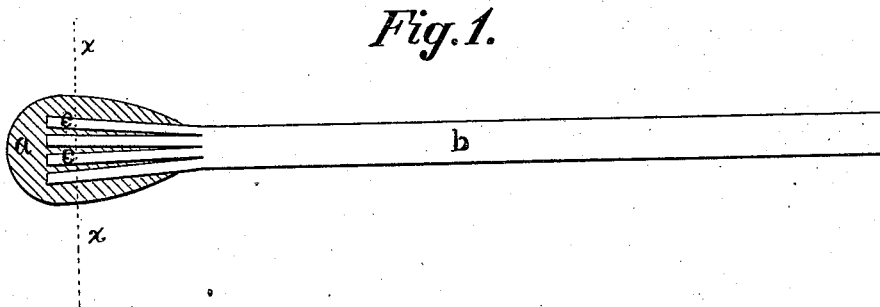


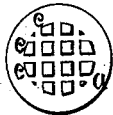
C. A. FRENCH.  
MATCH SPLINTS.

No. 183,258.

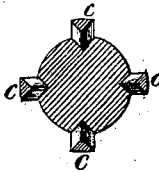
Patented Oct. 17, 1876.



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Witnesses.*

*W. H. Gartside.*  
*B. W. Gartside.*

*Inventor.*

*Chas. A. French*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. FRENCH, OF DAVENPORT, IOWA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN MATCH-SPLINTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **183,258**, dated October 17, 1876; application filed May 5, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. FRENCH, of Davenport, in the county of Scott and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Splints, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal section of the match, and Fig. 2 a transverse section on the line *x x* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a modification of my invention.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures.

The object of this invention is to render the wood of which the body of the match is composed easily ignitable from the heat engendered by the burning of the composition upon its end, thus avoiding the difficulty which is frequently experienced in attempting to light the common friction-match by the failure of the wood composing its body to ignite, as, owing to its bulk, the burning composition is unable to heat it up to the blazing-point; and it consists in dividing or splitting

the end of the match which is covered by the composition into several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and then specifically pointed out in the claim.

In carrying out my invention, I cause one end of the match-sticks *b* to be split, by any suitable mechanism, into a number of parts, *c c*, and, by using a splitting-instrument of the proper shape, these parts, after the splitting, will remain slightly separated from each other, as is clearly shown in the drawings, thus allowing the igniting composition into which they are dipped to completely surround and embed each of the fibers, thus causing them to readily ignite and burst into a flame when submitted to the heat of the burning composition.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent the following:

As a new article of manufacture, a match-stick having one of its ends split or divided, substantially as and for the purpose hereinafter set forth.

CHAS. A. FRENCH.

Witnesses:

S. D. BAWDEN,  
S. M. FRENCH.