

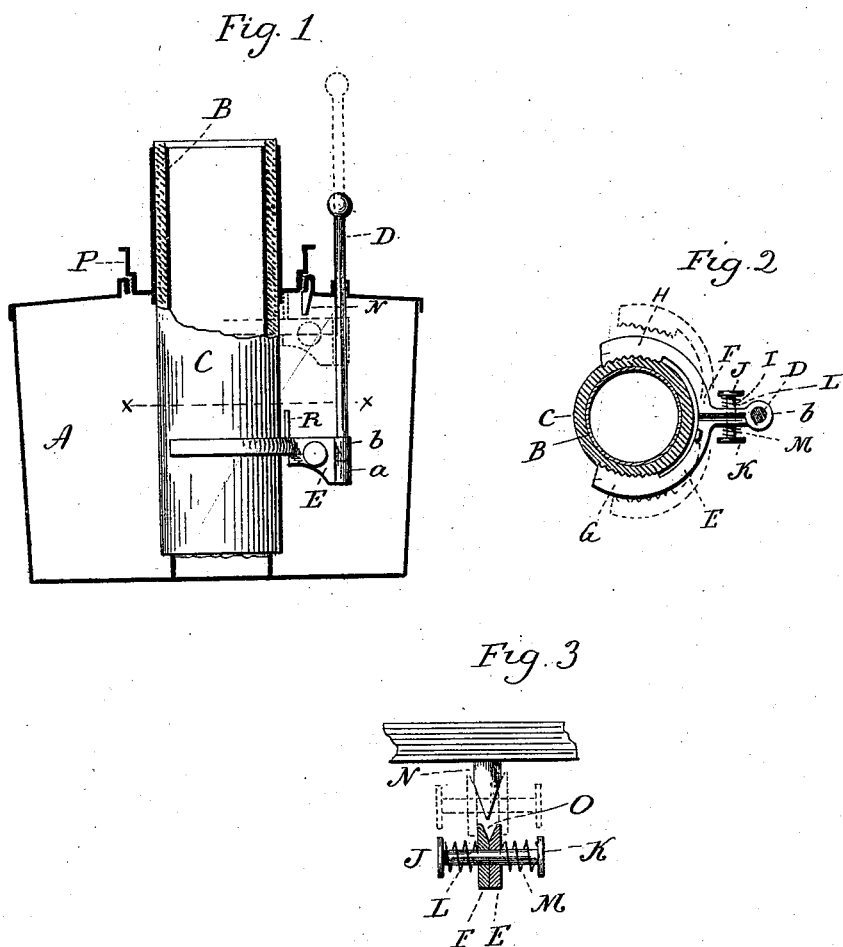
(No Model.)

J. C. MILLER.

WICK RAISER FOR CENTRAL DRAFT LAMPS.

No. 456,334.

Patented July 21, 1891.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. MILLER, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE MERIDEN BRONZE COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

WICK-RAISER FOR CENTRAL-DRAFT LAMPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 456,334, dated July 21, 1891.

Application filed February 16, 1891. Serial No. 381,694. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. MILLER, of Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new
5 Improvement in Wick-Raisers for Central-Draft Lamps; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and
10 exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a vertical section of the fount, showing side view of the wick-raiser; Fig. 2, a
15 transverse section cutting on line *xx* of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a vertical section cutting through the arms at the spindle I in a position near the wedge and illustrating the operation of the wedge upon the arms.

20 This invention relates to an improvement in apparatus for adjusting the wick in the class of lamps employing tubular wicks, commonly called "central-draft lamps," and particularly to that class of adjusting devices
25 which are operated by a vertically-sliding rod arranged through the top of the fount outside the burner and connected to the wick within the fount, so that the up-and-down movement of the rod will impart corresponding move-
30 ment to the wick, the object of the invention being a simple construction which will permit a firm engagement of the wick, but so that the said engagement may be released as occasion may require; and the invention consists in the construction as hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claims.

A represents the fount, within which is a vertical central tube B, around which the wick C is arranged in the usual manner, the wick
40 being adapted to slide up and down on the central tube B. Through the top of the fount and outside the burner a vertical rod D is arranged in suitable guides and so as to move freely up and down. At the lower end of the
45 rod D two arms E F are hinged so as to swing in a horizontal plane. The hinging is made by forming a knuckle *a* on one arm E and a like knuckle *b* on the other arm F, and through which the rod extends, and so that both arms
50 may swing upon the rod as a hinge-pintle. The arms extend toward the wick, and near

the wick they branch, respectively, to the left and right, terminating in jaws G and H, these jaws extending around the wick and constructed with faces serrated or otherwise
55 adapted to firmly grasp the wick.

