

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CORNELIA E. IMLAY, OF BROOKLYN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HER RIGHT
TO SMITH A. PADDOCK, OF WILLIAMSBURG, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-KINDLERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **131,759**, dated October 1, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CORNELIA E. IMLAY, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and the State of New York, have invented an Improved Fire Lighter or Kindler, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists of a fire-lighter or kindler, made of a piece or pieces of cork fastened together, (if more than one piece of cork is used,) which have first been dipped in a liquid hydrocarbon or a resinous substance and afterward in dry sawdust, the object of the invention being to produce a cheap and highly inflammable compound for the purpose of kindling a wood or coal fire.

To prepare the compound take a piece or pieces of cork, and if more than one piece is to be used fasten them together into a bundle of a size most convenient for use; then take a solid hydrocarbon, such as asphaltum or resin; place it in an iron vessel and heat the same until the contents have become perfectly liquid; stir from one to three per cent. of finely-pulverized chlorate of potash into it; then dip the cork into the molten substance; and when

it is thoroughly impregnated withdraw it quickly and roll it in dry sawdust. In forming a coating of ligneous tissue in a highly disintegrated form, such as sawdust consists of, the compound described does not only ignite more rapidly than if it was only coated with asphaltum and resin, but it is also a nicer and cleaner article to handle, especially for ladies. Instead of bitumen or asphaltum resin or colophony, pitch of wood, coal-tar, or naphthaline may be used.

I claim as my invention—

A compound for kindling purposes, consisting of cork coated with two layers, the first or lower one consisting of a mixture of asphaltum, resin, and chlorate of potash, or, in lieu thereof, pitch or any resinous substance, or naphthaline, with chlorate of potash, the upper or outside one forming a layer of sawdust, substantially as described.

Mrs. CORNELIA E. IMLAY.

Witnesses:

SMITH A. PADDOCK,
PETER RIGLER.