

G. W. ALDRICH.
FLAMBEAUX.

No. 175,893.

Patented April 11, 1876.

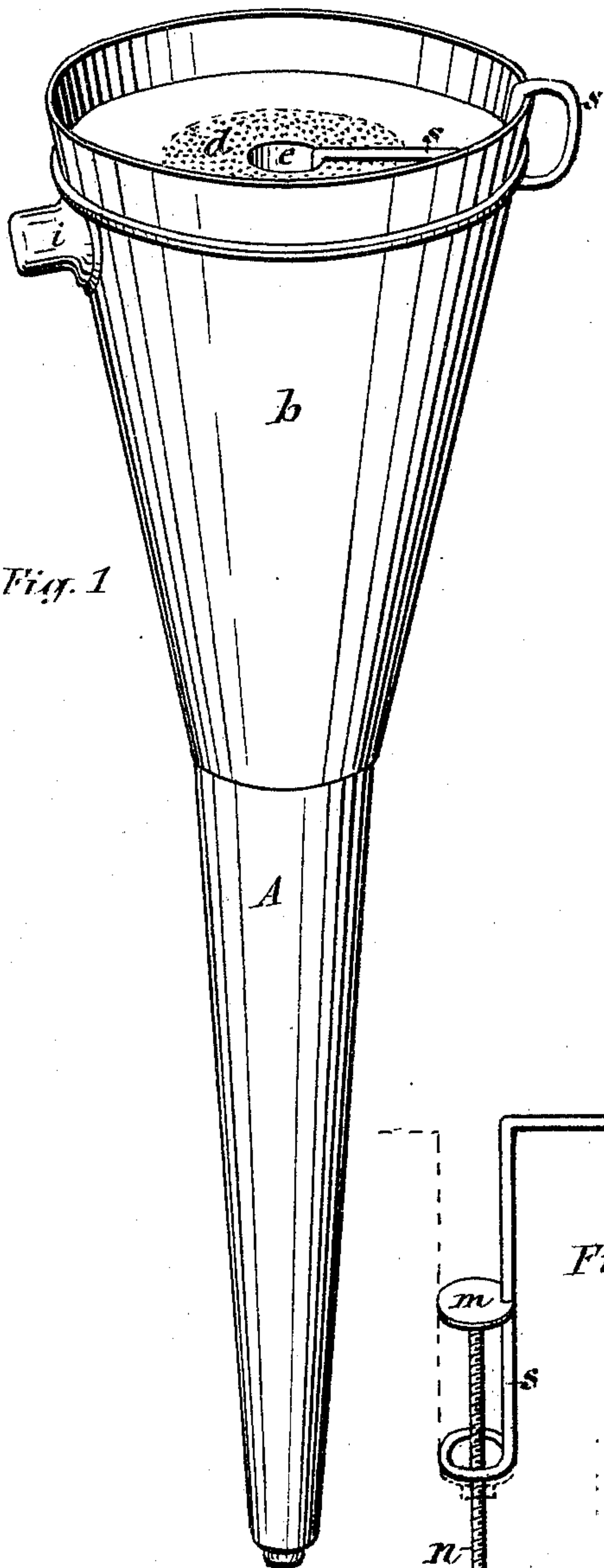


Fig. 1

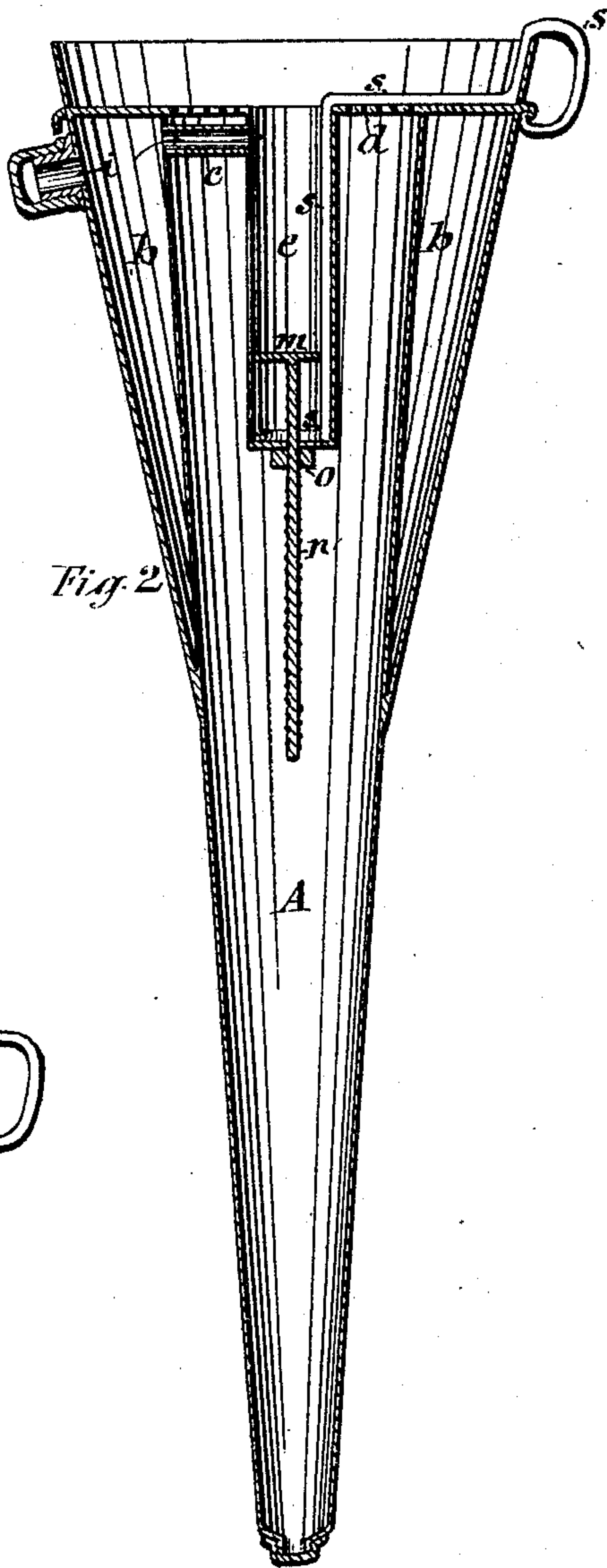


Fig. 2

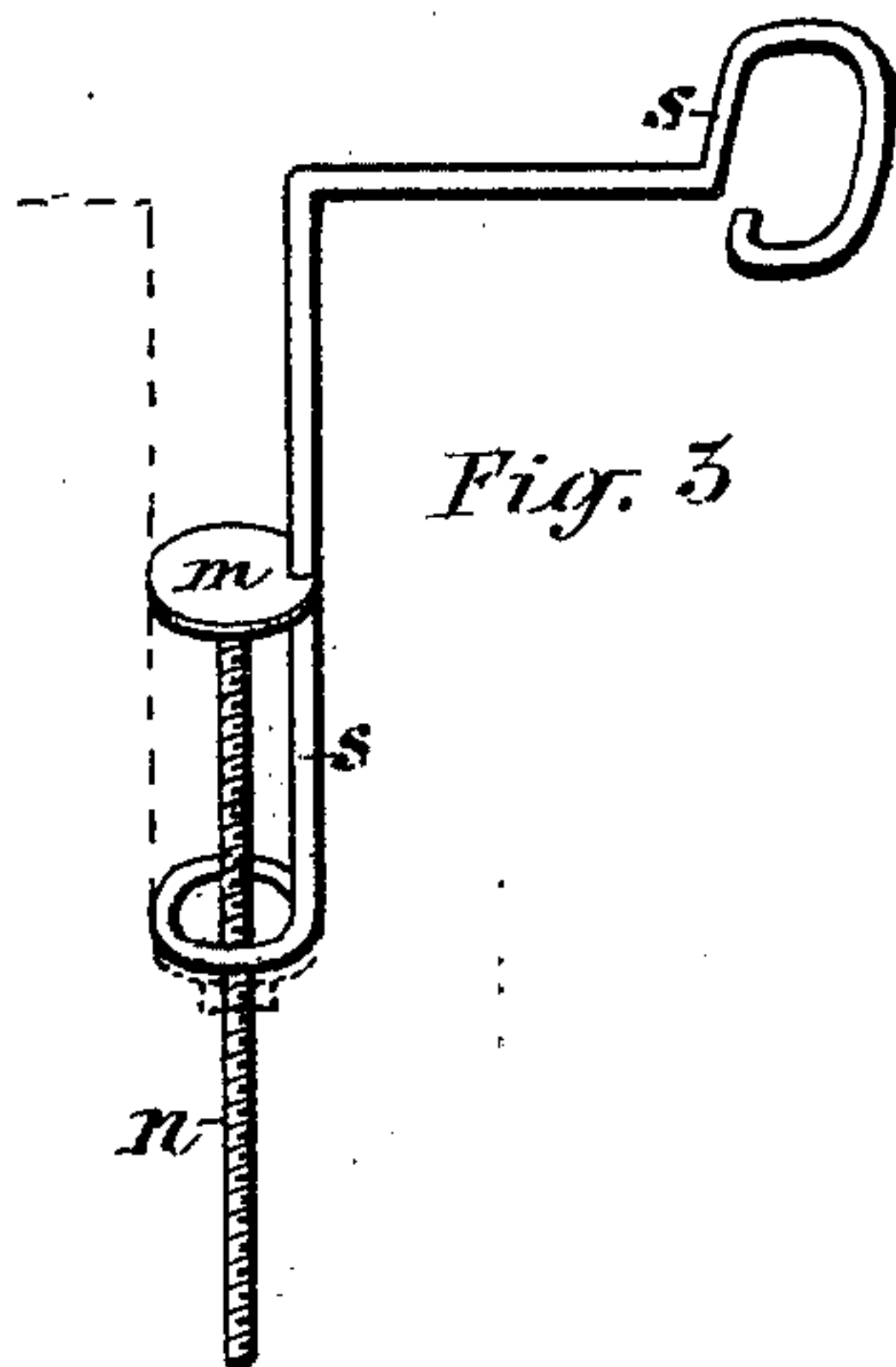


Fig. 3

WITNESSES:

G. Holmstrup, Jr.
Charles E. Laass.

INVENTOR:

George W. Aldrich
for E. Laass Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. ALDRICH, OF SYRACUSE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT
TO EMIL LAASS, OF GEDDES, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLAMBEAUX.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **175,893**, dated April 11, 1876; application filed
October 20, 1875.

To whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE WASHINGTON ALDRICH, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Flambeaux, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a full, clear and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in that class of flambeaux having arrangements for bringing lycopodium or similar substances in contact with the flame for the purpose of suddenly enlarging the same and increasing the display of light in evening procession and similar occasions. These flambeaux generally consist of a long tapering tin tube, which is filled with lycopodium. Near the top, which is the largest end of the tube, it is provided with a perforated cover, and in the center of this with a wick-tube extending inward, the wick therein being saturated with burning-fluid, furnishing the flame.

Heretofore the wick was secured in the tube by a pin passing through both the main or lycopodium tube and wick-tube, and when it became necessary to raise and trim the wick, the pin was withdrawn and used for prying up the wick. In the latter operation the pin became bent and so crooked that it was almost impossible to insert it through the four holes in the tubes and replace it. The burning-fluid was carried in flasks or bottles about the person, and was cumbersome and liable to soil the clothes. In order to replenish the wick the flame had to be extinguished and the fluid poured onto the top of the wick. This operation was not only slow and inconvenient, but also dangerous, as frequently, through haste and excitement, sufficient fire was left about the wick to ignite the fluid and burn the torch-bearer.

The object of my invention is to overcome these inconveniences and obviate this danger by simple, cheap, and durable devices; and it consists, first, in the combination, with the wick-tube, of an extra loose bottom, fitting the interior of the tube and attached to a stem or rod, which is provided with screw-threads, and passes through a nut attached to a rigid bottom of the wick-tube, and arranged to be turned

by a wire engaging the said loose bottom and extending to the top of the flambeaux, where it is provided with a suitable handle; second, in the combination, with the flambeaux, of a can or reservoir for oil or fluid, attached in such a manner that the wick can be replenished without extinguishing the flame.

My invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein Figure 1 is a perspective view of a flambeau with my improvements attached; Fig. 2, a transverse section of same, and Fig. 3 a view of the apparatus for raising and lowering the wick detached.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the main or lycopodium tube constructed in the usual way, with an inlet at the bottom closed by a screw-cap, and provided at the top with a perforated cover, *d*, through which the lycopodium is brought in contact with the flame by shaking or waving the flambeau. *b* is the reservoir for oil or fluid, which may be of any desired shape and size, and attached in any manner whereby communication can be obtained with the wick-tube. *c* is the pipe leading from the reservoir to the wick-tube *e* for the passage of oil or fluid in replenishing the wick by merely shaking or inclining the flambeau. *i* is the inlet through which the reservoir is filled, and may be closed by any suitable device or means, and placed where most convenient. *m* is the loose bottom in the wick-tube *e*; *n* the screw-threaded stem attached to the bottom *m* and extending downward through the nut *o* secured to the rigid bottom at the lower extremity of the wick-tube. *s* is a wire bent at one end into the shape of a ring, fitting the interior of the wick-tube; the remaining portion extends up through a notch in the edge of the loose bottom *m* to the top of the wick-tube, thence across the top to the outside, where it is bent in a suitable curve to form a handle, and terminates with a short hook or turn, which engages a projecting rim on the interior of the flambeau. The ring at one end steadies the wire in the wick-tube, and the hook at the opposite end engaging the rim on the outside, secures it to the flambeau, and at the same

time allows it to revolve. By revolving the upper extremity of the wire around the top of the flambeau, the loose bottom *m* is turned with it, and this being attached to the screw-threaded stem *n* in its revolution, is caused to raise or lower by the stationary nut *o*. With my improvements kerosene oil can be used in place of fluid, thereby greatly reducing the expense of torch-light processions.

Having thus fully described my improvements, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the wick-tube of a flambeau, of the extra loose bottom *m*, attached to the screw-threaded stem *n*, and the nut *o*, attached to the rigid bottom of the wick-tube, constructed to operate as described, for the purpose specified.

2. In combination with the loose bottom *m*, arranged to raise and lower by revolving the

wire *s*, bent at the lower extremity to fit the inner circumference of the wick-tube, and secured at the top of the flambeau by a hook engaging a projecting rim or shoulder on the exterior of the flambeau, constructed to operate as described, for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination with the flambeau herein described, of a reservoir for oil or fluid, attached to the outside of the lycopodium-tube and connected with the wick-tube, as described, for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name and affixed my seal, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, at Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga and State of New York, this 17th day of September, 1875.

GEORGE W. ALDRICH. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

C. HOLMSTRUP, Jr.,
E. LAASS.