Through the arms E F a transverse spindle I is arranged, preferably extending at both sides and terminating in heads J K, as seen in Fig. 3. Between the heads and the re-
60 spective arms springs L M are introduced, the tendency of which is to hold the arms in the closed position and the jaws in their grasping position, as seen in Fig. 2. While the jaws are thus closed together upon the wick, the
65 raising or lowering of the rod D will correspondingly move the jaws and adjust the wick.

It is desirable to make the wick-adjuster as an immovable part of the fount rather than to make it entirely removable from the fount
70 when the wick is to be renewed, as in many cases. It is therefore necessary to provide means for disengaging the jaws from the wick within the fount. To accomplish this object, a depending wedge N is arranged in the top
75 of the fount, which stands in a plane between the two arms E F, as seen in Fig. 3. The two arms are beveled outward upon their inner upper side, as seen at O, Fig. 3, so as to form a mouth to pass onto the wedge as the arms
80 are drawn upward. When it is desired to disengage the wick from the jaws or to introduce a new wick, the rod is raised to the position seen in Fig. 3, bringing the mouth O between the jaws directly below the hinge.
85 Then a still further upward movement of the jaws takes them onto the wedge, the wedge operating to separate the arms, as represented in broken lines, Fig. 3, the springs L M yielding for such separation and correspond-
90 ingly separating the jaws, as seen in Fig. 2, and while held in this position the jaws are so far separated as to permit the withdrawal of a wick or the introduction of a new wick, and when the wick is introduced in the usual
95 manner the rod is pressed downward, and as the arms escape from the wedge N the springs L M react, bringing the jaws again into forced engagement with the wick, when the wick may be moved down into the fount and ad-
100 justed to its proper position, the jaws retaining their hold upon the wick until such time

as they are raised to bring them into separating engagement with the wedge N.

The fount is provided with the usual burner, the base P of which is represented in Fig. 1.

5 It is desirable to prevent the raising of the wick-adjuster so far as to separate the jaws while the burner is in place, and this for obvious reasons. To prevent the possibility of so raising the jaws as to separate them while
10 the lamp is in working order, the jaws are constructed with an upwardly-projecting finger R, which is adapted to strike the under side of the burner, as indicated in broken lines, Fig. 1, before the arms shall reach the
15 wedge N, and so that with the burner in place the engagement of the jaws with the wedge is impossible. The disengagement of the wick-raiser from the wick is never desirable, excepting when the burner is removed. When
20 the burner is removed, then the finger R may pass up through the burner opening or neck of the fount, and so as to permit the arms to engage with the wedge and cause the jaws to open.

25 I do not wish to be understood as claiming, broadly, a pair of jaws arranged upon a vertical adjusting-rod and so as to slide up and down within the fount, having combined therewith a stationary wedge adapted to open
30 the jaws as they approach the top of the fount, as such, I am aware, is not new; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a wick-adjuster for central-draft lamps,
35 the combination of a vertically-adjustable rod arranged through the fount outside the burner and so as to slide up and down, a pair of arms hung upon said rod and so as to swing in a horizontal plane, the said arms extend-
40 ing toward the wick and branching to the right and left, terminating in jaws upon the opposite sides of the wick, a spring adapted to yield-

ingly hold the said jaws and arms in their closed or grasping position, a depending wedge in the top of the fount in a plane between 45 the two arms and adapted to enter between the said two arms and separate the arms as they are brought into engagement with the said wedge, a spring the tendency of which is to yieldingly hold the said arms and jaws 50 in their closed or grasping position, a burner surrounding the wick, its under side exposed upon the inside of the fount, and a stop on the said jaws and adapted to strike the said burner before the said wedge is reached by 55 the arms, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination, in a central-draft lamp, of the rod D, vertically adjustable in the fount outside the burner, two arms E F, 60 hinged to the lower end of said rod and so as to swing in a horizontal plane, the said two arms extending to the right and left and terminating in jaws G H, and a spindle passing transversely through said arms terminating in 65 a head at each end, with springs L M between the respective arms and the heads of the said spindle, the tendency of said springs being to yieldingly hold the said arms or jaws in their closed or grasping position, with a de- 70 pending wedge upon the inside of the fount and in a plane between the said arms, the said arms being adapted to engage the said wedge as the rod and arms are drawn to their highest position, substantially as de- 75 scribed.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN C. MILLER.

Witnesses:

E. A. MERRIMAN,
W. H. JONES.