

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD D. WELLS, OF HAMPSTEAD, MARYLAND.

## COMPOUND FOR TREATING TOBACCO.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,364, dated September 16, 1884.

Application filed April 16, 1884. (No specimens.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD D. WELLS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hampstead, in the county of Carroll and State of Maryland, have invented an Improved Compound for Treating Smoking-Tobacco, of which the following is a description.

The object of my invention is to prevent or destroy, as far as practicable, the injurious effects produced on the human system by smoking tobacco, and to this end I treat the tobacco with a chemical compound consisting of tannic acid, benzoic acid, and valerian.

The compound consists of about ten parts tannic acid, one part of benzoic acid, and seven parts of valerian, which parts are each separately pulverized and thoroughly mixed together in the above-described proportions. The compound may be employed in its pulverized state or in solution. When applied to smoking-tobacco, the latter is spread out thinly on a platform, and sprinkled with a solution of the compound at the rate of about one to two drams of the solution of the com-

pound to one pound of the smoking-tobacco. The alkaloid nicotine is neutralized by the tannic acid, the benzoic acid neutralizes the ammonia, and the valerian is employed to quiet the nerves of the smoker.

In applying the compound to a cigar, it is preferably applied to the filler by inserting from two to three grains of the pulverized material in the filler at its mouth end before the cigar is manufactured, and sprinkling the remaining portion of the filler with a solution of the compound in the proportion above stated.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

A compound for treating tobacco, consisting of about ten parts of tannic acid, one part of benzoic acid, and seven parts of valerian, as set forth.

EDWD. D. WELLS.

Witnesses:

OLON C. KEMON,  
JESSE MIDDLETON.