

(No Model.)

E. R. CLOUGH & E. M. FLYNN.

FIRE KINDLER.

No. 373,340.

Patented Nov. 15, 1887.

Fig. 1.

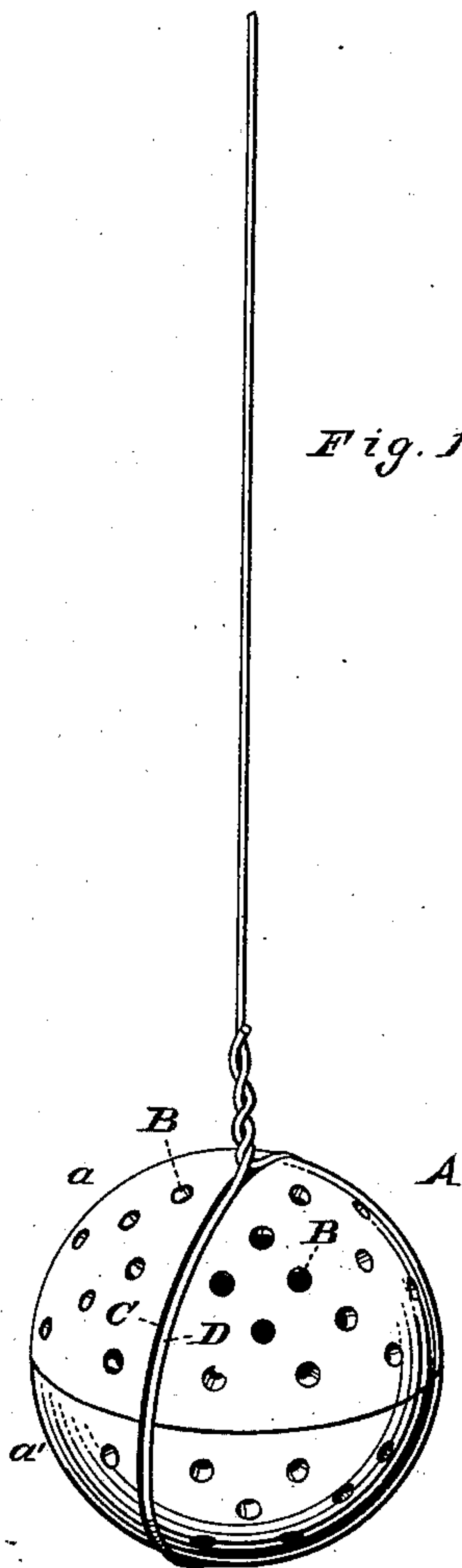
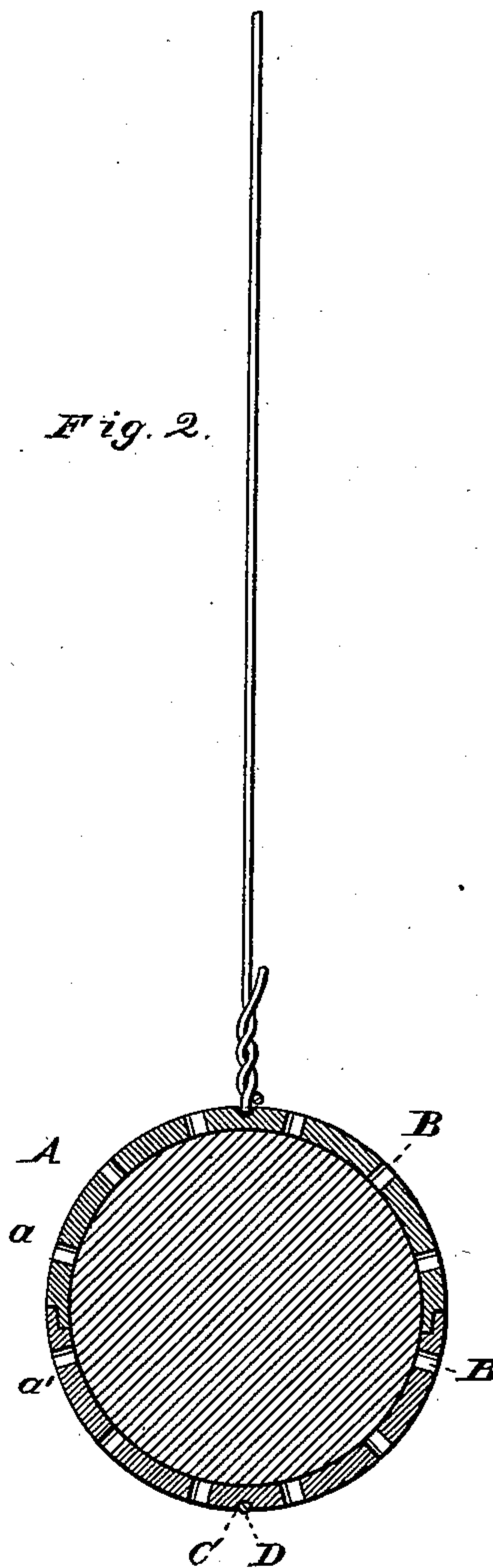


