. 3. I then fold the blade ends *c c* in Fig. 3 around the fingers, as arrow points in Fig. 2, and tuck the said blade ends *c c* under the fold, as shown in Fig. 4. The fold is then drawn off the fingers and struck down on the bench or table with the hand, which finishes the operation, as shown in Fig. 5. It is then dried, when it is ready for sale by the farmer peddling it to consumers; but to prepare it for store sales it must be drawn and pressed into wood boxes.

It is a fact that most good operators in stemming leaf-tobacco draw the leaf around the hand in pulling out the stem. I merely do this same thing (shown in Figs. 2 and 3) and tuck the blade ends inside the fold (shown in Fig. 4) and get a completed article, structurally in Fig. 5. The half of the stem shown in Fig. 1 folded inside gives the finished piece a core strength to remain in shape. Because of this stem in the center and the blade ends *c c* tucked in under the fold I dispense with wrapping or wrapper. It is clear that by adding the "tucking" to the operation of "stemming" ordinarily I get the finished structure.

In my former patent, No. 625,970, granted me May 30, 1899, the butt-end of the stem is ob-

jectionable to the high-class trade and debars sales to that class, it being not only bulky, but also carrying grit into the chew.

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

A sweetened or flavored leaf of tobacco, partly stemmed, and folded upon itself, hav-

ing the blade ends tucked between the folds, unwrapped, as a finished manufactured article.

WM. A. FRETWELL.

Witnesses:

H. J. WATKINS,
J. C. LAWSON.