

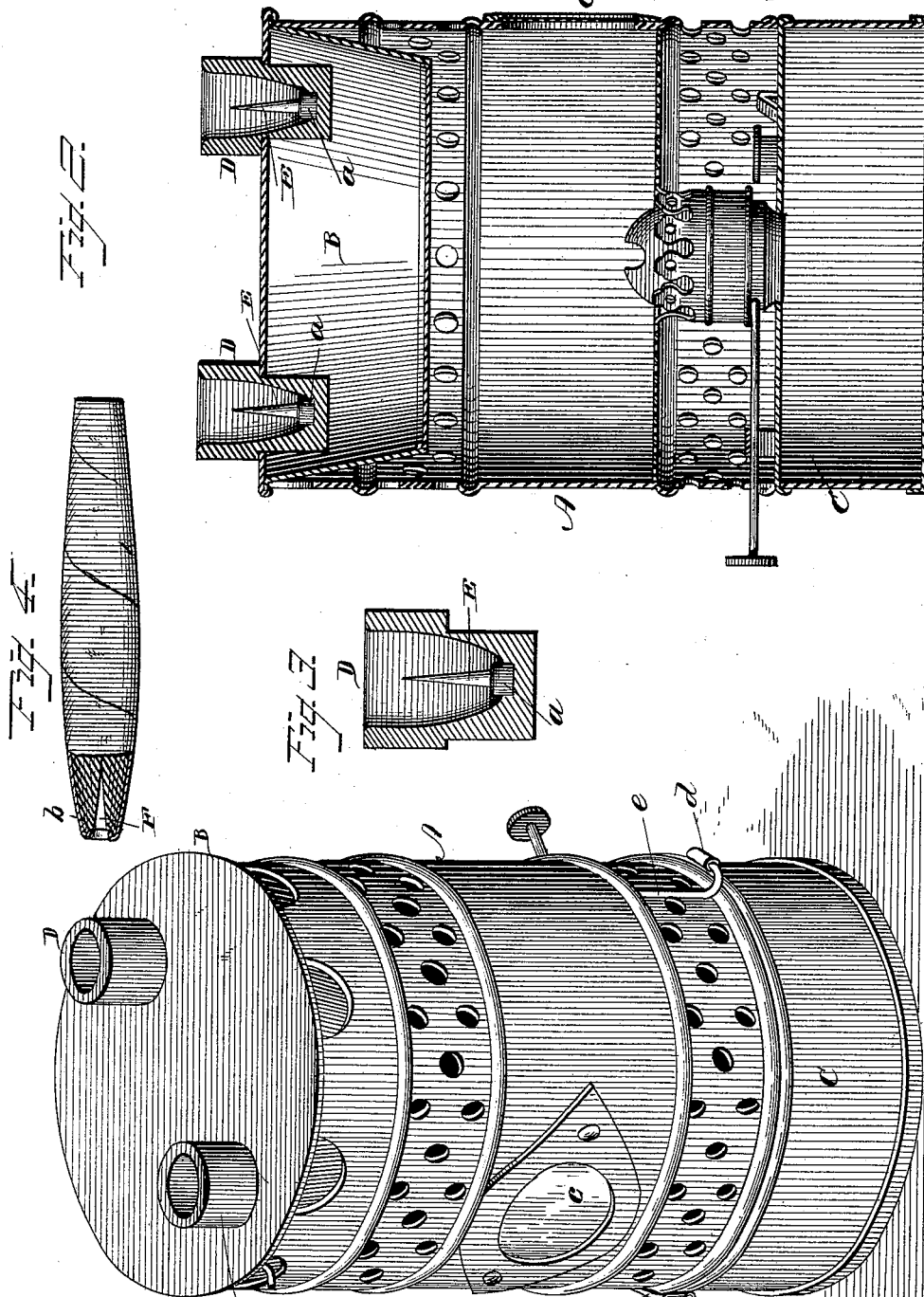
(No Model.)

H. F. MOELLER & J. F. SIERK.

APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING CIGARS.

No. 304,347.

Patented Sept. 2, 1884.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY F. MOELLER AND JOHAN F. SIERK, OF DAVENPORT, IOWA.

## APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING CIGARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,347, dated September 2, 1884.

