

No. 666,000.

Patented Jan. 15, 1901.

F. T. DICKINSON.
CIGAR LIGHTER.

(Application filed May 5, 1900.)

(No Model.)

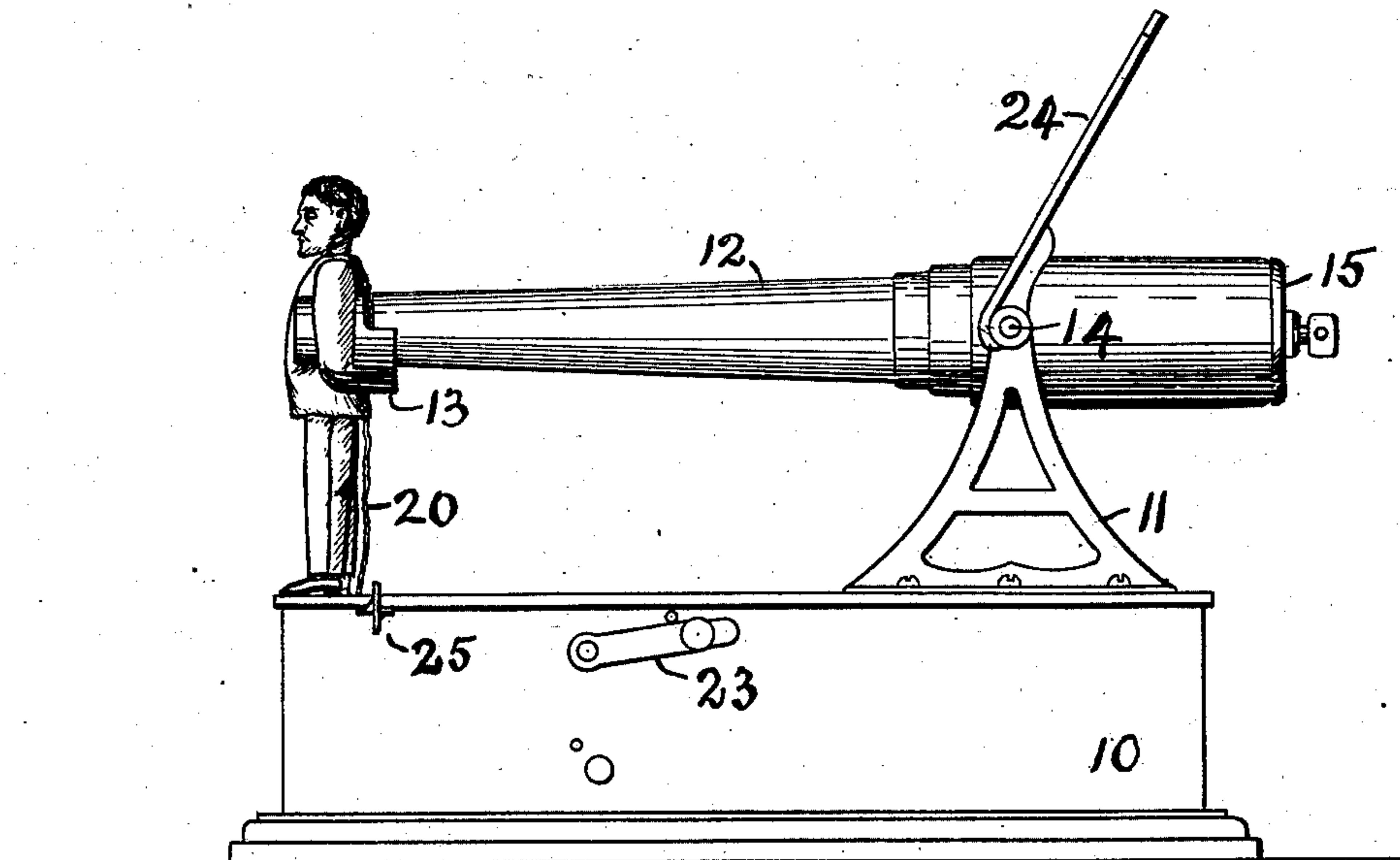


FIG. 1.

