

(No Model.)

J. B. MITCHELL.

READY LIGHT OR TAPER.

No. 323,058.

Patented July 28, 1885.

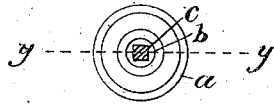


Fig. 1.

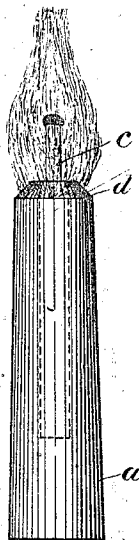


Fig. 2.

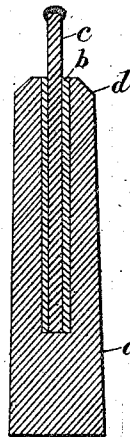


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. MITCHELL, OF PORTLAND, MAINE, ASSIGNOR OF THREE-FOURTHS
TO ABEL H. SAWYER AND JOHN S. MORRIS, OF SAME PLACE.

READY LIGHT OR TAPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 323,058, dated July 23, 1885.

Application filed February 5, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. MITCHELL, of Portland, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ready Lights; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, that will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan; Fig. 2, a side elevation, and Fig. 3 a vertical section through the line *xy* of Fig. 1.

The purpose of my invention is to provide a ready light which shall be of such small cost that it may be discarded after being once used, and also to furnish such a light with the means of igniting it, so connected with it as to save the search for or use of a match in time of haste or emergency.

It consists in the combination of paraffine, tallow, petroleum, fats, oils, or other illuminating material of a similar nature, with chalk, clay, or other absorbent earth or material of a similar nature, the latter being molded into the form of a taper, or plug, or other convenient shape.

In the construction of such light the following method may be pursued: The clay, chalk, or absorbent material used is first molded into the desired form, which may be that shown in the drawings. These plugs or tapers are then heated to such a degree of heat as to expel all moisture and make them readily take up the largest possible amount of the illuminating material, and while thus heated are treated, by immersing them therein, with the illuminating material, which should also be raised to as high a degree of heat as it can with safety. The plug should be subjected to the action of the heated liquid until thoroughly saturated with the latter.

In constructing the taper *a*, a recess or open-

ing, *b*, (see Fig. 3,) may be left, into which may be placed a lucifer or friction match, *c*, the lighting end projecting slightly above the head of the taper. (See Figs. 2 and 3.) Thus inserted, before the tapers are treated with the illuminating material, the latter, when cold, will hold the match in place.

The use of the taper or light so constructed is simple and obvious. If a light is desired for a few minutes, the taper affords both candle and match. Friction applied to the match in the ordinary manner ignites it, and its combustion heats the chalk or clay of the taper to the burning-point of the illuminating material, which is ignited and burns until all or substantially all of the latter is exhausted. A light is thus afforded which is always ready for lighting without the separate use of matches, does not permit the dripping of the illuminating material, and may be used with or without a holder.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination of a plug or taper of chalk, clay, or similar absorbent substance with paraffine, tallow, petroleum, or similar illuminating material, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a plug or taper of chalk, clay, or similar absorbent material with paraffine, tallow, petroleum, or similar illuminating material and a friction-match, substantially in the manner described.

3. A new article of manufacture, a ready light, consisting of a taper of absorbent earth or similar substance saturated with an illuminating material and inclosing a friction-match, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of January, 1885.

JOHN B. MITCHELL.

Witnesses:

GEO. E. BIRD,
JOHN S. MORRIS.