Application filed October 17, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, HENRY F. MOELLER and JOHAN F. SIERK, of Davenport, in the county of Scott and State of Iowa, have invented certain Improvements in Apparatus for Manufacturing Cigars, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to the manufacture of cigars, and particularly to the formation therein, during the process of manufacture, of a central aperture or tunnel to permit the passage of air and smoke, or, as it is commonly expressed, to cause the cigar to "draw" readily.

The invention consists in a drying apparatus containing a lamp or heater, a water vessel or chamber, and two or more dies or cups to receive the points of the cigars, each provided with a central prong or pin having at its lower end a head or enlargement to form an orifice wider than the main tunnel or air-passage, so that the orifice will not be closed when the tip is moistened, the dies or cups being each partly immersed in the hot water, and thus moderately heated to effect the drying of the tip in proper form.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of our improved apparatus; Fig. 2, a vertical central section of the same; Fig. 3, a sectional view of one of the cups or dies, and Fig. 4 a sectional elevation of a cigar made in the improved manner.

Various attempts have heretofore been made to produce a cigar having a central tunnel or passage for air and smoke extending from the tip or point inward toward the body of the cigar for the purpose mentioned; but it is believed that no one has hitherto been successful in producing such a cigar capable of being smoked without practically closing the passage or opening. The present invention therefore aims to prevent such closing of the tunnel or passage, and with this object in view the apparatus is constructed as shown in the annexed drawings, in which—

A represents a metal body or cylinder, having at its top a water chamber or vessel, B, and at its lower end a lamp, gas-burner, or other convenient form of heater, C, as shown, to heat the water in vessel B.

D D represent two cup-shaped dies or sock-

ets, which may be conveniently formed of soft metal, each adapted to receive the point of a cigar, and provided with a central prong or pin, E, which enters the tip of the cigar as the latter is inserted into the die or socket, and perforates said tip, the cigar being at the time in a moist condition, and therefore not liable to injury from the prong or pin. The pin or prong is of tapering form, and terminates at its upper end in a sharp point. At its lower end, or at the bottom of the die or socket, it is provided with a swell or enlargement, *a*, projecting upward into said socket, as shown in Fig. 3. This swell or enlargement turns the wrapper *b* of the cigar inward into the orifice or mouth of the tunnel or opening F, as more plainly shown in Fig. 4, at the same time enlarging said mouth or orifice, and thereby preventing its closing or collapsing when the tip is moistened. By thus turning the wrapper inward into the mouth of the opening it is prevented from separating from or peeling off of the filling, which is liable to occur where a simple perforation is formed. The enlargement *a* therefore serves a very important purpose in this apparatus.

In order to insure the proper drying of the tip while upon the prong or perforator, it is necessary that the cigar should be allowed to remain thereon for a greater length of time than elapses between the removal of one and the placing of another cigar in the socket, where a single socket or cup is used and the handling of the cigars is carried on without delay or interruption; hence, instead of providing only a single cup or die, two or more are furnished, and these are supplied with cigars alternately or successively, thus giving the first cigar a period for drying equal to the time required for supplying the other cups or dies with cigars, and so with each of the others. In the drawings two such cups or dies are shown, and these will ordinarily be found sufficient; but the number may obviously be increased, as desired. The body A is furnished with a window or opening, *c*, by which the condition of the flame of lamp or heater C may be seen from the outside.

No claim is made herein to the broad idea of perforating the tip or end of a cigar in the process of manufacture by pressing it upon a

heated perforating prong, as that has before been done.

It is not known that any one has heretofore provided two or more perforating and drying devices in one apparatus, whereby the period of drying might be prolonged without retarding the work of the cigar-maker.

The lamp or heater C is furnished with eyes or loops *d*, and the body A is provided with hooks *e* to enter said eyes or loops and connect the parts, as shown.

The water-vessel B is formed with a lateral flange which rests upon the top of cylinder or body A, and thus supports the vessel, as shown.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

1. The herein-described apparatus for forming a draft-opening in cigars in the process of

manufacture, consisting of body A, water-vessel B, heater C, and two or more sockets or cups, D, each provided with a perforating-prong, and adapted to be used alternately or successively, whereby a proper period for drying is secured without retarding the operations of the manufacturer.

2. The apparatus herein described, consisting of cylinder A, water-vessel B, heater C, cups or sockets D, and perforating-prongs E, arranged within the cups or sockets D, and having swell or enlargement *a*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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