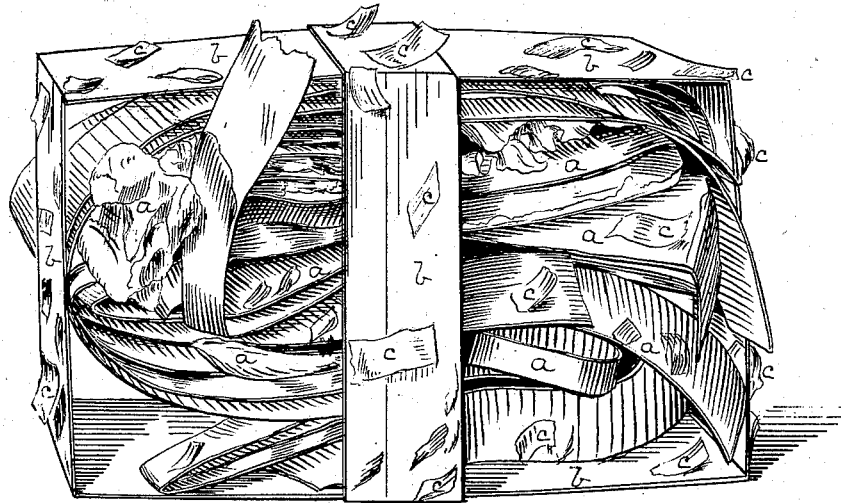


A. MATCHETT.
Fire-Kindle.

No. 198,133.

Patented Dec. 11, 1877.



Witnesses
M. J. Connolly
C. L. Parker

Inventor Alexander Matchett,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER MATCHETT, OF ALLEGHENY, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-KINDLERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,133**, dated December 11, 1877; application filed October 12, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER MATCHETT, of Allegheny city, county of Allegheny, State of Pennsylvania, have invented or discovered a new and useful Improvement in Fire-Kindlers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, concise, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making a part of this specification, which illustrates one form in which my improved fire-kindler may be prepared.

My improvement in fire-kindlers has in view the utilizing and saving of scrap and cuttings of straw-board, paper, and other like waste material, such as is continually accumulating in large quantities about paper-box establishments, book-binderies, and printing-offices, and other like places.

I construct my improved kindlers by folding and gathering these strips and cuttings *a* into small bundles of, say, about six inches in length by four inches in width, more or less, and bind them by folding strips *b* of the same material around them in one or more directions, as shown in the drawing. The free ends of these binders may be glued together by any suitable adhesive matter, or they may be knotted, or folded, or tucked under other parts of the bundle; or, if desired, the bundle may be bound in shape with wrapping-twine or other like wrapping material.

The bundles, thus prepared, are dipped in liquid resin, or a solution or mixture of the same with other inflammable material, such as petroleum, tar, &c. This results in coating the bundle with the mixture employed, and while this coating is still soft and plastic I drop or roll the bundle in fine paper cuttings or shavings or sawdust. A quantity of this

material will adhere to the coating of the bundle, as shown at *c*, and not only serve to render the bundle more inflammable, but also prevent the bundles so made from sticking together when packed for shipping or sale. This latter result may, however, be attained by wrapping the bundles with some cheap paper, or other like wrapping.

I do not limit myself to the particular form of bundle shown in the drawing, as it may be made cylindrical or of other form.

A kindler made of the materials and in the manner described will weigh from about one-fourth to one-half of a pound, and while it will burn readily it will generate sufficient heat, and sustain the same a sufficient time to thoroughly ignite either wood or soft coal, such as is used for fuel in many parts of the country, and probably also hard coal, though when used in lighting hard-coal fires the bundles should, perhaps, be made larger than those described.

In constructing these kindlers I can make use of not only the cuttings described, but also old paper packing-boxes of various kinds, which are usually considered worthless, and which may thus be turned to profitable account.

I claim as my invention—

The fire-kindler herein described, consisting of a bundle made of paper or paper-board, or both, coated with resin or other inflammable mixture, and with or without an exterior non-adhesive material, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

ALEXANDER MATCHETT.

Witnesses:

J. J. McCORMICK,
CLAUDIUS L. PARKER.