

# *EUREKA!*

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**Cover photo by Dave Thorpe** Taken June 2007, Sutter Creek, CA. An early Scranton Lamp.



# Found in a Photo

*by Dave Johnson*

Recently, while looking at an old photo owned by Deric English, I spied a miner with an unusual square font oil-wick lamp. This is the first time I have seen one of these pictured in use. I have an example of such a lamp that is very similar.

The lamp has a copper font and spout, steel hook and brass threaded lid. It stands 3" tall to the top of the lid and 5" to the top of the spout. It has an unusually long single wall spout, longer than the one in the photo.

This square font design, while not patented to my knowledge, would have the advantage of keeping the lamp from flopping from side to side as cylindrical oil-wick lamps with wire hooks are prone to do.

I have enjoyed examining old photographs in detail. This blowup of a portion of one shows that you never know what you will find. I appreciate Deric allowing me the use of his photo for this article. It was pleasant assurance to know that this style of lamp was used in mining.

*Right: all copper oil-wick lamp from author's collection.*

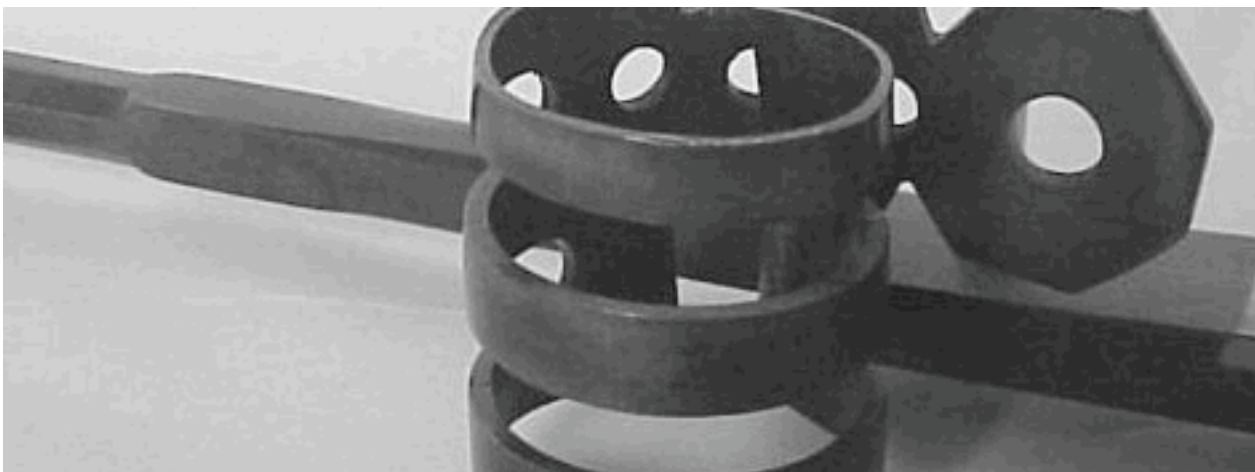
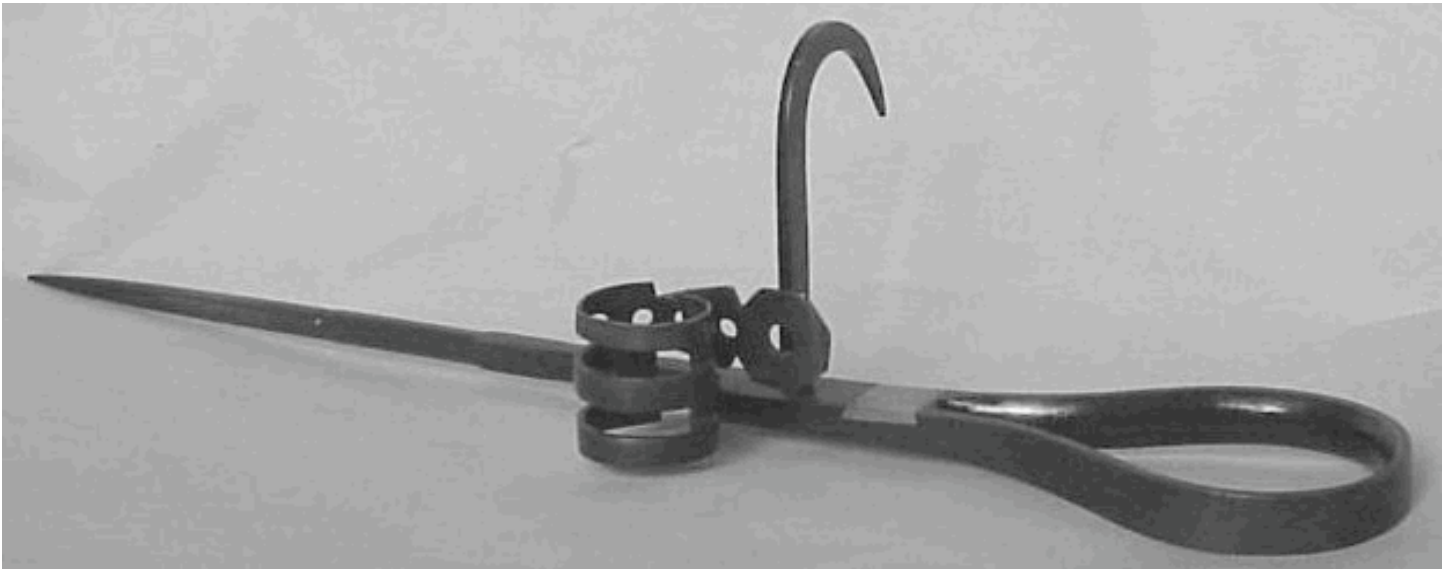


# Perforated Candlesticks

*by Dave Johnson*

Collectors are drawn to items with unusual aspects that make them stand out from others. The following eight miners' candlesticks differ from the standard pattern by having holes, or perforations, in their handles, thumb levers and thimbles. The perforations are purely decorative and take the form of round holes or slots. In Wilson & Bobrink's book, *A Collector's Guide to Antique Miners' Candlesticks*, only 10 examples of sticks with perforations are illustrated among the multitude of candlesticks shown.

