

United States Patent Office.

DAVID ALONZO ALDEN, OF MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 114,901, dated May 16, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE PREPARATION OF TOBACCO FOR CHEWING.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all to whom these presents shall come:

Be it known that I, DAVID ALONZO ALDEN, of Malden, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have made an invention of a new and useful Preparation of Tobacco for Chewing Purposes; and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description, and to embrace the nature, purposes, and advantages of my invention and the manner in which the same is or may be carried into effect.

This invention relates to a mode of preparing fine-cut chewing-tobacco, whereby it may be carried in the pocket and used without inconvenience, annoyance, and waste, now inseparable from the practice of carrying it loose in the package in which it is sold.

My invention consists in an improved mode of preparing tobacco for chewing, by mixing tobacco in a finely-divided state with gum arabic or other suitable mucilaginous substance, taken in sufficient quantity to hold together the particles of tobacco, and then molding the mixture or compound thus made into lozenges or wafers of the desired size.

The tobacco, moistened and mixed with the mucilage, is pressed into small molds of the size of the wafer required. The wafers, after hardening, present the appearance of, and can be carried in the pocket and used like ordinary lozenges.

I am aware that tobacco has been prepared for chewing by enveloping fine-cut tobacco in tobacco-leaves and then compressing it when enveloped, the cake or sheet thus formed being afterward cut into pieces of the size required for a "chew," as described in reissued Letters Patent No. 2,468, dated January 29, 1867. But my process differs from this, in that I do not use the exterior skin or layer of leaf-tobacco, which, under the process referred to, must be used in order to hold the compressed fine-cut tobacco together, but employ in lieu thereof a mucilaginous or other suitable substance, which, when mixed with the fine-cut tobacco, will cause its strands or particles to adhere closely together; and in lieu of cutting the compressed cake into smaller pieces, which renders the edges of the pieces liable to crumble, I mold the mixture of tobacco and adhesive agent, while still moist, or in a plastic state, into lozenges or wafers of the required size.

It is well known that in the use of fine-cut chewing-tobacco, as at present used from the paper, much inconvenience is experienced and more or less tobacco is wasted in the attempt to convey it to the mouth, in addition to which the tobacco, from its loose condition and from frequent opening of the package, becomes dry and powdered, and is scattered about the pocket and its contents.

In the condensed form of wafers, as I propose, tobacco may be carried in considerable quantity in the vest-pocket without attracting notice, and being in such form a resemblance to troches or some kinds of confection, may be conveyed to the mouth without suspicion on part of observers as to its real nature.

Tobacco in this form will not deteriorate by moderate exposure to heat, cold, or dampness, and although compressed into comparatively small compass will soon swell to its primitive bulk when moistened by saliva.

It may be found desirable to incorporate in the wafers some flavoring or odoriferous substance, and this may be readily accomplished in the process of preparing them.

The gum or adhesive or tenacious substance which is incorporated with the tobacco, if desired, will be found beneficial from the fact that it retains the quid in a compact state and prolongs the time required to extract its juice by chewing.

I do not, however, confine myself to the use of an adhesive substance, as the tobacco may be rolled into sheets without it.

Claim.

I claim—

The improved process herein described of manufacturing tobacco-lozenges or wafers for chewing, the same consisting in mixing finely-divided tobacco with a suitable mucilaginous or adhesive substance and then molding said mixture into lozenges or wafers, as set forth.

DAVID ALONZO ALDEN.

Witnesses:

EDW. GRIFFITH,
CHARLES H. MILLS.