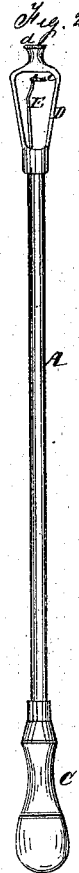


T. W. HOUCHIN.  
Lighting Device.

No. 112,343.

Patented Mar. 7, 1871.



Thos. F. Sheridan  
A. Sherman

Thomas W. Houchin by his atty  
Abraham, Drmo.

# United States Patent Office.

THOMAS W. HOUCHIN, OF MORRISANIA, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 112,343, dated March 7, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TAPER-HOLDERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS W. HOUCHIN, of Morrisania, in the county of Westchester, New York, have invented, made, and applied to use a new and useful Taper-Holder to be used in Lighting Gas; and that the following is a full, clear, and correct description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing making part of this specification and to the letters of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of my improved taper-holder, the taper being shown in position.

Figure 2 is a view of the same, the taper being withdrawn therefrom.

In the drawing like parts of the invention are pointed out by the same letters of reference.

The nature of the present invention consists in the construction, as more fully hereinafter described, of a new and useful holder for tapers usually employed to light gas, the object of the invention being to afford to the public a cheap, convenient, and efficient implement for that purpose.

To enable those skilled in the arts to make and use my invention, I will describe the construction and operation of the same.

A shows a tube, formed usually of metal, and made of any desired length and diameter, intended to receive the taper B, formed of wax or some suitable substance or material.

This tube A may be furnished at one end with a handle, C, while to its upper or top end is attached, in any convenient manner, a yoke, D, formed generally of metal, and provided with an opening, *d*, which, when the yoke is placed in position, is directly above the top of the tube A.

E shows a spring formed of brass or iron wire, one

end of which is attached upon one side of the yoke D, near its base, while its upper end is bent so as to form an eye, *e*, which, when the spring is attached, falls directly in line with the opening *d* in the yoke D.

Such being the construction, the operation may be thus described:

The yoke D and spring E having been attached as already described, the taper B is inserted in the tube A by passing the lower end of it through the opening in the yoke and through the eye of the spring, and thence into the tube, the taper being made sufficiently long to fill the tube and allow a portion of it to project beyond the tube and through the eye of the spring and yoke.

The upper end of the taper may then be lighted and the instrument be used for lighting purposes, and as the taper is consumed it may gradually be drawn from within the tube and through the eye of the spring, and through the opening in the yoke, the spring holding the drawn-out portion of the taper firmly and preventing its return within the tube A.

It will be seen from the foregoing that an efficient instrument for the purpose is afforded the consumer at a low price, and that the combination of a spring, E, with the yoke and tube, prevents the return of the taper within the tube, and retains the same in proper position for use at all times.

Having thus set forth my invention,

What I claim as new is—

The combination of the tube A, yoke D, and spring E, when the same shall be constructed and operate substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

THOMAS W. HOUCHIN.

Witnesses:

A. SIDNEY DOANE,  
WM. HASTINGS.