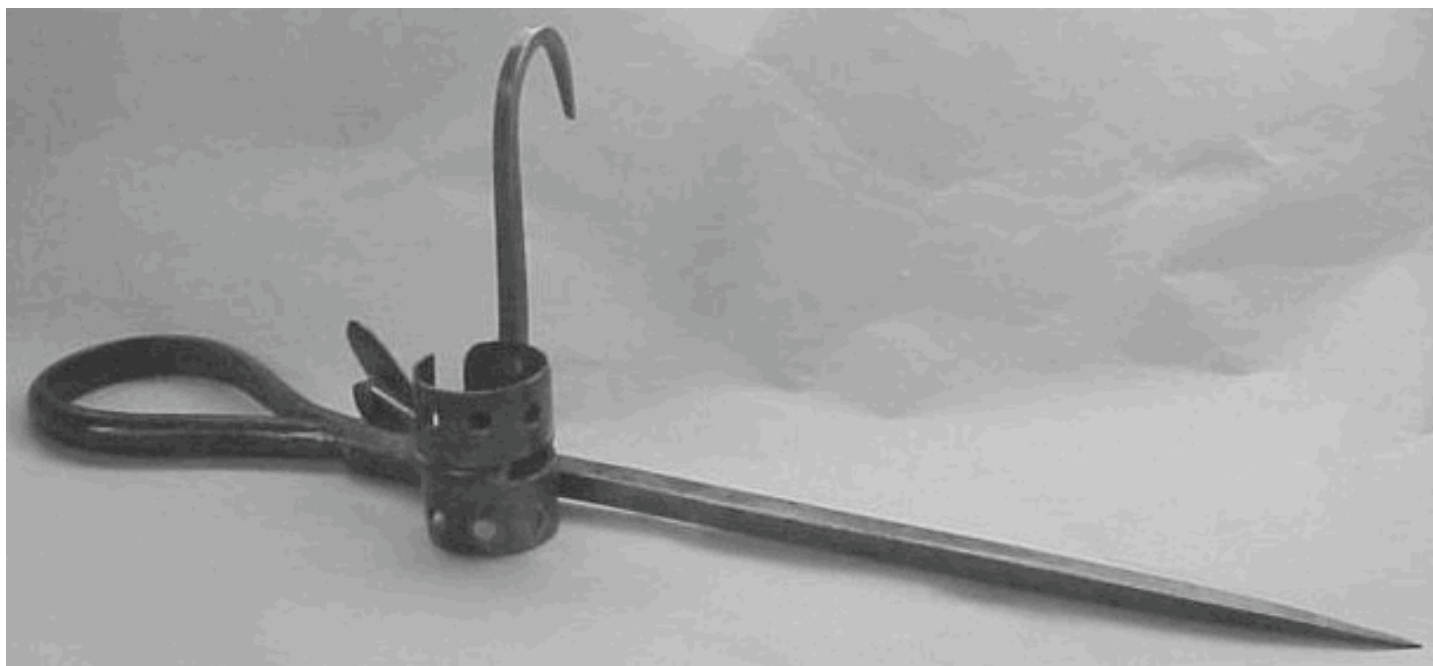
On each of sticks shown here, the perforations are not the only decorative work found. Each has other file work on the spike, thimble, thumb lever or handle. The easiest of these decorative perforations to make would be the round hole. The long slots would be more difficult and the most difficult would be the angled slots found on one of the thimbles. The other file work is of varying degrees of difficulty.



*Stick 1:  
Perforated  
thimble &  
octagonal  
thumb  
lever*



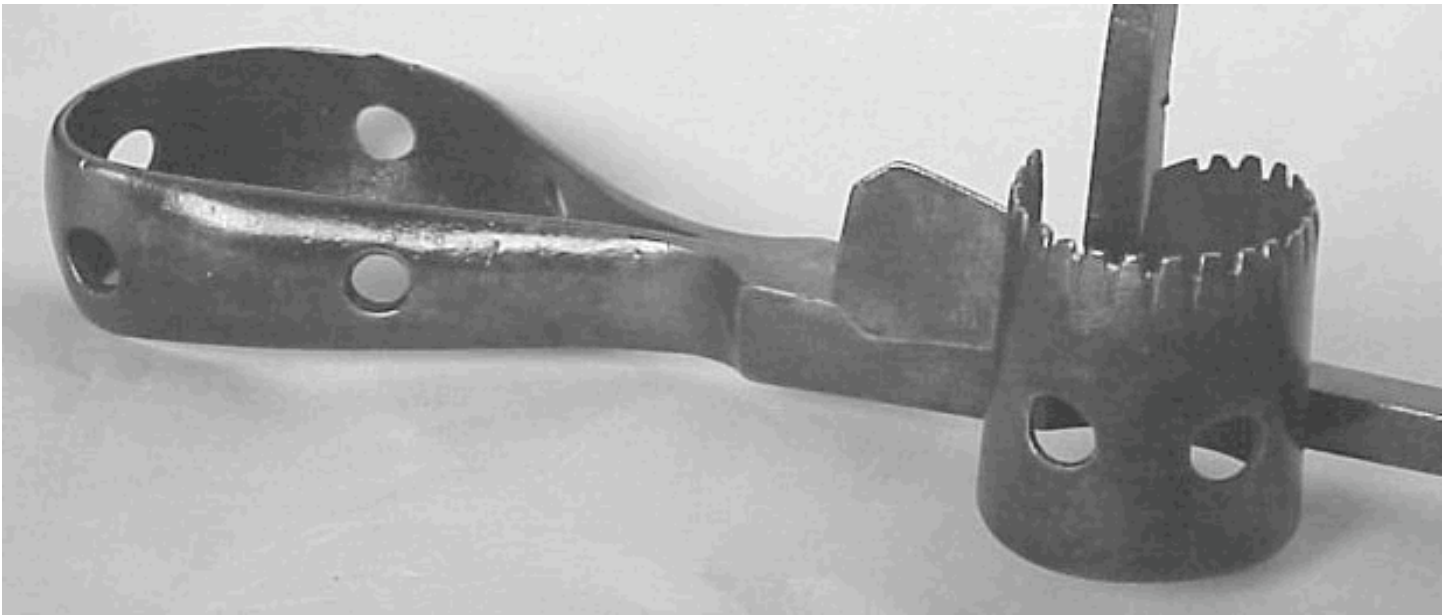
Stick 1 features 4 round holes in the thumb lever and thimble as well as 2 slots that go most of the way around the thimble. The thumb lever is octagonal with a hole in the center. The spike goes from square at the point to octagonal, then back to square with tapered edges. There is a brass inlay where the handle separates.