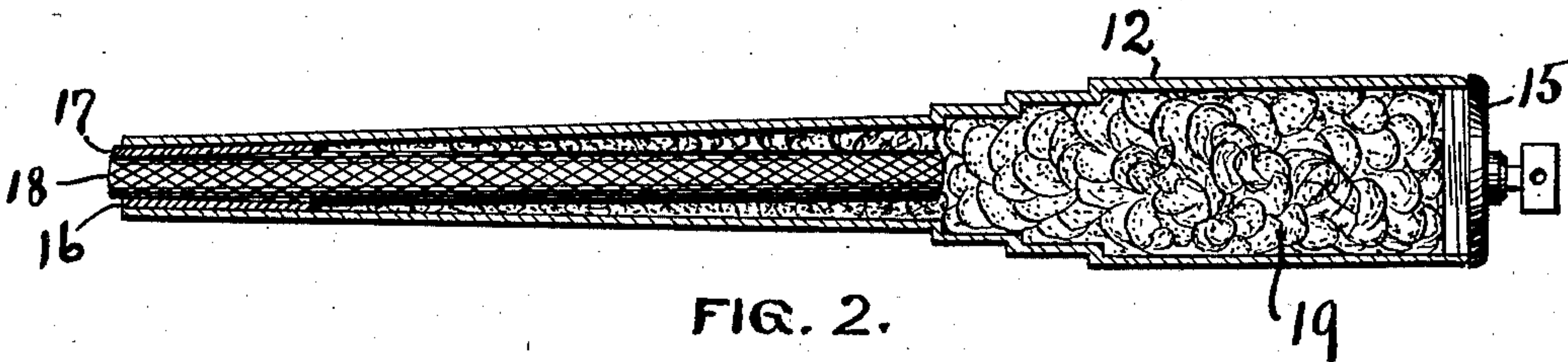


FIG. 2.

