

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. HOOVER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## COMPOSITION OF MATTER FOR KINDLING FIRES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 541,358, dated June 18, 1895.

Application filed October 29, 1894. Serial No. 527,110. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. HOOVER, a citizen of the United States, residing at No. 6525 Cheltenham avenue, city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Composition of Matter to be Used for Kindling Fires, of which the following is a specification.

My composition consists of the following substances or ingredients combined in the proportions stated measured by size or bulk: Loose wood shavings, ninety-four (94) parts or per cent.; asphaltum, one (1) part or per cent.; coal tar, one (1) part or per cent.; pitch, one (1) part or per cent.; rosin one (1) part or per cent.; coal oil, one (1) part or per cent.; coal dust, one (1) part or per cent.

The shavings are to be first evenly saturated with the coal oil. The other substances or ingredients are to be thoroughly heated and mixed in a metal kettle or tank over a slow fire and the coal oiled shavings are then to be dumped into the same vessel and all the sub-

stances and ingredients evenly mixed together still over the same slow fire. Before cooling the composition is taken out and molded or pressed into compact packages or pieces as desired to suit domestic, manufacturing and general trade. It is placed under, in or over the coal, wood or other combustibles to be fired, then lighted; placed under them its cohesiveness forms a solid base, burning evenly and energetically without crumbling until the mass above it is thoroughly ignited when its work is done cleanly and economically.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The herein described composition of matter as a fire kindling consisting of loose woods shavings, asphaltum, coal tar, pitch, rosin, coal oil and coal dust in the proportions stated to be used for kindling fires.

W. E. HOOVER.

Witnesses:

S. H. MORTON.

J. T. EVANS.