*Stick 2: Perforated thimble.*

Stick 2 has a thimble with 12 holes, 6 on the top half and 6 on the bottom half. There is a short square slot in the center of the thimble toward the spike. The thumb lever is heart-shaped with a center-ridge that extends across it and part way around the thimble.

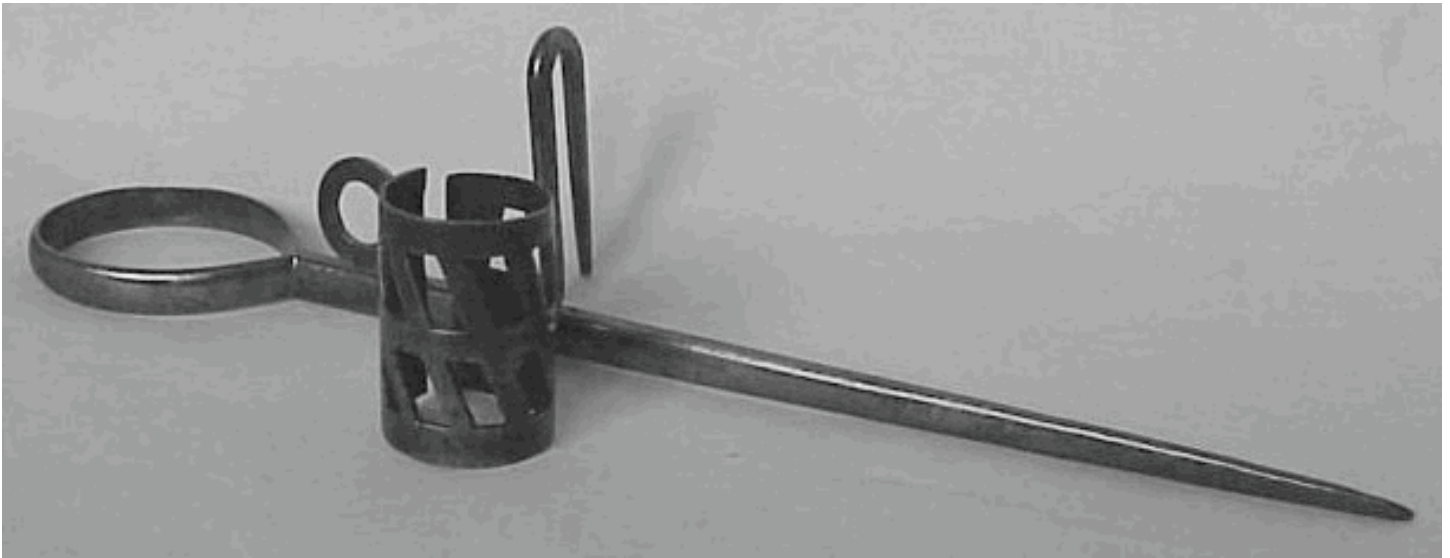




*Stick 3: Perforated Thimble & Handle.*

Stick 3 has a wide handle with 5 holes evenly spaced around it. The thimble has 4 holes going around its circumference. There is filing at the top of the thimble.





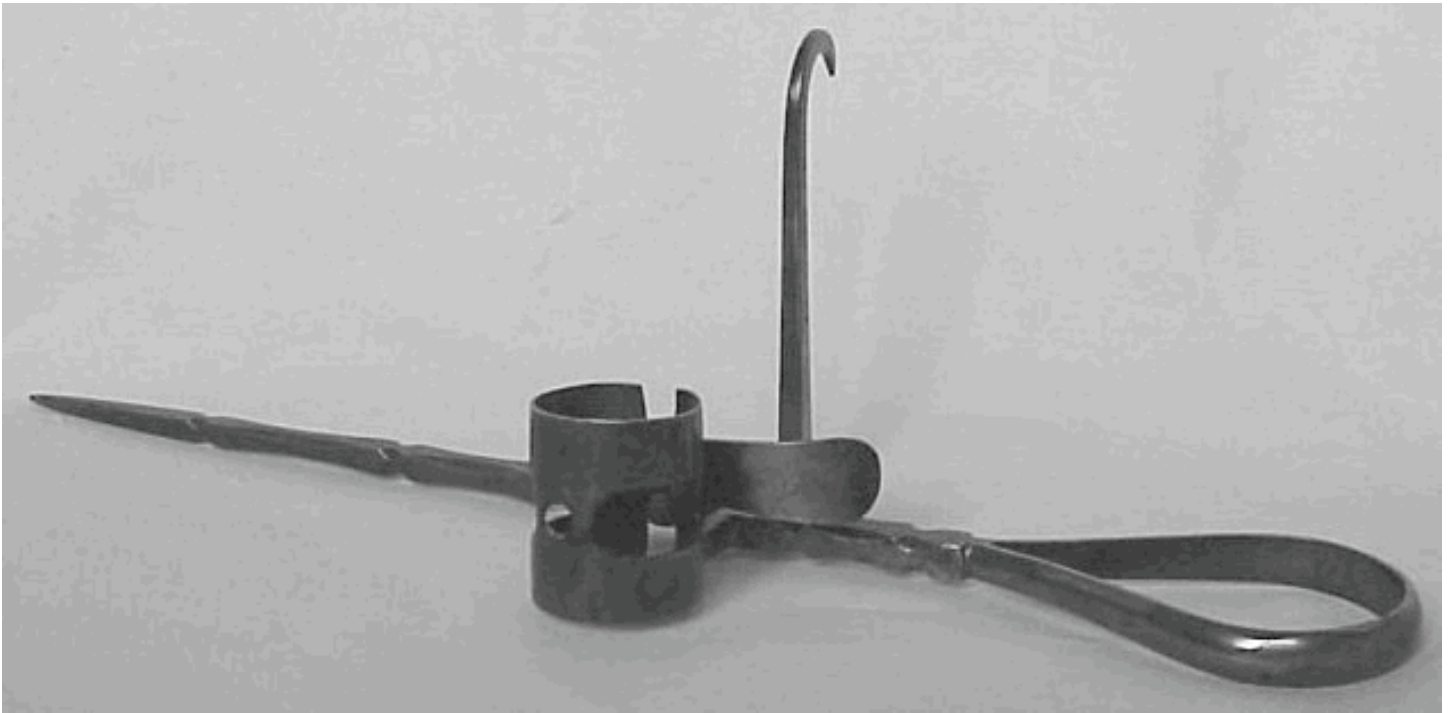
*Stick 4: Perforated thimble & thumb lever with Lake Superior hook.*

