

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WESLEY A. WRIGHT, OF LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TREATING SMOKING-TOBACCO.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 111,712, dated February 7, 1871.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WESLEY A. WRIGHT, of Lynchburg, Campbell county, State of Virginia, have invented a new and Improved Method of Treating Smoking-Tobacco, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to utilize and render valuable the waste material about tobacco-factories, which heretofore has been worked up into a smoking-tobacco of a grade so low as not to be remunerative, and to be entirely unfit for market. By my treatment of this waste material I produce a superior article, which I style the "Durham Smoking-Tobacco."

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to explain the manner in which I have carried it out.

I take four pounds of tonka beans, four ounces of mace, two ounces of vanilla beans, and two pounds of angelica, (dried,) and grind all to powder. I then put into it one gallon of alcohol and allow the mixture to stand four or five days. I then empty it into a barrel of New England rum—say, from thirty-five to forty gallons—and let the whole stand for one week, but shaking the barrel well every day. The mixture is then ready for use.

When the tobacco has been prepared for packing I make a tea, moderately strong, from the bark of sassafras-root, and strain it well.

To six gallons of this tea I add one quart of the above mixture, and with this composition moisten the tobacco and stir it well. Then take one pound of tonka beans, ground fine, and sprinkle on the tobacco—say about three hundred pounds—and again stir it well. Let it lie over one night, covered with a cloth or matting. Then pack in bags or boxes and place in a dry room until the tobacco is thoroughly dry, when it is ready for the market.

One of the great advantages of this process of treating tobacco over any other is that the essential oils and alcohol I use counteract, in a great measure, the effects of the nicotine of the tobacco on the nervous system, and thus delicate persons are enabled to smoke it with impunity.

### *Claim.*

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

1. The above-described process of treating smoking-tobacco, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
2. As a new article of manufacture, smoking-tobacco when treated substantially as above described.

WESLEY A. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:

T. S. MERSEY,  
C. H. FOWLER.