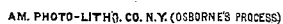


Tobacco Press.

Patented Dec. 23, 1841.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH BUCEY, OF WEST RIVER, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOBACCO-PRESSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 2,398, dated December 23, 1841.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH BUCEY, of West River, in the county of Anne Arundel, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in the Manner of Constructing a Press for Pressing or Prizing Tobacco into Hogsheads; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

In my press the hogshead in which the tobacco is to be pressed is placed vertically upon the bed or basis of the press, so as to stand centrally between its two cheeks or side timbers, which cheeks are surmounted by a cap or head-block in the usual manner, the whole being strongly formed and bolted together. The cheeks or side timbers of the press are to be of such height as not only to receive the hogshead, but also to admit of the placing upon it a hollow cylinder or false hogshead, which is usually made of a height somewhat greater than that of the hogshead itself, and is of such diameter as to rest at its lower end upon the upper ends of the staves of said hogshead. In the operation of packing, the hogshead is to be first filled with tobacco in the usual way. The hollow cylinder or false hogshead is then to be placed upon it and secured in a vertical position, and this is, in like manner, to be filled with tobacco. A follower is then to be brought down by means of a screw passing through the head-block, and of length sufficient to force all the tobacco contained in the false into the true hogshead. The former is then to be removed, it being so constructed that this may be done while the pressing-screw is still bearing upon the follower. In the act of pressing, the screw is not made to revolve, the nut or female screw being so attached to the cap-piece or head-block of the press as to allow it to swivel upon the screw, and thus to raise and lower it and the follower.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective representation of my press; and Fig. 2, a section through the screw, the cap-piece, and the follower.

A is the hogshead, into which the tobacco is to be pressed, and B the hollow cylinder or or false hogshead placed upon it. These are to be confined centrally between the cheeks C C of the press and between two removable studs, one of which is seen at D, there being a similar stud on the opposite side of the press. Wedges or chocks may be used to confine the

hogshead and cylinder in place. The cylinder B may consist of two semi-cylinders confined together by means of hoops E E, furnished with screws or wedges by which to clasp them together; or it may simply spring open sufficiently to allow of its clearing the pressing-screw. Instead of the stud D, I intend sometimes to use chains to conform the true and false hogsheads in place. These chains may be fastened by a staple to one cheek of the press, and may be attached to the other cheek by means of a hook. There should be four such chains, there being one on each side of each hogshead near to its upper end. These will adapt themselves to the hogsheads by the aid of the hooks and links.

F is the pressing-screw, which passes through a hole in the cap-piece G, just large enough to admit it, there not being any nut or female screw let into this cap-timber, as is ordinarily done in presses with frames of wood, by which they are weakened so as not to be capable of sustaining a pressure equal to that which must be borne in the pressing of tobacco.

H is a strong metallic box, which must be securely fastened to the cap-piece G by screw-bolts, and, if necessary, by straps of iron.

I is the nut or female screw, the lower part of which is received within a circular recess formed in the under side of the box H for that purpose, as shown in the section, Fig. 2. This nut extends up through a circular opening in the upper side of the box, having a round neck or collar for that purpose. A plate of iron, *a*, is placed below the nut to protect the timber. The upper part of the nut I' above its round neck is made square or polygonal to receive the lever or sweep, Fig. 3, to which the motive-power is to be applied, which is generally that of horses.

It will be found most convenient for packing to sink the lower part of the press into the ground so as to have the upper end of the hogshead about even with it, and this will bring the two ends of the lever or sweep sufficiently low for the action of the horses. When the tobacco has been forced into the hogshead, and the false hogshead has been removed, the head is to be inserted and secured in the usual way, and the follower is to be run up, ready to renew the operation of pressing. This may be done readily and rapidly by hand, while the horses stand still, nothing more be-

ing necessary than to turn the follower round in the proper direction. The follower should be of such diameter as just to pass freely through the false hogshead, which will, when properly centered, cause the screw to descend in a right line.

Having thus fully described the manner in which I construct and use my press for the pressing of tobacco, it is to be understood that I do not claim as of my invention the actuating of the screw by the revolving of the nut; but

I do claim—

The manner of forming and combining the nut and metallic box as set forth, in conjunction with the combining them with the head-block or cap-piece, by means of which arrangement the press can be conveniently worked by horse-power, while the head-block of wood is left of such strength as to render it perfectly efficient.

JOSEPH BUCEY.

Witnesses:

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