

G. W. MACON.
Dressing Tobacco.

No. 4,458.

Patented April 18, 1846.

Fig: 1

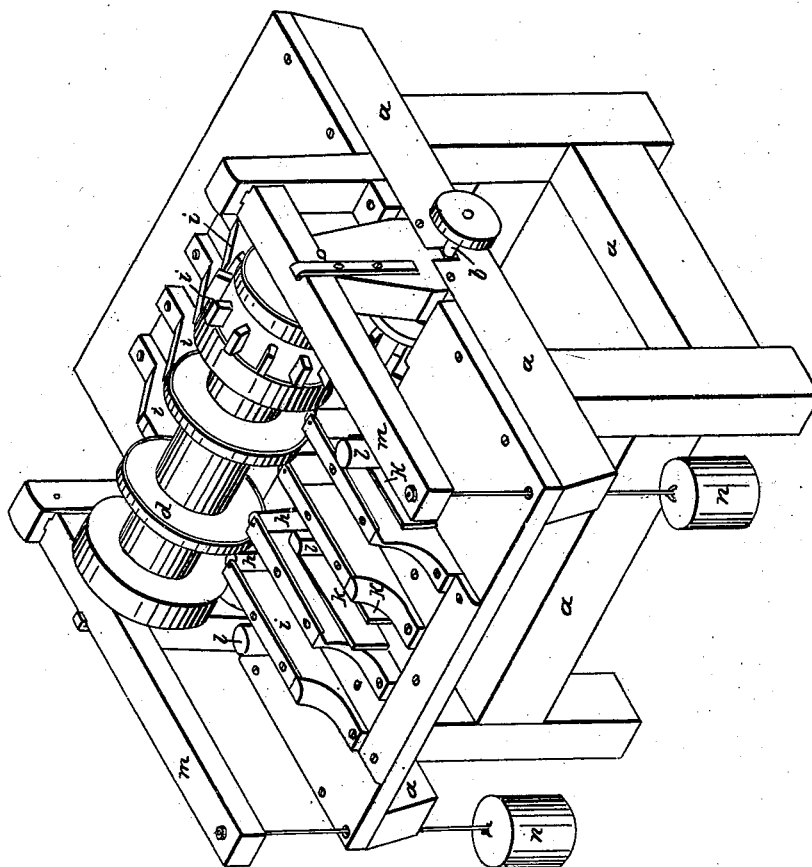


Fig: 3.

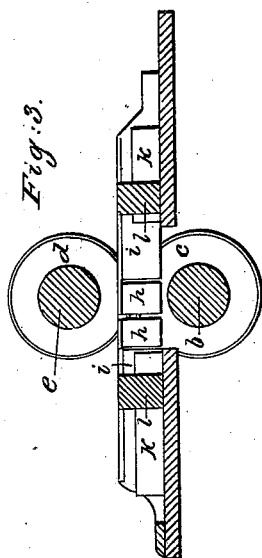
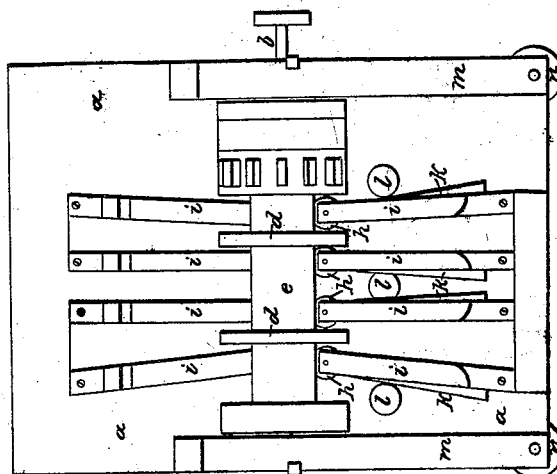


Fig: 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEO. W. MACON, OF LOUISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINERY FOR SMOOTHING TOBACCO-LEAVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **4,458**, dated April 18, 1846.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEO. W. MACON, of Louisburg, in the county of Franklin and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Machinery for Straightening Tobacco; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the principle or character thereof which distinguishes it from all other machines, apparatus, or things before known, and of the manner of making, constructing, and using the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an isometrical view; Fig. 2, a top view; Fig. 3, a section of working parts.

The same letters indicate like parts in all the figures.

Several devices have been essayed for straightening the leaves of tobacco; but they have all had a tendency to tear and injure the leaves, and are ineffectual in straightening them. When rollers were used with a platform between them, or guides stationary at the sides, the leaf was torn and very imperfectly straightened, and the common practice now is to do this work by hand. By my improvements all these difficulties have been obviated, and an amount of work may now be done by machinery unknown before.

In the accompanying drawings, *a a* represent the frame or table in which the machinery is placed, a space being left in the top of the table at the center in which a shaft, *b*, is placed having a series of wheels, *c*, on it, the outer one at one end being a cog-wheel, *c'*. Above this series of wheels are others, *d*, op-

posite to them on a parallel shaft, *e*. The smooth wheels *c* and *d* are all covered with leather or other similar substance, and the space between them is sufficient to pass the hand of tobacco through. On both sides of each pair of smooth wheels *c* and *d* is placed a pair of upright rollers, *h*, all of which have their bearings in and are attached to guide-pieces *i*, which are boards set on edge, and compose the sides of a sort of trough or guiding-chute, of which the rollers above named form the termination at the wheels. These guides *i* are jointed at the end farthest from the rollers, so as to allow the rollers a lateral motion, by which they can be brought up closer to the wheels by means of wedges *k* behind them, which are driven in between a post, *l*, attached to the frame *a*, and the side piece, *i*. The guides for receiving and delivering the leaves are alike, and by means of them and the wheels above and below the process of straightening the leaves is accomplished without injury to them. The upper shaft, *e*, is weighted down by levers *m* and weights *n*, bearing on these journals in the usual way of weighted shafts.

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

A series of wheels having adjustable guides and rollers between them, constructed, arranged, and combined in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

GEO. W. MACON.

Witnesses:

JNO. G. KING,
ROBT. J. SHAW.