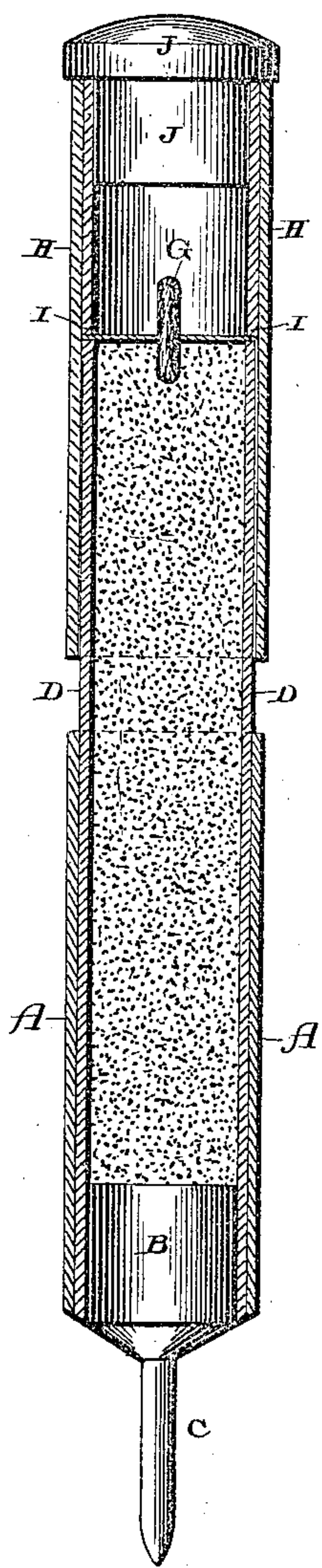


(No Model.)

W. C. BECKWITH.
RAILWAY SIGNAL TORCH.

No. 448,906.

Patented Mar. 24, 1891.



Witnesses:

E. J. Ellis,
J. M. Nesbit.

Inventor:

W. C. Beckwith,
per
Lehmann & Patterson,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER C. BECKWITH, OF FOSTORIA, OHIO.

RAILWAY SIGNAL-TORCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 448,906, dated March 24, 1891.

Application filed August 19, 1890. Serial No. 362,418. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER C. BECKWITH, of Fostoria, in the county of Seneca and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Railway Signal-Torches; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in signal-torches; and it consists in a torch having the construction hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

The object of my invention is to produce a signal-torch for use upon railroads in which the cover or cap is made to protect the fusee from all danger while in transportation, and to provide a torch with a fusee which can only be ignited by friction against a substance which is chemically prepared for the purpose.

The accompanying drawing represents a vertical section of a torch which embodies my invention.

A represents a ferrule, which is made of paper, pasteboard, or any other suitable substance, and which has its outer end closed by means of a plug B, of metal or any other suitable substance, and from the outer end of which projects a spike C of any suitable length. This spike enables the torch to be supported at any desired angle when stuck in the ground, or to cause the torch to stick in a soft bank when it is thrown against it. Placed inside of this ferrule A is the cylinder D, which is also made of paper, pasteboard, or other similar material, and in which the chemical that is to produce the light or signal is placed. The outer end of this cylinder is closed in any suitable manner, and beyond this end the fusee G extends any suitable distance. In order to protect this fusee during transportation from injury, a cover H is passed

over the outer end of the torch, and this cover is provided with an internal shoulder or stop I for the purpose of preventing the cover from passing beyond a certain distance down over the outer end of the torch. This shoulder acts as a stop to prevent the outer end of the fusee from coming in contact with the inner end of the plug or cap J, which closes the outer end of the cover, and which plug or cap has its inner end coated or covered with a substance which when rubbed against the fusee will cause it to ignite, and thus light the torch.

When the torch is to be lighted, the cover is removed, and then the plug or cap is removed from the outer end of the cover and rubbed against the fusee. The chemical substance in the cylinder may be of any kind desired, and the torch will burn for a length of time in proportion to the length of the cylinder and the amount of material placed therein.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

A torch consisting of a tube in which the illuminating material is placed, an outer ferrule at its lower end, a plug placed therein, a fusee extending from the illuminating material beyond the end of the said tube, a cover H, which incloses the upper end of the tube, a short tube I, placed in the upper end of the cover and which forms a stop therefor, and a removable plug in the upper end of the said short tube, which is provided with chemical substance upon its inner end with which to light the fusee, all combined to make a strong and safety signal-torch, substantially as specified.

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

WALTER C. BECKWITH.

Witnesses:

A. J. STACKHOUSE,
C. P. GODFREY.