

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY B. STOCKWELL, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVED FULMINATING COMPOUND.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 48,460, dated June 27, 1865; antedated June 17, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY B. STOCKWELL, of No. 3 Jefferson Park, in the city of Brooklyn, and State of New York, have invented a new Fulminating Compound; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact statement of the component parts of and manner of compounding and using the same.

The object of my invention is to obtain a fulminating compound that will ignite by percussion and produce a great flame, but have less explosive force than most of the fulminating compounds heretofore produced. The purpose for which this compound is more particularly intended is the lighting of illuminating-gas as it issues from burners, through the instrumentality of a percussion device which is set in operation by the act of turning the cock to allow the issue of gas.

The compound is composed of the following ingredients, in about the following proportions by weight: fulminating mercury, four (4) parts; saltpeter, three (3) parts; black sulphuret of antimony, two (2) parts; French chalk, one (1) part.

These are all well mixed together in a pulverized state, and might be used in that state, but for convenience of using it in connection with a gas-burner for the purpose of lighting gas

by percussion, as herein above mentioned, I prefer to make it in the form of sticks, for which purpose I first moisten it with sufficient water to form a stiff paste, and in this condition I make it into sticks, which I roll into a round form and of uniform thickness between two flat surfaces, one of which has a movement in parallel relation to the other. The sticks thus formed are cut into pieces of suitable length, which are allowed to dry and are afterward varnished with an alcoholic solution of shellac or any other suitable varnish which is combustible, and which will give the exteriors of the sticks the requisite degree of cohesiveness or tenacity.

The proportions which I have herein above given of the several ingredients of the composition are those which I have found by experiment to give the best result; but they may be to some extent varied without materially affecting the character of the compound.

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

The fulminate compound composed of the materials herein specified in about the proportions herein set forth.

HENRY B. STOCKWELL.

Witnesses:

JOHN F. BAKER,  
GEO. W. REED.