

(No Model.)

R. GUENTHER.
FIRE KINDLER.

No. 444,114.

Patented Jan. 6, 1891.

Fig. 1.

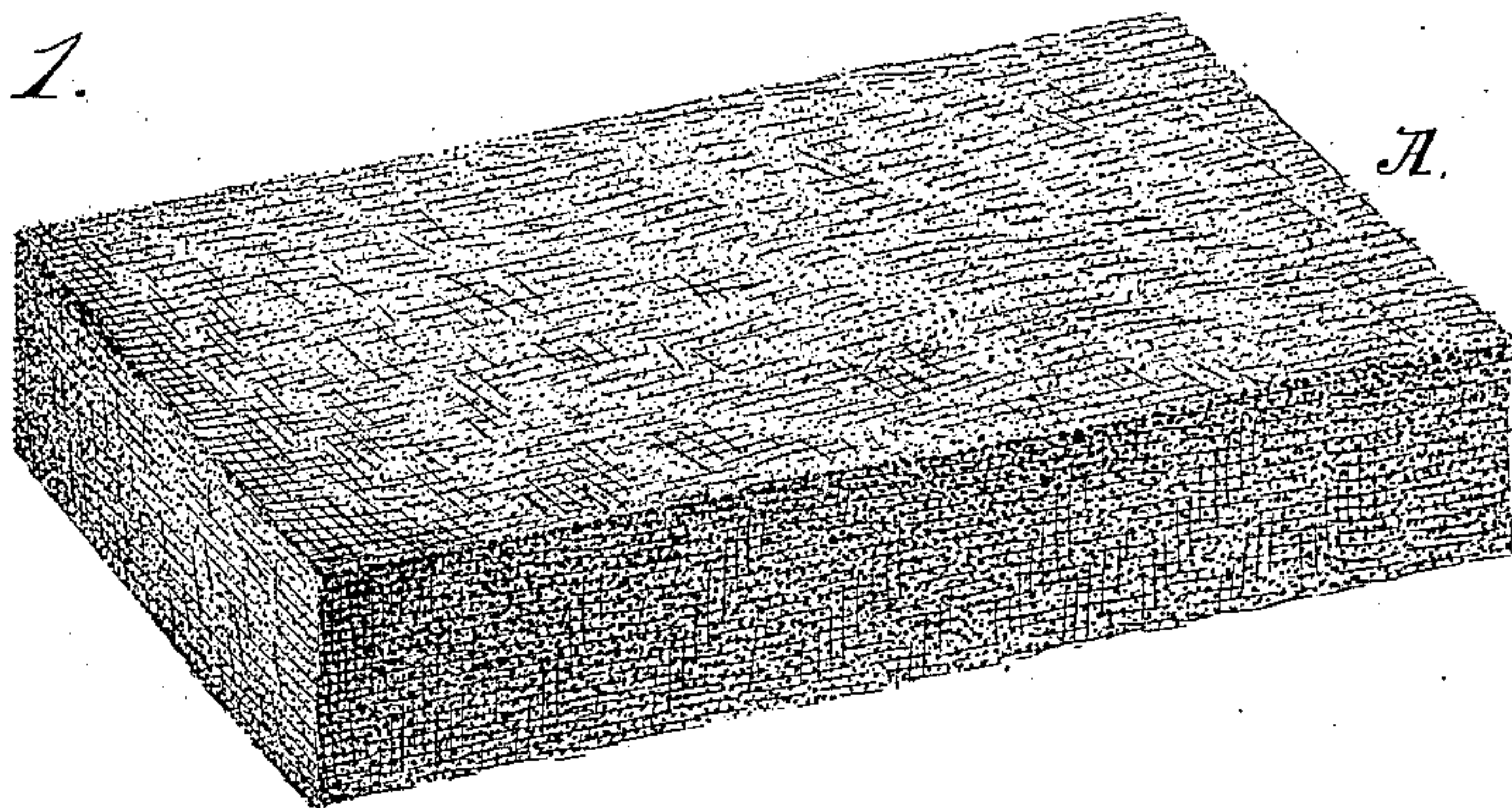


Fig. 2.