Stick 4, with its Lake Superior style hook, has a most unusual holed and slotted thumb lever, along with a very unusual thimble featuring angled slots.



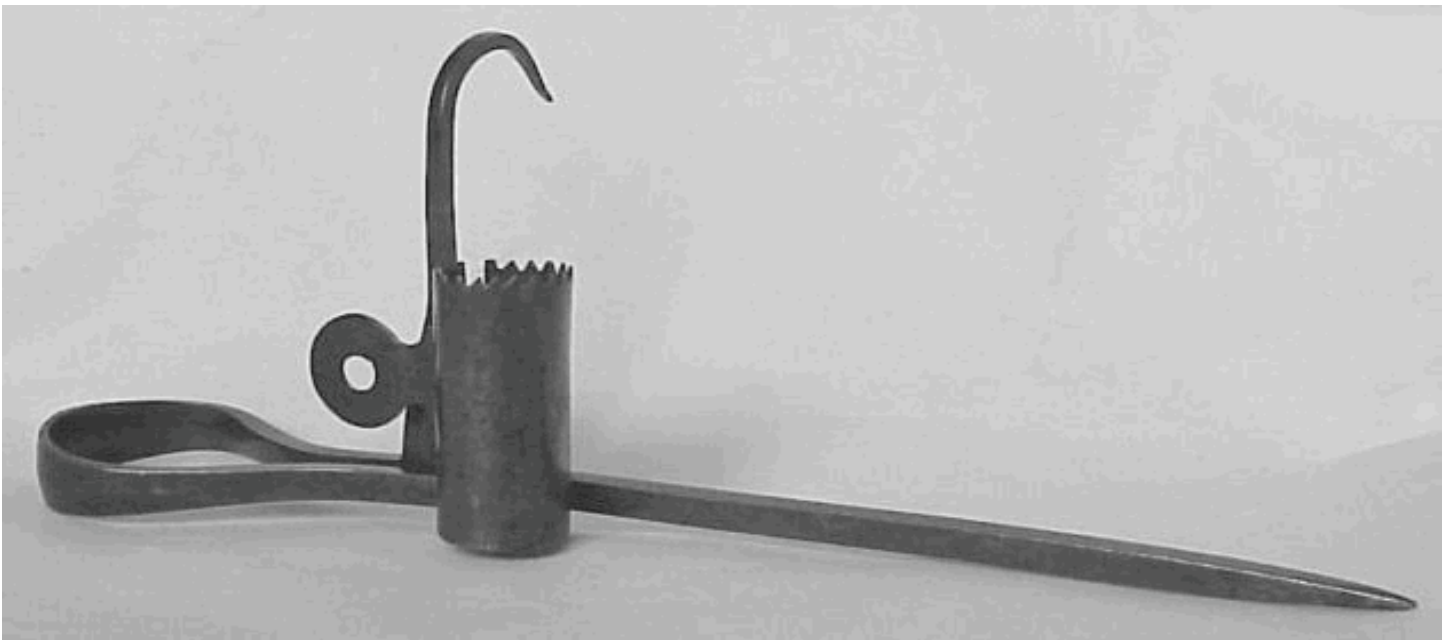
*Stick 5: Perforated thumb lever.*

Stick 5 has a large oval hole in the thumb lever and lots of fancy filing in the spike toward the point and toward the handle.



