

4572. Misbranding of "Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters." U. S. * * * v. 32 Gross of * * * "Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters." Consent decree of condemnation and forfeiture. Product ordered released on bond. (F. & D. No. 6860. I. S. No. 2107-1. S. No. E-388.)

On September 20, 1915, the United States attorney for the District of Massachusetts, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district a libel of information and thereafter 2 motions to amend the same, praying for the seizure and condemnation of 32 gross of a product called "Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters," remaining unsold in the original unbroken packages at Boston, Mass., alleging that the article had been shipped and transported from the State of New Jersey into the State of Massachusetts, and charging misbranding in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, as amended.

Misbranding of the article was alleged in the libel of information and the amendments thereto, for the reason that the packages and labels thereof bore and contained statements, designs, and devices regarding the curative and therapeutic effects of said article, that is to say: (On the plaster) "Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters. Collins' Voltaic Electric Plaster. Lightning Lines our Trade Mark. None Genuine without lightning lines. Distributed by Potter Drug & Chemical Corporation, Sole Proprietors. Boston, Massachusetts, U. S. A. Registered in U. S. Patent Office and in Canada and Great Britain. Guaranteed by Potter Drug & Chemical Corp. Patented Dec. 11, 1877." (On label on shipping package) "One gross Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters. Potter Drug & Chemical Corporation, Boston, U. S. A." (Picture of plaster on side of box). (On circular) "The Medicated Plaster * * * almost unrivalled in the relief of pain, weakness, and inflammation * * * Many people believe that the combination of such a plaster with Voltaic electric plates, as in Collins Voltaic Electric Plaster, greatly enhances the benefit to be derived in the treatment of the following: Rheumatism, weak spine, * * * local rheumatism, tic douloureux, * * * painful kidneys, affections of the chest, colds and coughs, injuries of the back, * * * weak back, pain in the bowels, cramp in the stomach and limbs, enlarged spleen, * * * punctures, rheumatism of the wrist and arms, asthma, gout, * * * deep-seated pains, pain in the chest, stitch in the back, pain in the hip, * * * pain and weakness in side and back, hoarseness, sore throat, lumbago, whooping cough, sharp pains in the breast, indigestion and * * * soreness in any part of the body. Fever and Ague, Affections of the liver, malarial diseases * * * they frequently prove of great value in fever and ague and all pains, soreness and weakness incidental thereto, cramps and pains in the stomach and bowels, indigestion and dyspepsia, bilious colic, affections of the liver, and malarial and miasmatic pains and weaknesses * * * may be worn by those subjected to change of water, food and climate. For rheumatism and neuralgia. Apply the Collins Voltaic Electric Plasters to any part of the body where pain or soreness is felt. Relief is usually immediate * * * For sciatica * * * apply to the lower back of the thigh * * * For weak, painful kidneys. The Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters relieve pain and inflammation of the kidneys * * * For weak muscles and joints these plasters afford a most perfect support, * * * imparting strength to weakened muscles and tendons. For simple bone fractures, sprains, * * * these plasters * * * subdue inflammation * * * For spinal pains, or inflammation or pain in any part of the spinal column. They may prove of value * * * when a decided and continuous effect is desired. For coughs, colds, bronchitis, asthma, difficult breathing, soreness or lameness of the chest and pectoral muscles. These affections are relieved in

many cases by the application of the Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters. For sensitive or weak lungs this plaster is of great benefit. It * * * stimulates the circulation, assisting in removing soreness, tenderness, pain and inflammation. * * * For female weakness. Females during certain periods will experience the most gratifying relief from the use of these plasters * * * For sudden and severe pains in the side and back, and in fact in any part of the body the application of the Collins' Voltaic Electric Plasters afford relief in the majority of cases. For diarrhoea, pains and cramps in the bowels weakness and indigestion, this plaster is a most valuable application, frequently relieving many cases without the assistance of other medicine," "* * * Voltaic Electric Plasters," which said statements, designs, and devices were false and misleading in that the article was incapable of producing the therapeutic effects claimed therein.

On October 29, 1915, the Potter Drug & Chemical Corporation, Boston, Mass., having filed its claim for the property, and having given satisfactory bond in conformity with section 10 of the act, judgment of condemnation and forfeiture was entered, and it was ordered by the court that the product should be delivered to the claimant upon payment of the costs of the proceeding.

CARL VROOMAN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*