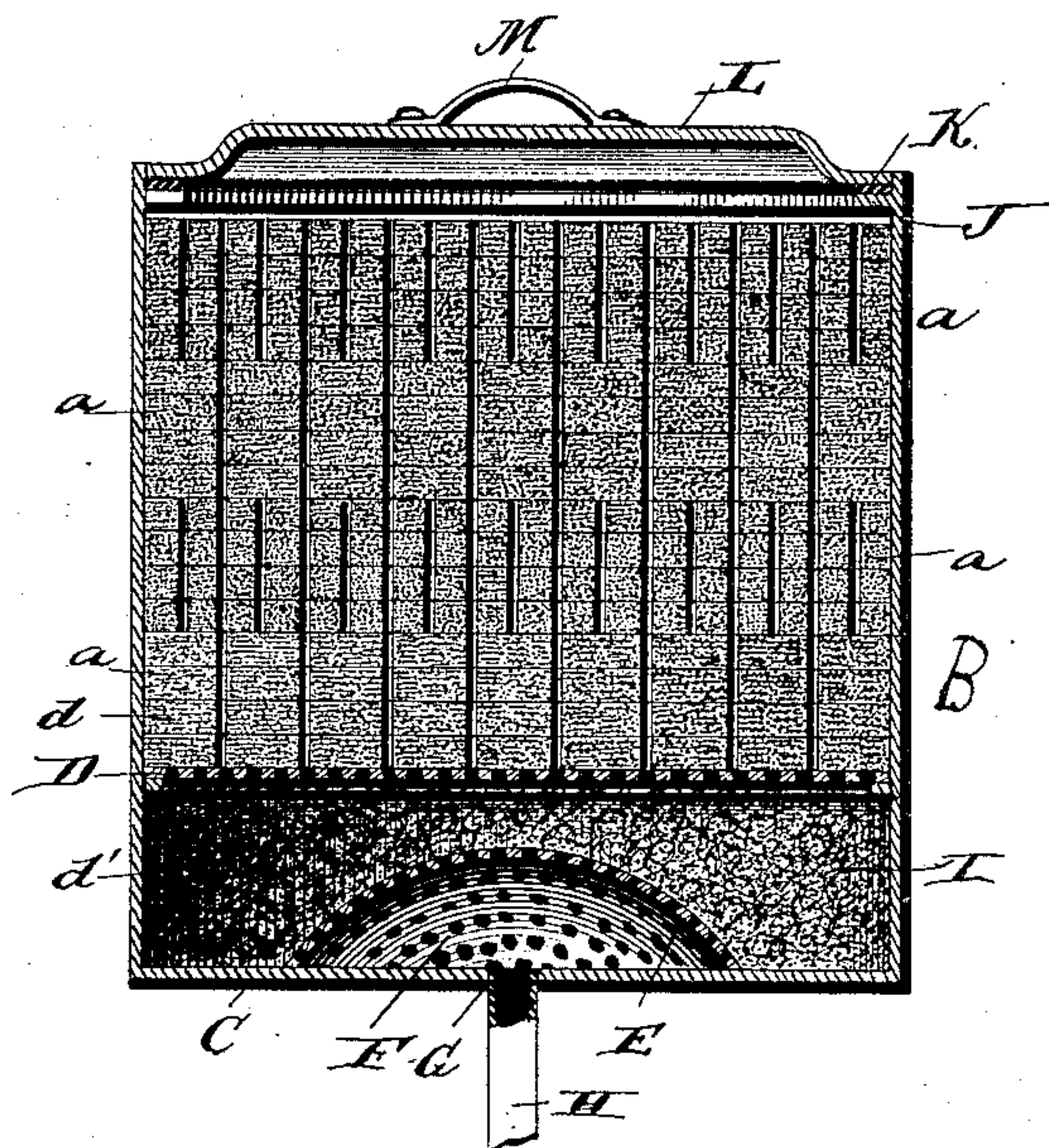
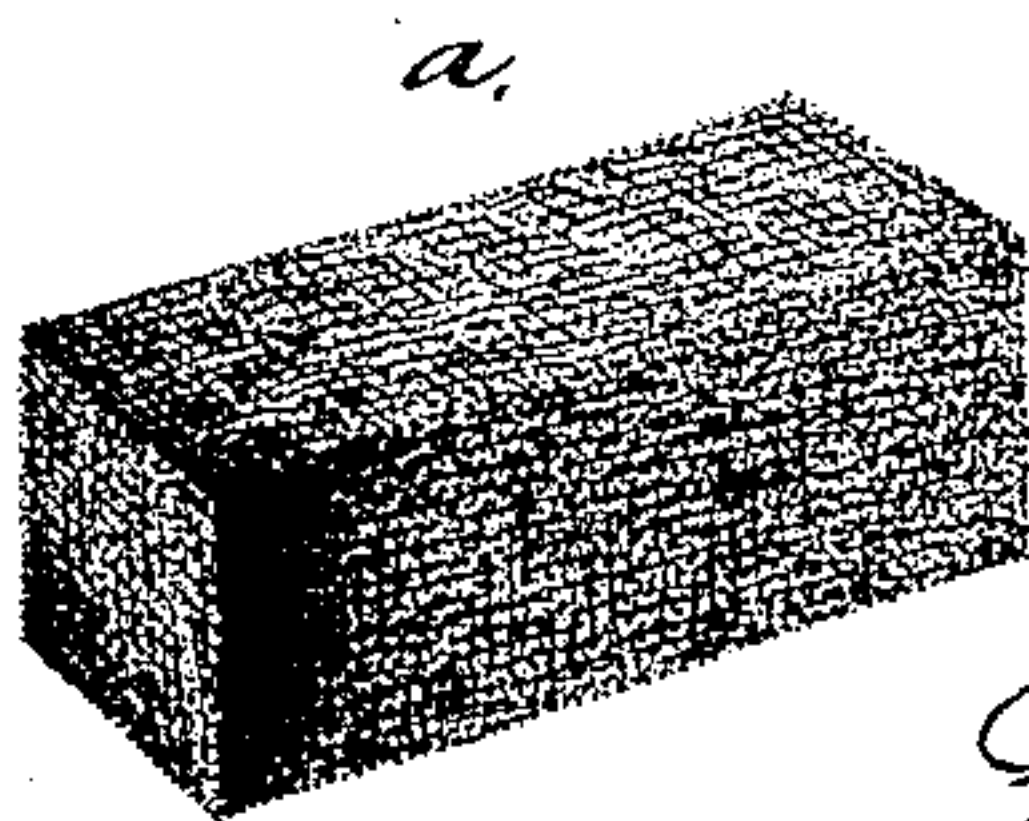