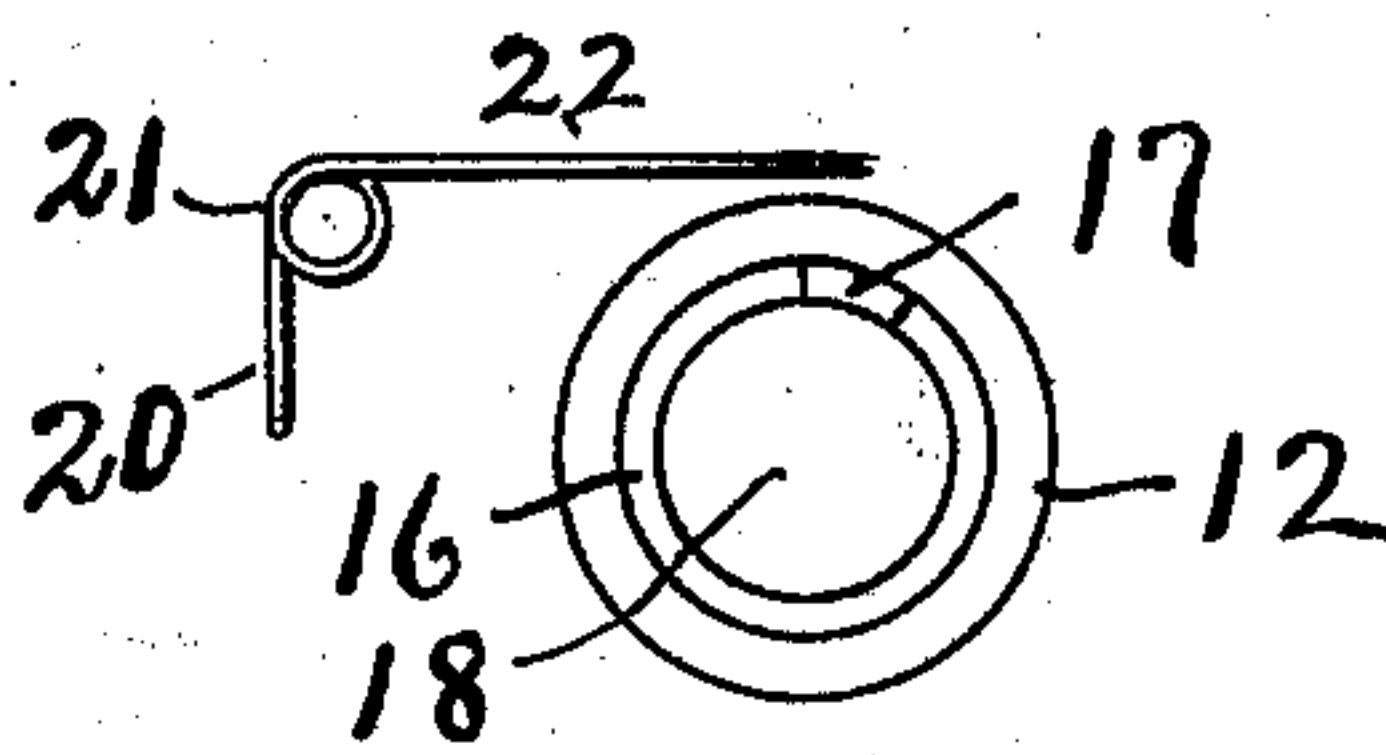


FIG. 3.

Witnesses:
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By his Attorney
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK T. DICKINSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO MAHONEY & DICKINSON, OF SAME PLACE.

CIGAR-LIGHTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 666,000, dated January 15, 1901.

Application filed May 5, 1900. Serial No. 15,577. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK T. DICKINSON, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigar-Lighters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cigar-lighters, and has for its object the construction of a new and improved device for that purpose.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the barrel or "cannon," as it may be called; and Fig. 3 is an elevation of the front end of the barrel.

In the said drawings, 10 represents the casing or box, in which there may be and is a battery of any suitable kind and a spark-coil for the production of an electric spark. These devices are well known and do not need any specific description. On the top of the box 10 is a standard 11, in which the barrel or cannon 12 is supported on trunnions 14. The location of the trunnions is such that the forward end of the barrel or cannon 12 slightly overbalances the rear end, so that in its normal position the front end will drop downward. It is, however, supported by a figure of a man standing directly in front of a muzzle of the cannon and having its arm turned backward, as shown at 13, under the muzzle, so as to support the cannon 12 in a horizontal position. The cannon, however, turns freely on its trunnions, so that the forward end may be lifted by hand to an inclination of about forty-five degrees or more, and when released will fall back by gravity to the normal position. (Shown in Fig. 1.) The rear end or breech of the cannon is closed by block 15, which is shown screwed into the cannon and may be freely removed. In the muzzle of the cannon there is a bushing 16, having a projection 17 extending a short distance beyond the muzzle. In the bushing 16 is a wick 18, which extends rearwardly into the cannon any required distance. The remainder of the vacant space between the block 15 and the bushing 16 is packed full of cotton 19. This cotton 19 is saturated with oil, preferably gasoline, but not to a greater extent than the cotton will absorb without permitting the gasoline to leak out at either end. Running

up behind the man, so as to be concealed, is a wire 20, which is bent into a loop 21 and has its free end 22 extending adjacent to the muzzle of the cannon and slightly above it. The location of the end 20 is such that in raising the cannon the muzzle of said cannon will just pass the end 22 without touching it, but the projection 17 will engage said end of wire 22 so as to bend upward and make an electrical contact between the bushing 16 and the wire 20. The wire 22 is preferably made of piano-wire or some other wire which has a suitable spring to it and at the same time is a suitable electric conductor. The wire 20 is connected to one pole of the battery, which may be, as previously stated, within the box 10 or at any other convenient place, and the other pole of the battery is connected to the standard 11. In one of these connections there is a switch 23, located, for convenience, on the side of the box 10, so that electrical connection to either 22 or bushing 16 may be broken at the switch. Supported in any convenient manner on the bracket or standard 11 is a mirror 24, located at about the angle which will reflect the most convenient position for lighting a cigar.