*Stick 6: Perforated thimble.*

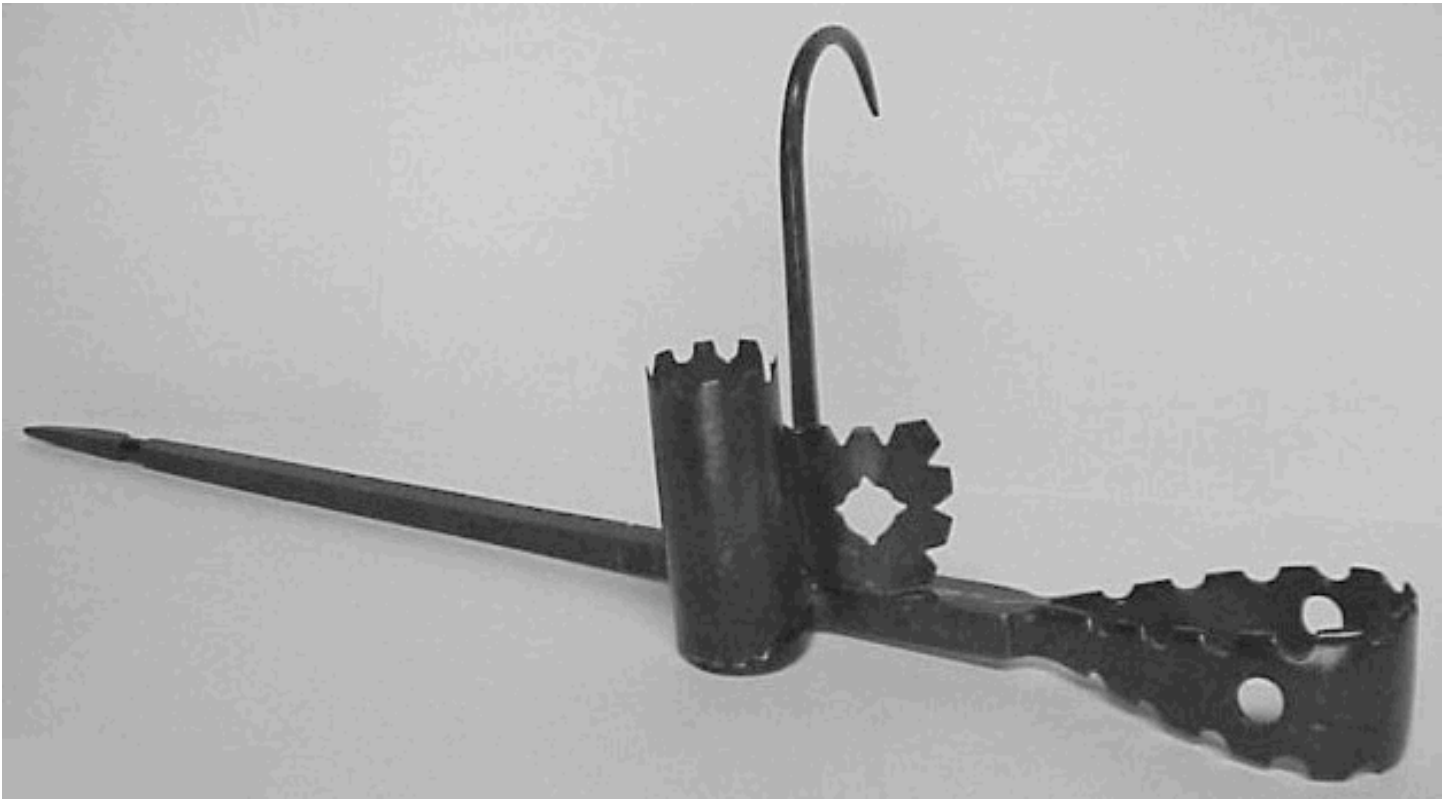
Stick 6 has a thimble with a single round hole with two elongated slots with round ends on each side. The spike has fancy filing along its entire length.



*Stick 7: Perforated fancy thumb lever. (see close-up opposite page)*

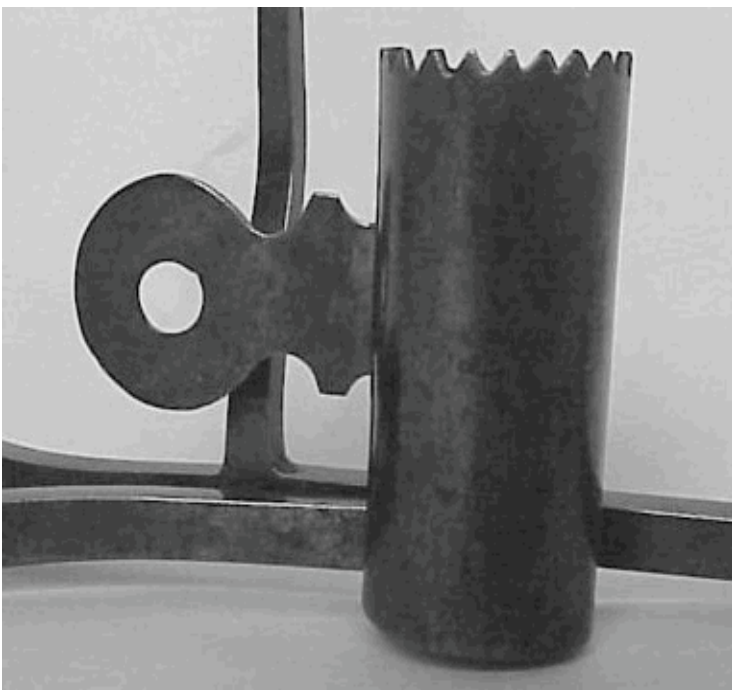
Stick 7 has a fancy thumb lever with a hole in the center. The thimble is exceptionally tall with filing around the top edge.





*Stick 8: Perforated fancy thumb lever & handle.*

Stick 8 features a tall thimble with file work around the top edge. The handle has two opposing holes and file work around the top and bottom edges. The thumb lever has a round hole in the center with 4 points coming out of it, and there is filing around the top and side edge of the thumb lever. The spike has filing in two places along its length. This stick sat on a mantle for more than 30 years before I acquired it.



Of the eight sticks pictured, only one has a Lake Superior style hook, the rest have western style hooks. It is the Lake Superior stick that has the perforations that were the most difficult to produce.

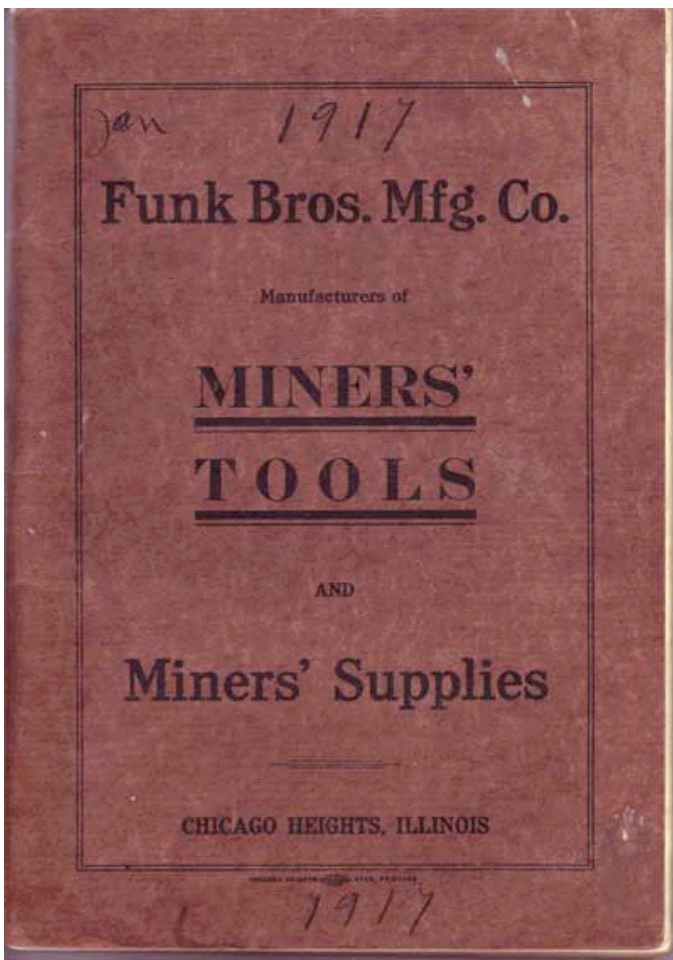
Each of these sticks was a working stick with indications of actual use. Many fancy sticks were never meant to be used, and were either presentation pieces or designs meant to show the skill of the craftsmen who made them. These perforated sticks are, at one time, both fancy and utilitarian.

