R. & T. B. MONOSMITH.
Fire-Kindler.

No. 215,066. Patented May 6, 1879.

Fig. 1.

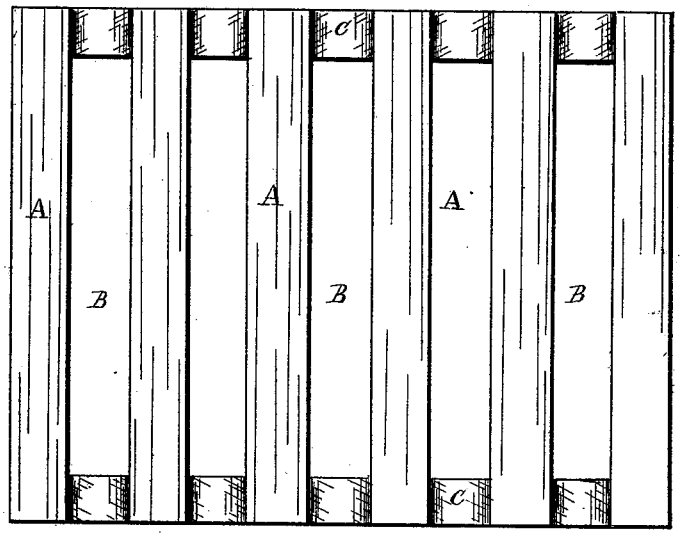


Fig. 2.

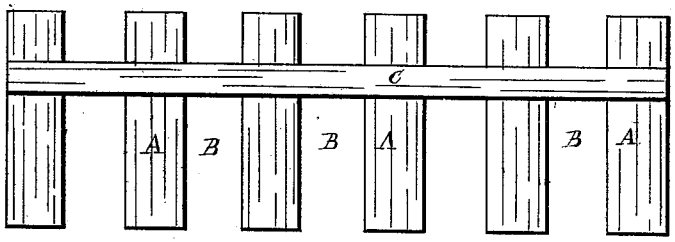
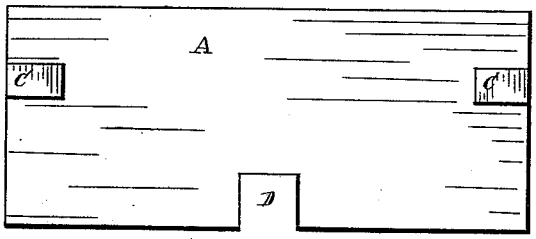


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REASON MONOSMITH AND THOMAS B. MONOSMITH, OF MEDINA, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-KINDLERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **215,066**, dated May 6, 1879; application filed February 20, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, REASON MONOSMITH and THOMAS B. MONOSMITH, of Medina, in the county of Medina and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and Improved Fire-Kindler; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and complete description of the same.

This invention consists of an improvement in fire-kindlers, the construction and practical operation of which are as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a top view of the fire-kindler. Fig. 2 is a side view, and Fig. 3 is an end view.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several views.

The fire-kindler above alluded to consists of a series of strips of wood, A, arranged in parallel relation to each other, with spaces B between them. In the ends of each of said strips is a notch or gain, wherein is inserted a binder, C, whereby the several strips A are tied together and retained in their relation and distance to each other, the whole forming an oblong square bundle or package of strips or sticks of wood, with air spaces or openings between them, substantially as shown in the drawings.

In the under side of each of the strips alluded to is a notch, D, Fig. 3, forming a passage under and lengthwise of the block for the admission of air to the under side of the strips of wood, thereby providing for the entire but gradual combustion of the material of which the kindler is made, a gradual combustion being essential in order to realize the best results from a limited quantity of fuel. Were the entire series of strips of wood raised clear from the bottom, so much air and flame would be admitted to the under side of the kindler as to cause a too rapid consumption of the material to ignite the coal; hence it would fail to accomplish the purpose for which it is designed.

The notches above alluded to supply the necessary amount of air. Were it not for said notches, and if the kindler were allowed to rest on the bottom of the fire-place, combustion would be too much retarded and the fire liable to smother and go out.

We prefer to cut the notches with a dull tool, and thus give them a rough edge, which the fire will readily take hold of, in this manner avoiding the necessity of slivering or shaving the under edge of the strips, since such slivers or shavings, if made some time before using the kindler, are apt to become broken off in handling, and consume considerable time if made at that moment.

From the construction of our kindler it is readily separable into kindlers of less depth than the article as manufactured or for sale, or, when occasion demands, into kindlers of less length by separating such portion as may be necessary, since the single cross-tie will keep the slips sufficiently in position—an important advantage which is not possessed by similar kindlers as heretofore manufactured in a quasi arch shape, since the size of such kindlers is fixed by their construction.

From its flat form our kindler is also better adapted for bearing whatever load of fuel may be placed upon it without crushing.

We do not claim, broadly, a series of strips of wood arranged parallel to each other, with spaces between them, and secured together at their ends, with a strip or tie inserted in a notch or gain in the ends of the strips, nor such arrangement of slips having the end strips depressed below the central ones, thereby elevating the central strips above the lower edge of the end ones; but that which distinguishes our invention from others is the flat form in connection with notches or gains in the under edge of the strips cut preferably with rough edges, as hereinbefore shown and described.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In fire-kindlers, an improvement consisting of two or more strips or pieces of wood, A, with gains in the ends thereof to receive the side strips or ties, C, with the edges of said strips or pieces A in the same plane, or nearly so, with one or more gains or notches in the lower edges of said strips, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

REASON MONOSMITH.
THOMAS B. MONOSMITH.

Witnesses:
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