Assuming that the cannon is supplied with a wick and cotton, as described, which has been saturated with gasoline, and that electrical connection has been made to the wire 20 and the standard 11, then if the hand be placed under the forward end of the cannon 12, so as to turn it on its trunnion 14, raising the muzzle upward, the projection 17 will engage the spring end 22 of the wire 20, causing electrical contact, which will be broken as the muzzle of the cannon moves upward. The breaking of this contact will cause an electric flash directly in front of, and in contact with, the front end of the wick 18, thereby lighting it, so as to cause a flame by which a cigar may be lighted. By the release of the forward end of the cannon it falls again to its normal position, when the fire is extinguished by coming into contact with the back of the figure supporting it. There is also supported on the case 10 a cutter of the ordinary kind, the lever for the operating of which is shown at 25 in Fig. 1.

What I claim is—

1. In a cigar-lighter, a horizontal tube in

the form of a cannon, trunnions on which said cannon is supported, said trunnions being located so that the forward or muzzle end of the cannon will overbalance the breech end, 5 a supporting-figure for preventing the muzzle end of said cannon falling below a horizontal position, a saturated absorbent material within said cannon and protruding from its muzzle, and electrical connections for igniting said absorbent material when the muzzle 10 of the cannon is lifted above its normal position.

2. In a cigar-lighter, a tube in the form of a cannon provided with trunnions located at 15 the rear of its center of gravity, a support for said trunnions arranged to permit said cannon to turn thereon, a figure serving as a support for the muzzle of said cannon while permitting the elevation of the muzzle, an absorbent material within said cannon, a removable plug closing the breech of the cannon and furnishing means by which the absorbent material may be saturated with gasoline, and electrical devices for igniting the 25 absorbent material at the muzzle of the cannon when said muzzle is elevated above its normal position.

3. In a cigar-lighter, a cannon movable about a pivot, a figure as that of a man located directly opposite the muzzle of the cannon and furnishing means for holding said cannon normally in a horizontal position, a bushing within the muzzle of the cannon, a wick supported in said bushing and extending 35 within the cannon, an absorbent material as cotton filling the interior of said cannon and in contact with said wick, an opening through which said cotton and said wick may be saturated with gasoline, and electrical devices 40 arranged to engage said bushing so as to automatically ignite said wick when the muzzle of the cannon is raised above its normal position.

4. In a cigar-lighter, a cannon supported

by and movable on trunnions, a figure as that 45 of a man located opposite the muzzle of the cannon and arranged to hold said cannon normally in a horizontal position, a bushing within the front end of said cannon and provided with a projection 17 extending beyond 50 the muzzle, a saturated wick supported in said bushing and slightly protruding therefrom, a spring concealed behind the figure and serving as an electrical terminal, and means whereby the elevation of the muzzle 55 of said cannon will cause the projection 17 to make and break electrical connection with said spring so as to cause an electric spark to ignite said wick.

5. In a cigar-lighter, a tube arranged as 60 a cannon and mounted upon trunnions so that the muzzle end of said cannon will overbalance the breech end, a figure as that of a man arranged to prevent the muzzle end falling below a level and located opposite such muzzle, a bushing inserted in the 65 front end of the cannon and arranged to support a wick, a removable plug closing the breech of the cannon and furnishing means by which the interior of the cannon may be 70 packed with absorbent material and said material may be saturated with gasoline when so packed, a spring located in a concealed position adjacent to the muzzle of the cannon and serving as an electrical terminal, 75 and means whereby the raising of the muzzle of said cannon will cause an electrical make and break between said bushing and said spring so as to cause an electric spark which will ignite a saturated wick held in said bush- 80 ing.

Signed at Chicago, Illinois, this 3d day of May, 1900.

FRANK T. DICKINSON.

Witnesses:

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CASPER L. REDFIELD.