

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS BINGHAM, OF NEWBURG, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN LAMP-WICKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **45,384**, dated December 13, 1864; antedated January 31, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS BINGHAM, of Newburg, in the county of Orange and State of New York, have invented or discovered a new and useful improvement in the material and construction of wicks for lamps used for burning-fluid, camphene, kerosene, carbon, and other oils, and for all illuminating purposes requiring a wick or conductor; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same.

The nature of my invention and improvement consists in constructing the wick, in whole or in part, of wool manufactured into cloth or otherwise and rendered compact by manufacture, fulling, or otherwise, thereby enabling me to use a thinner wick and more thoroughly filtering the oil, preventing the effusion of oil or fluid over the tube of the lamp, thereby reducing the risk of explosion, and not subject to tearing or fretting by the ratchet, and giving a clearer and steadier light, together with greater volume of light, without so much smoke, and not requiring to be trimmed as often as

the ordinary cotton wick, and burning without crusting the wick, as does cotton wick, and requiring a less quantity of oil or other burning-fluid.

I do not claim as my invention any particular manner of constructing or using wicks for illuminating purposes, or any kind or construction of tubes for using the same, or any particular apparatus for burning or consuming the smoke or gases, but the substitution of a woolen material for the kind at present in use.

What I claim as my invention or discovery, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The substitution of wool, in whole or in part, for wicks to lamps for burning-fluids, camphene, kerosene, carbon, and other oils, and for all illuminating purposes requiring a wick or conductor, substantially as set forth and described in the foregoing.

THOS. BINGHAM.

Witnesses:

JNO. J. MORRELL,
GEORGE M. WARREN.