

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ELECTRIC CIGAR-LIGHTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 581,718, dated May 4, 1897.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY M. HANDSHY, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Antonio, in the county of Bexar and State of Texas, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Electric Cigar-Lighters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the improvement of electric cigar-lighters; and the objects of my invention are to provide an improved construction of electric cigar-lighter by means of which a cigar may be lighted against a glowing surface, to provide improved means for operating the lighting mechanism, to combine with my improved lighter an advertisement-displaying device, and to produce other improvements the details of construction of which will be more fully pointed out hereinafter. These objects I accomplish in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a central vertical sectional view of my improved lighter. Fig. 2 is an enlarged transverse section of the same, taken on line yy of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse section on line xx of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view of the lighting-handle, and Fig. 5 is an enlarged end view of said lighting-handle.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the construction of my improved cigar-lighter I employ a suitable base a , which is in the form of a casing and which is designed to be supported upon a counter or other suitable surface. Extending upward from this base-casing a is a tubular standard b , the lower end portion of which extends within the base a , said lower end portion having thereon an insulating-block b' . About that portion of the standard which is within the base a I provide a collar c . Fulcrumed on a transverse rod d in the upper portion of the tubular standard b is a bell-crank lever d' , the longer area of which extends through an opening d^2 in the side of the standard. This longer lever-arm is connected with the upper portion of the standard by means of a coil-spring d^6 . Projecting from the inner wall of the tubular standard b is an insulating-block d^3 , from which project inwardly two separated metallic contact-lugs d^4 and d^5 .

e and e' represent, respectively, wires which lead from a source of electricity into the base a , thence to binding-posts e^2 , which project from the insulating-block b' . From these points said wires extend to and pass about the collar c in the form of resistance-coils e^3 . The wire e' passes from the collar c upward through the standard b to an opening f in the upper portion of said standard and thence outward through said opening. The wire e , running from the collar c , also extends upward through the standard and connects with the contact-lug d^4 . g represents a wire which has one of its ends connected with the contact-lug d^5 , from which point said wire extends outward through an opening in the side of the standard. The outwardly-extending portions of the wires e' and g are insulated, and the wire portions thus insulated are twisted or otherwise joined together and are supported in a depending position from the outer end of the lever d' by means of a cord or chain h . The lower ends of the wires e' and g are, as indicated more clearly in Fig. 4 of the drawings, made to pass longitudinally through an elongated lighting-handle i , which is formed of porcelain or other suitable material. The outer end of this lighting-handle has seated therein a plate k of platinum, the outer surface of the latter being flush with the end of the handle. The ends of the wires g and e' are connected with opposite sides of said platinum plate.

To the upper end of the standard b is secured an incandescent-lamp socket m , from which is supported a vertical lamp-bulb m' . Upon the lamp-socket m I support a square frame m^2 in such position as to bring the lamp-bulb m' within or opposite said frame. This incandescent lamp has connected therewith in the usual manner the upper ends of wires n and n' , which run, respectively, from the contact-lug d^4 and wire e' .

In the upper side of the lower portion of the base-casing a I form a cigar-tip opening o , and through an opening in the wall of said casing I cause to extend a cutting-lever o^2 , which is fulcrumed within the casing. The inner end of this cutting-lever is provided with an upwardly and inwardly turned cutting-blade o^3 , which when the outer end of the lever is depressed is designed to shear against

the under side of the casing beneath the opening *o*. Within the casing and immediately beneath the opening *o* I provide a horizontal drawer *p*, which is designed to be moved out-
5 ward and inward through an opening in the wall of the casing.

The operation of my improved lighter is substantially as follows: By grasping and raising the lighting-handle *i* the longer arm of the lever *d'* is relieved of the weight of said
10 lighter, with the result that said lever-arm is drawn upward by the spring *d⁶* and the inner and shorter arm of said lever is thrown between and into contact with the lugs *d⁴* *d⁵*,
15 thereby establishing a current through the wires *e'* and *g* and imparting a glowing head to the platinum plate *k*, against which a cigar end may be held for lighting purposes. The dropping of the lighter results, as will be seen,
20 in a disengagement of the contact-lever with said lugs and in a cutting off of the current from the plate *k*. It is obvious that the lamp *m'* may be provided with the usual cut-off and that the same may be lighted at pleasure.
25 The frame *m'* is adapted to contain a suitable transparent advertising plate or plates.

From the construction and operation herein shown and described it will be seen that a
30 simple, reliable, and effective electric cigar-lighting device is provided and that by inserting the tips of cigars into the opening *o* of the base and operating the lever *o²* said tips may be cut off and deposited into the drawer *p*.

35 Having now fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an electric cigar-lighter the combination with the base-casing *a*, tubular standard
40 *b* rising therefrom, separated contact-lugs in the upper portion of said standard, wires *e*

and *e'* leading from said base-casing through said standard, said wire *e* being connected with one of said contact-lugs and the wire *e'* passing through an opening in said standard
45 and a wire *g* extending from the remaining contact-lug through an opening in said standard, of a spring-actuated bell-crank lever fulcrumed within said standard, a lighting-handle supported from said wires *g* and *e'*, a
50 platinum plate on said lighting-handle, said plate being connected on opposite sides with the ends of said wires *g* and *e'* and said last-named wires being connected with the outwardly-extending arm of said lever, substantially
55 as and for the purpose specified.

2. In an electric cigar-lighting device the combination with a standard, a spring-actuated bell-crank lever *d'* fulcrumed in the upper portion of said standard, separated
60 contact-lugs opposite said bell-crank, wires *e* and *e'* leading through said standard from a source of electricity, one of said wires connected with one of said contact-lugs and the remaining wire *e'* passing outward through said
65 standard, a wire *g* leading from the remaining contact-lug outward through the standard, a lighting-handle suspended by said wires *g* and *e'* a platinum plate on said lighting-handle with which said wires are connected
70 and a chain or cord connection between the outer end of said bell-crank lever and said wires *g* and *e'*, of an electric-light lamp supported upon said standard, a wire *n'* leading thereto from the wire *e'* and a wire *n* leading
75 thereto from one of said contact-lugs and a frame about said electric lamp, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

HENRY M. HANDSHY.

In presence of—

E. W. BRINKER,
A. L. PHELPS.