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

Villette Anderson.
Philip C. Masi.

INVENTORS

E. R. Clough,
E. M. Flynn,
by *E. W. Anderson.*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN R. CLOUGH AND ERASTUS M. FLYNN, OF LEBANON, MISSOURI.

FIRE-KINDLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,340, dated November 15, 1887.

Application filed August 13, 1887. Serial No. 246,875. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDWIN R. CLOUGH and ERASTUS M. FLYNN, citizens of the United States, residents of Lebanon, in the county of Laclede and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Kindlers; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of this invention, and is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a vertical section.

The invention relates to improvements in fire-kindlers; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts, as hereinafter set forth.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates a hollow sphere designed to be filled with a composition of matter the ingredients of which are hereinafter stated. The said sphere is divided into two hemispheres, *a a'*, which are rabbeted at their meeting edges to make a close joint.

B B are perforations in the casing, and C is a circumferential groove around the same to receive the binding-wire D.

The composition consists of equal parts of Spanish white or chalk, plumbago, and pumice-stone, thoroughly mixed. The hemispheres are filled with the composition closed together, with the parts of the groove C on each registering, and the wire D is then bent in the groove and wound tightly. The shell or sphere may be made of any refractory material, but cast-iron is preferable, and it is preferably about one-eighth of an inch thick and about two and a half inches in diameter, or larger, if necessary.

The sphere is kept in a small can of kerosene or gasoline, and to kindle a fire it is taken from said can, saturated with said oil, and inserted in the stove or grate below the fuel and fired. The blaze will issue through the perforations in the shell about eight minutes, which is abundance of time to start the fire well. The plumbago is used because it is practically infusible. It is used in the arts for the manufacture of articles that have to be submitted to great heat. The pumice-stone is used for the same reason and for its great absorbent power. The Spanish white or chalk, which can also stand great heat, is used more particularly to unite the plumbago and pumice-stone into an easily-shaped mass, which will absorb a large proportionate quantity of oil, and will be at the same time itself indestructible.

Having described our invention, we claim—

1. A fire-kindler consisting of a centrally-divided hollow sphere provided with perforations adapted to hold a material capable of absorbing a combustible liquid, provided with a circumferential groove, and having its divisions, which are rabbeted at their meeting edges to form a close joint, held together by a wire resting in the circumferential groove and having its ends twisted firmly together, substantially as specified.

2. A fire-kindler consisting of a suitable casing filled with a composition of matter composed of equal parts of plumbago, pumice-stone, and chalk, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

EDWIN R. CLOUGH.
ERASTUS M. FLYNN.

Witnesses:

W. J. McMILLEN,
LEN. S. WILSON.