

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR PFERSDORFF, OF MÜLHAUSEN, GERMANY.

WICK FOR CANDLES, LAMPS, &c.

No. 827,176.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 31, 1906.

Application filed January 28, 1905. Serial No. 243,165.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VICTOR PFERSDORFF, a subject of the German Emperor, and a resident of Mülhausen, Alsatia, Germany, have
5 invented new and useful Improvements in Wicks for Candles, Lamps, &c., of which the following is a clear and complete specification.

The present invention relates to wicks for
10 candles, lamps, &c., made of artificial silk and specially of such spun goods which are obtained from the working up of wastes of artificial silk.

As the fiber of artificial silk is not very hy-
15 groscopic, (according to Dr. Bronnert artificial silk in unwashed condition absorbs from two to four per cent. of water,) a candle-wick of unwashed artificial silk possesses the capacity to take up the melted stearin or other
20 candle material more easily than a cotton or linen wick, so that when relighting the extinguished candle its flame reaches the normal size sooner than with candles hitherto in use. Besides the wick of artificial silk produces or
25 leaves no carbon or charcoal in its combustion, even if it has not been previously impregnated, and therefore it does not break off when the candle is extinguished so easily as on the usual candles with unimpregnated
30 wick, and the accidental burning which is

sometimes caused by the broken-off part which has fallen into the melted material is prevented with the new wick. Finally, it should be noted that owing to the few appli-
35 cations which wastes of artificial silk are used for up to the present candle-wicks made of this material are much cheaper than cotton or linen wicks.

The term "artificial silk" as herein used
40 refers to fibers made from a solution of cellulose in a solvent, such as cupro-ammoniacal liquor, (liquor of Schweitzer,) which is a solution of hydrated oxid of copper in ammonia.

Analogous advantages are obtained by
45 using for lamps wicks of artificial silk, as this material leaves no carbon in its combustion and possesses the capacity to suck up the oil more easily than cotton or linen.

What I claim is—

As an improved article of manufacture, a
50 wick, of low hygroscopic character for the purposes set forth, made from the substance known as artificial silk, as herein set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed
55 my name, this 6th day of January, 1905, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

VICTOR PFERSDORFF.

Witnesses:

JOHN BAKER,
ROBERT MAURICE.