# Catalogs and Carbides

by Dave Thorpe

Shown here are catalogs from two mine supply companies: Funk Bros. Mfg. Co. of Chicago Heights, Illinois and American Mining Tool Co. of Ottumwa, Iowa. Each catalog displays both oil wick lamps and early acetylene lamps. The illustrations show carbide lamps that date to the 1910–13 era.

Funk Bros. were known to have sold a carbide cap with their own name stamp lamp resembling the Baldwin hourglass style. That lamp, probably made by Grier Bros. would pre-date the Justrite lamps shown in this Funk Bros. catalog.



62

FUNK BROS. MANUFACTURING CO.

## Justrite Carbide Lamps



No. 80 Lever Feed



No. 85 Lever Feed



Superintendents' Lamp



Repair Outfit  
No. 1 and No. 2

### List of Repairs

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| No.                  | No.               |
| 15—Reflector Hoods   | 63—Cleaning Wires |
| 25—3-inch Reflector. | 64—Felt Holder    |
| 60—Rubber Gaskets    | 65—Valve Stem     |
| 61—Lantern Gaskets   | 66—Burner Tips    |
| 62—Felt Packing      | 68—Extra Bottoms  |

*Funk Bros. Mfg. Co. catalog is penciled with a 1917 date. Pricing insert pages are also officially printed with this date, although the lamp illustrations appear to be earlier, ca. 1913.*



### Miner's Cap Lamp



MINER'S CAP LAMP.  
No. 32.

The names of the various parts indicated by numbers above are given below:

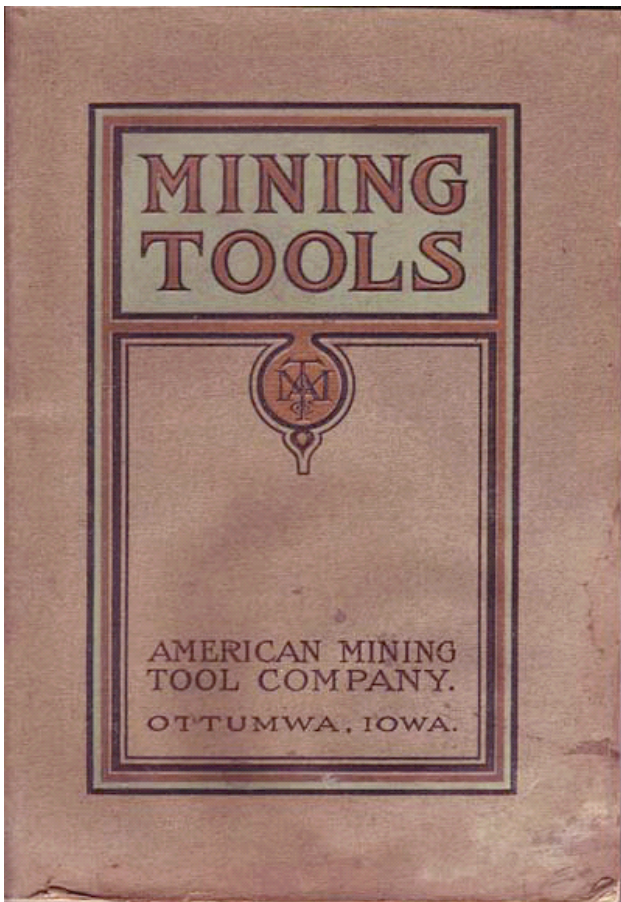
- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Water tank.          | 7. Burner.             |
| 2. Raking Wire.         | 8. Small Felt.         |
| 3. Cover of Water-Tank. | 9. Large Felt.         |
| 4. Water-tube.          | 10. Wire Gauze.        |
| 5. Burner-tube.         | 11. Hook.              |
| 6. Reflector.           | 12. Rubber Gasket.     |
|                         | 13. Carbide Container. |

### Baldwin Superintendent's Lamp



SUPERINTENDENT'S LAMP.  
No. 36.

hours with one charge.  
10 ozs.; height, 6½ inches.  
galvanized iron.  
will throw a strong light over  
overhead examinations easy.  
a carbide container with each  
.....\$2.00  
Carbide Containers 35c. each.



*American Mining Tool Company catalog shows Baldwin lamps that date to 1900–12. Oil wick lamps exist with this company's name, but to date, there is not a private label carbide lamp.*

# Terre Haute's Boom Town Lamp

*by Dave Thorpe*

The Wabash and Erie Canal reached Terre Haute, Indiana in 1849, and railroad operations began in 1852. Following the Civil War the city became a major industrial and mining center with steel mills, coal mines, and breweries. During this time it also became known for its gambling and brothels – a wild-west town in eastern U.S.

Luck and superstition have always figured prominently in the culture of gamblers and miners. And so from this milieu, a miner's oil wick lamp was made in Terre Haute bearing the stampmark of a horseshoe, America's most recognized symbol of good luck.



*The "Miners Choice" oil wick lamp is deeply stamped with a horseshoe and has two patent dates of July 24 & 31, 1883.*

John Deeds held two patents whose dates are stamped into this lamp. The Deeds patent of July 24, 1883 describes a lid made of a cork wafer sandwiched between two metal discs so as to make a tight seal. The lamp shown here has an all-metal door but it is not perforated like most lids. It fits snugly into a font whose inlet is double-reinforced. The July 30, 1883 patent was for a wick raising device.

