L. M. REED.
Fire-Kindlers.

No. 196,596 Patented Oct. 30, 1877.

Fig. 1.

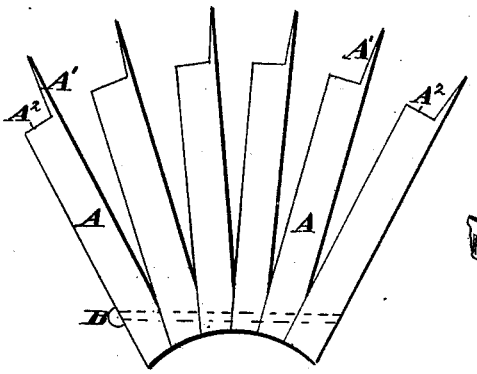


Fig. 2.

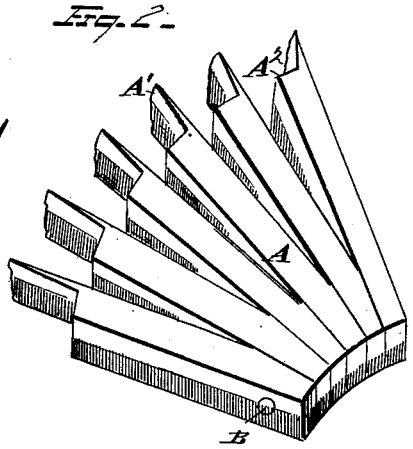


Fig. 3.

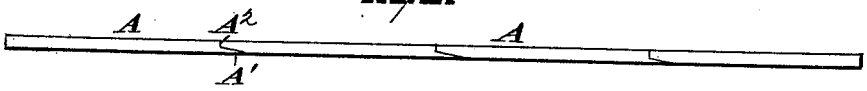
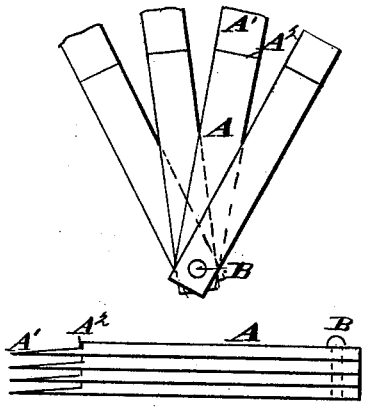


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEMON M. REED, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO JACOB A. BEIDLER, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-KINDLERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **196,596**, dated October 30, 1877; application filed July 13, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEMON M. REED, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fire-Kindlers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in fire-kindlers; and consists in forming the kindler of several pieces of lath or other suitable wood, united at one end, and diverging therefrom in the form of a fan, the same being provided with lighting extremities, substantially as hereinafter set forth and claimed.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view, and Fig. 2 is a perspective view, of a kindler embodying my invention. Fig. 3 is an edge view of a lath, showing how it is cut up into lengths. Fig. 4 shows a variation of my invention.

A are pieces of lath of uniform length, although the length of pieces suitable for kindling or the uniformity of length is not essential. These pieces are set upon their edges, and are brought together at one end, and at this point a nail; B, or other suitable fastening, binds them together firmly, in such a manner that they shall radiate from the fastening in the form of a fan, as shown in Fig. 1.

I prefer to cut the lath substantially as shown in Fig. 3—that is, I saw partly through the lath, then complete the severance by an inclined cut, which forms a lighting extremity upon each piece of the kindler. The extremity or projection so formed upon the one piece not only gives a ready means for lighting the kindler, but it also causes the other portion of the same piece to have a beveled end. This facilitates the formation of the fan shape, because when the pieces are brought together and secured firmly by a nail or other fastening these beveled ends create a natural divergence of the different pieces. The inclined cut ends are shown at A^1, and the saw-cuts at A^2. After the pieces A have been properly fastened together, the kindler may or may not be dipped into a resinous mixture in the usual way. I prefer, however, to dip it partially or entirely into such a mixture, and employ for that purpose a compound that will harden when cool, so as to be clean to handle.

I do not limit myself to any particular style of fastening, as any suitable fastening may be employed in the place of the nail here shown. Nor do I limit myself to any particular number of laths or pieces to constitute the fan kindler. So, also, the pieces need not stand upon their edges, but may be fastened piece to piece, as shown in Fig. 4.

What I claim is—

1. The kindler consisting of pieces A, fastened closely together at B, and diverging therefrom, the said pieces being, respectively, provided with the lighting extremities A^1, substantially as described.

2. The fan kindler consisting of pieces A, brought together and fastened at B, the same diverging therefrom, and being provided at their opposite ends with the lighting extremities A^1, the whole being coated, partially or entirely, with a resinous mixture, substantially as described.

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

LEMON M. REED.

Witnesses:

F. TOUMEY,

W. E. DONNELLY.