

(No Model.)

R. F. W. LOPER.
ILLUMINATING CANDLE.

No. 252,590.

Patented Jan. 17, 1882.

Fig. 1.

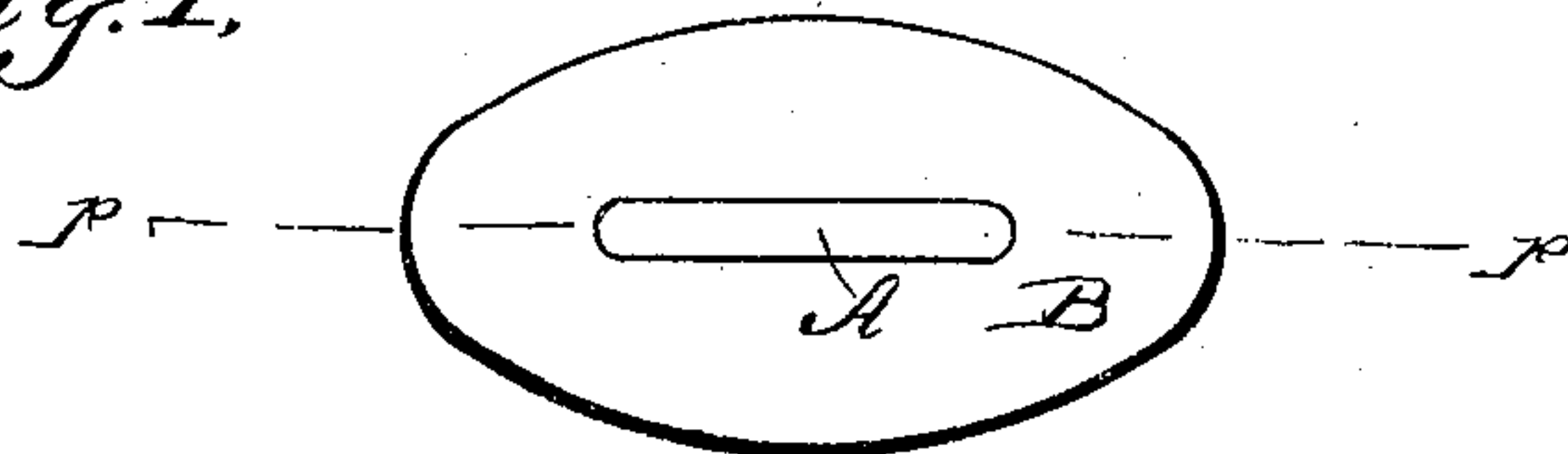
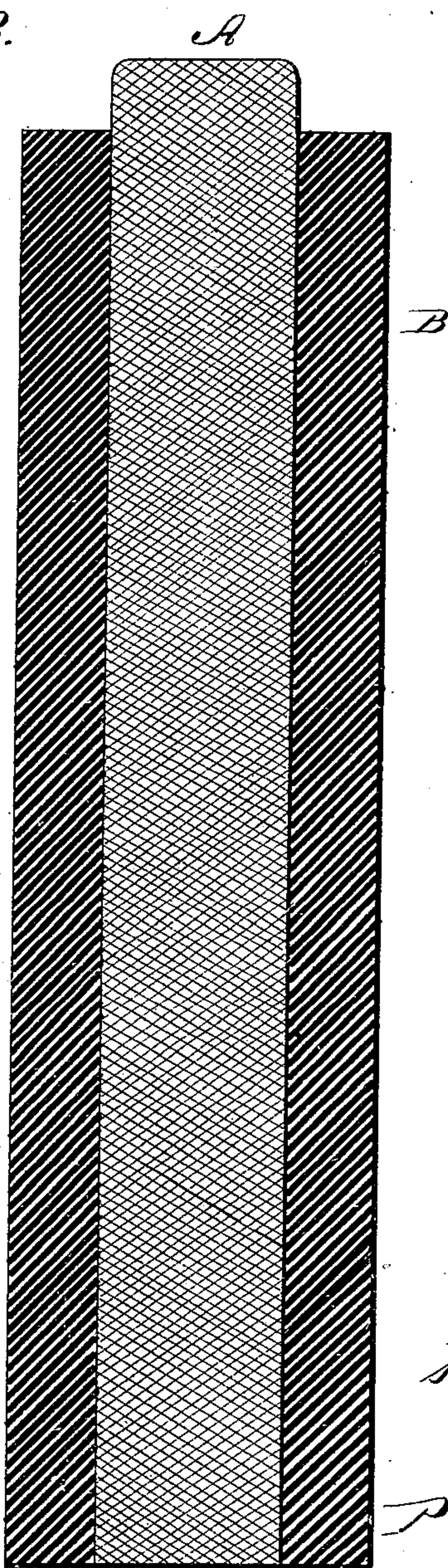


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD F. W. LOPER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO
HIMSELF AND CHARLES McKEONE, OF SAME PLACE.

ILLUMINATING-CANDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 252,590, dated January 17, 1882.

Application filed November 12, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD F. W. LOPER, of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Illuminating-Candles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of my improved candle, and Fig. 2 a vertical section on the line *p p* of Fig. 1.

This invention relates to an improvement in the manufacture of illuminating-candles which are especially designed for use on railroads, steamboats, and for other purposes where great illuminating power is desired, combined with portability and safety; and the object of my invention is to practically employ a broad flat wick in a candle which is composed of any suitable solid hydrocarbon or inflammable material, as will be hereinafter explained.

In order that others may avail themselves of the benefits of my invention, I will now proceed to describe its construction.

A designates a broad flat wick, about which is molded the body B of the candle, which may be composed of stearine, paraffine, spermaceti, tallow, wax, or of other suitable hydrocarbon or inflammable substance, or a combination of either one or more of such substances, with or without the addition of animal-charcoal.

It is essential to the success of my flat-wick candle that the body thereof approximate the form in cross-section of the wick—that is to say, the outline of the candle, when taken in

cross-section, should be flattened or elliptical, as represented in Fig. 1, the flattened sides corresponding to those of the wick. By this form it will be seen that the circumference of the body is equidistant, or nearly so, from the wick when taken in any radial plane. Consequently the substance composing the body will be consumed equally, as every part of its outline is equidistant from the plane.

It is obvious that if the body of the candle were cylindrical, as candles with rounded wicks have hitherto been made, and the wick were flat, the inflammable material would be unequally supplied to the flame to support combustion, and it would not be wholly consumed.

The flat wick A will afford a broad flame, like that of a coal-oil lamp. At the same time the danger attending such lamps is avoided. The form of the body of the candle may be slightly varied from that shown in the drawings without departing from the nature of my invention, which is the elliptical or oblong contour set forth.

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

As a new and improved article of manufacture, an illuminating candle composed of a flat wick or core and a flattened or elliptical body molded or cast about the said flat wick, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD F. W. LOPER.

Witnesses:

T. H. ALEXANDER,
W. C. MCARTHUR.