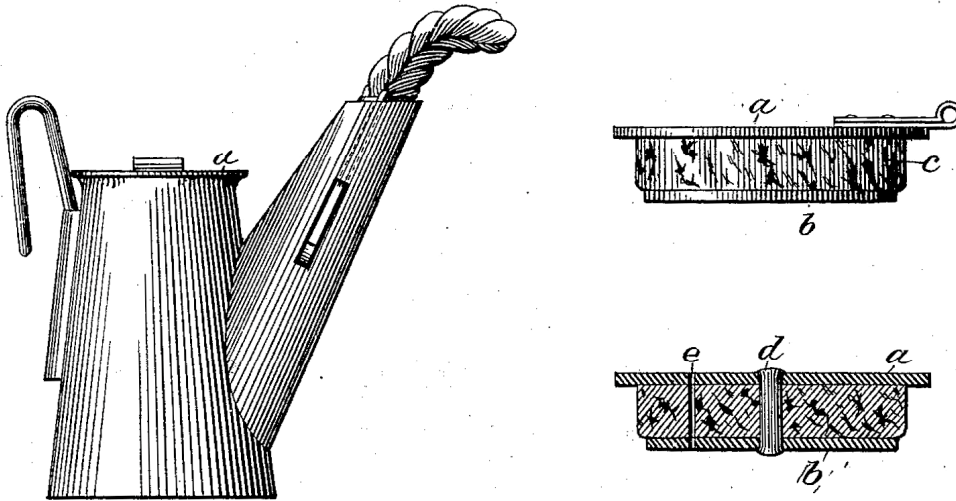


J. B. DEEDS & W. MACK.

LID FOR MINERS' LAMPS.

No. 281,846.

Patented July 24, 1883.



*July 24, 1883 patent for a cork wafer in the lid.*

J. B. DEEDS.

WICK RAISER FOR LAMPS.

No. 282,282.

Patented July 31, 1883.



*July 31, 1883 patent for a wick raising mechanism.*

Neither patent materialized on example shown above. The practice of stamping in patent dates that did not belong to a lamp was occasionally used in the mine lamp industry. Perhaps its value was in giving the appearance of propriety.

A Miner's Choice lamp has been found with the patented wick raiser (Jack Schultz collection), and small details vary from lamp to lamp. A Miner's Choice lamp owned by Bob Guthrie does not have a reinforced bottom seam.



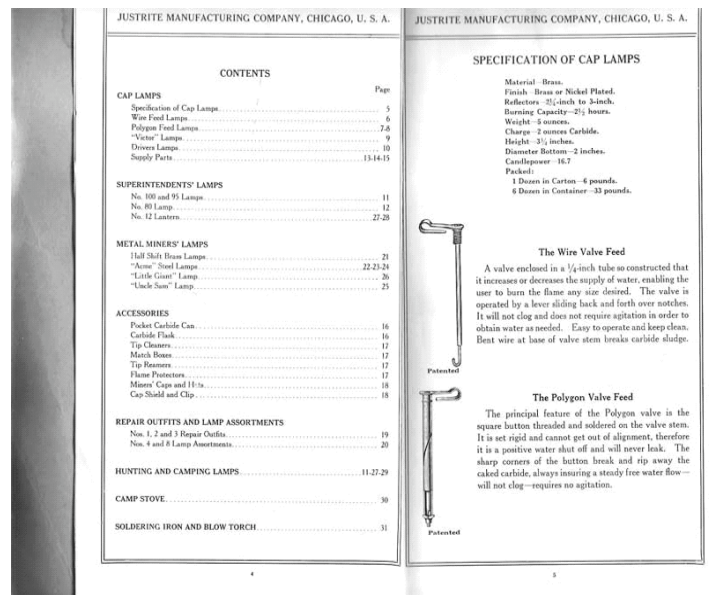
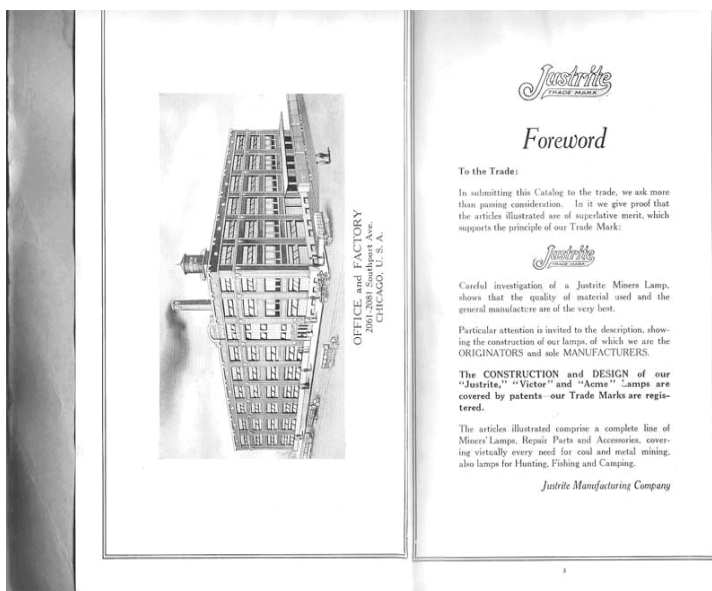
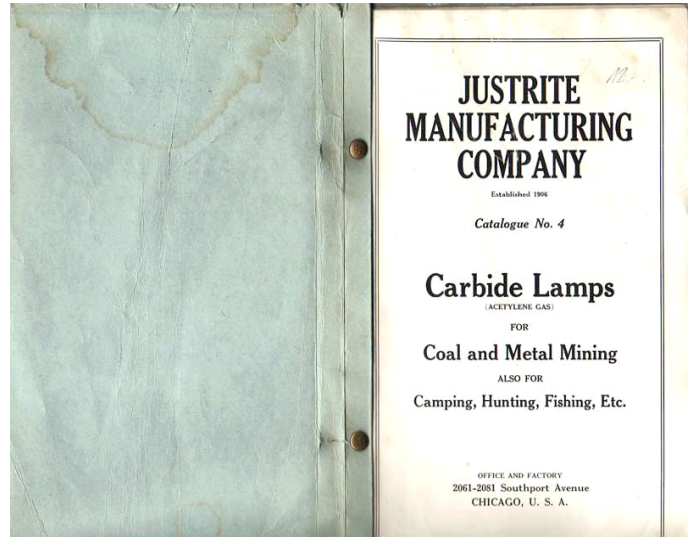
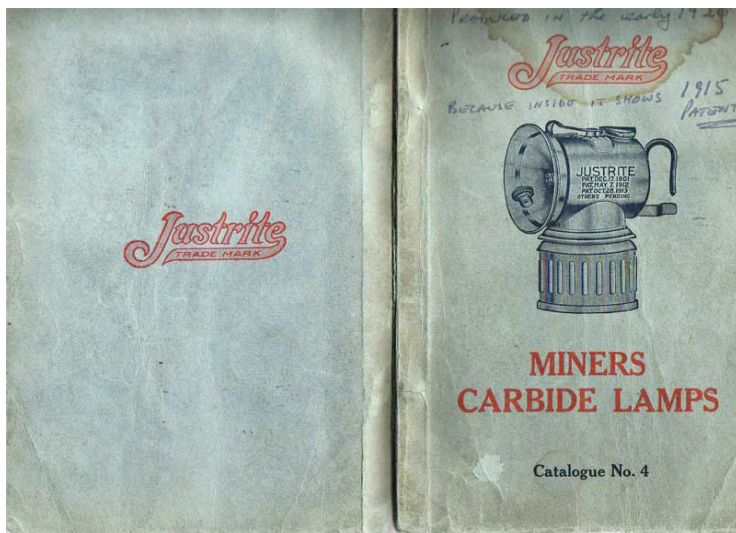
*Left: Patented wick raiser is present on this lamp owned by Jack Schultz. Right: Note lack of reinforced bottom seam on this lamp owned by Bob Guthrie.*