Fig. 3.



Witnesses,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUDOLPH GUENTHER, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

FIRE-KINDLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 444,114, dated January 6, 1891.

Application filed September 1, 1890. Serial No. 363,647. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUDOLPH GUENTHER, of Kansas City, Jackson county, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Art or Process of Preparing Fire-Lighting Material, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention relates to an improvement in the art or process of preparing as vulcanite peat or turf found, generally, in swamps, &c., and which undergoes the certain process hereinafter described.

My object is to provide a cheap and effective material or vulcanite prepared of suitable and convenient sizes for starting fires. This object I accomplish, as will be readily understood from the following specification, in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a block of the peat or turf in its natural state. Fig. 2 is a vertical central section of a receptacle for steaming the peat or turf preparatory to soaking it with oil. Fig. 3 is a view of the fire-lighting material when ready for use.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in all the figures.

A represents a section of the peat or turf as it is cut from the bog.

B represents a suitable receptacle provided at a suitable distance from the bottom C with a perforated partition or shelf D, upon which in the chamber *d* is stacked the small sections *a*, into which the sections A of the peat have been divided.

C represents a perforated cap or partition which covers nearly the entire floor of the receptacle B, the intermedial space F forming a steam-chamber.

G represents an opening in the floor of the receptacle, in which the upper end of the steam-pipe H is secured.

A suitable material I—such as moss—saturated with oil or other suitable liquid, is filled in the space *d'* between the perforated partition D and the floor C and cap-shaped partition E of the receptacle.

An annular flange J, provided on its upper surface with the cushion K, forms, when the lid L of the receptacle is in place, an air-tight joint to prevent the escape of steam. The lid or cover is provided with a handle M.

In operation, after the peat is cut to the size desired it is placed in the receptacle upon the perforated partition D in such a manner that the steam, passing from the pipe L through the perforated cap, intermediate packing, and perforated partition D, permeates the peat blocks *a* thoroughly, and thus prepares them for the saturation by any suitable oil or liquid in which they are soaked after having been previously dried in any suitable manner to expel the water contained therein. The peat or turf in its natural state will not absorb the oil, and in such state is not applicable for igniting purposes. The steam, passing through the moss saturated with oil or other suitable liquid, prepares the block of peat in the steam-chamber *d* much more effectively than if the pure steam only is used.

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

1. The combination of a steam-pipe H with a receptacle B, having the steam-chamber F, formed by perforated cap or partition E, the perforated partition D, upon which the peat is placed, and the lid or cover L, resting upon the cushion K of flange J and forming an air-tight joint, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a receptacle B, having a perforated floor therein, a steam-pipe connected therewith below the said perforated floor, and a perforated cover located over the said steam-pipe within the said receptacle, the space between the said cover and floor being filled with moss saturated with oil, as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RUDOLPH GUENTHER.

Witnesses:

GEO. G. THORPE,
H. E. PRICE.