

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH FATMAN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN IGNITING SEALING-WAX.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 3,544, dated April 17, 1844.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH FATMAN, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Combination of Phosphorus with Sealing-Wax; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

The nature of my invention consists in forming sealing-wax of any kind into sticks of about two inches in length and one-eighth of an inch in diameter. To the ends of these sticks I apply a composition of phosphorus in a similar manner as it is generally applied to what are commonly termed "friction-matches." The sticks thus furnished may be used without candle or any other separate light or fire by rubbing one end gently on sand-paper or any other dry and hard substance which is not too smooth. The friction thus produced will ignite the phos-

phorus and consequently the sealing-wax. The ignited phosphorus mixed up with the sealing-wax on the paper will render the latter peculiarly adhesive, which precludes the possibility of opening the seal without destroying that part of the paper where the same is applied.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of phosphorus with sealing-wax, in the manner and for the purpose above described, not confining myself to any particular size, shape, or color of the sticks. I do not claim the manufacture of sealing-wax nor the composition of igniting-matter.

JOSEPH FATMAN.

Witnesses:

Z. A. DAVIS,
LEWIS FATMAN.