

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM ROBINSON PEAKES, OF VINEYARD HAVEN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## ARTIFICIAL FUEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 698,850, dated April 29, 1902.

Application filed September 28, 1901. Serial No. 76,889. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM ROBINSON PEAKES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Vineyard Haven, in the county of Dukes and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Artificial Fuel, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to artificial fuel, and more particularly to a compound adapted to be used in place of driftwood for the purpose of producing a brilliant and beautiful fire in an open fireplace. It is well known that driftwood when burned in an open fireplace produces flames of varying colors; but these colors are only produced at intervals and not continuously. It is also well known that ordinary fire-wood will not produce the same color that driftwood will; and the object of my invention is to provide a compound to be used in connection with ordinary fire-wood and which can be sprinkled over the said wood, so that when the wood is burned in an open fireplace the same coloring will be produced as though driftwood were being burned, and, furthermore, the various-colored flames maintain uniformly for a period of one hour.

The invention consists in the details hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

In carrying out my invention I employ a powder which is put up in package form and is sprinkled over the ordinary fire-wood just before lighting. This powder is also a disinfectant, as well as a cheerful burner, and in compounding the same I employ the following ingredients in equal measure—namely, sawdust, salt, blue vitriol, charcoal, sulfur, and copperas.

The powder is only sprinkled over the fuel when there is bed enough to catch the powder, and when loose sticks are employed to build the fire the box of artificial fuel is placed among the pieces of wood and permitted to burn the same as a piece of wood.

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

A compound to be used in connection with fire-wood and consisting of sawdust, salt, blue vitriol, charcoal, sulfur and copperas in the proportions set forth.

WILLIAM ROBINSON PEAKES.

Witnesses:

CHARLES D. OLIVER,  
E. F. CROIX OLIVER.