Prohibition (1920-1933) dealt a serious blow to the economy of Terre Haute, closing many breweries and distilleries as well as several glass making companies and entertainment venues. The sin-city that was on its way to becoming another Las Vegas sank into oblivion. Today it is best known for its "correction center" that is the official federal death row. There are surely a few souls in Terre Haute whose last hopes lie in prayers, four-leafed clovers, and horseshoes.

# Justrite Catalogue No. 4

by Dave Thorpe

This was found at a swap-meet in Wilnsdorf, Germany. Where it had been used originally is anyone's guess, but the 1923 import price list attached in the back section indicates that it was adapted for Europe. For years, much speculation has lingered around the existence of a No. 4 catalog. Numbers 3 and 5 are well known, and various unnumbered catalogs were thought to have been the elusive No. 4. The catalog shown here is the same size as the Nos. 3 and 5. I have copied it in its entirety for reference.





JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### MINER'S CAP LAMPS

Wire Feed - Round Shank  
Lighter Attachment

**Concealed Reflector**  
2 1/2-inch Diameter

No. 87	Polished Brass - Lamp only	Price
88	Nickel Plated - Lamp only	
89	Polished Brass with No. 17 Carbide Cup	
90	Nickel Plated with No. 17 Carbide Cup	
91	Polished Brass with Extra Bottoms	
92	Nickel Plated with Extra Bottoms	

**Saucer Shaped Reflector**  
3-inch Diameter

No. 93	Polished Brass - Lamp only	Price
94	Nickel Plated - Lamp only	
95	Nickel Plated with No. 17 Carbide Cup	

**Supply Parts**

- No. 96 - Bottom, Polished Brass
- 97 - Bottom, Nickel Plated
- 98 - Side Reflector
- 99 - Side Reflector
- 100 - Side Reflector
- 101 - Side Reflector
- 102 - Side Reflector
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- 197 - Side Reflector
- 198 - Side Reflector
- 199 - Side Reflector
- 200 - Side Reflector

For Specifications, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### MINER'S CAP LAMPS

Polygen Feed - Round Shank  
Lighter Attachment

**Concealed Reflector**  
2 1/2-inch Diameter

No. 161	Polished Brass Lamp Only	Price
162	Nickel Plated - Lamp Only	
163	Polished Brass with No. 17 Carbide Cup	
164	Polished Brass with Extra Bottoms	
165	Nickel Plated with Extra Bottoms	

**Saucer Shaped Reflector**  
3-inch Diameter

No. 166	Polished Brass Lamp Only	Price
167	Nickel Plated - Lamp Only	

**Supply Parts**

- No. 168 - Bottom, Polished Brass
- 169 - Bottom, Nickel Plated
- 170 - Side Reflector
- 171 - Side Reflector
- 172 - Side Reflector
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- 197 - Side Reflector
- 198 - Side Reflector
- 199 - Side Reflector
- 200 - Side Reflector

For Specifications, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### MINER'S CAP LAMPS

With New Lighter Attachment  
Polygen Feed

**Concealed Reflector**  
2 1/2-inch Diameter

No. 201	Polished Brass Lamp Only	Price
202	Nickel Plated - Lamp Only	

**Saucer Shaped Reflector**  
3-inch Diameter

No. 203	Polished Brass Lamp Only	Price
204	Nickel Plated - Lamp Only	

**Supply Parts**

- No. 205 - Bottom, Polished Brass
- 206 - Bottom, Nickel Plated
- 207 - Side Reflector
- 208 - Side Reflector
- 209 - Side Reflector
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- 238 - Side Reflector
- 239 - Side Reflector
- 240 - Side Reflector

For Specifications, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### "VICTOR" MINER'S CAP LAMPS

Polygen Feed

**Concealed Reflector**  
2 1/2-inch Diameter

No. 241	Polished Brass	Price
242	Nickel Plated	

**Saucer Shaped Reflector**  
3-inch Diameter

No. 243	Polished Brass	Price
244	Nickel Plated	

**Supply Parts**

- No. 245 - Bottom, Polished Brass
- 246 - Bottom, Nickel Plated
- 247 - Side Reflector
- 248 - Side Reflector
- 249 - Side Reflector
- 250 - Side Reflector
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- 289 - Side Reflector
- 290 - Side Reflector

For Specifications, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### SPECIAL DRIVERS LAMP

Nickel Silver Reflector  
Round Shank  
Polygen Feed

This lamp has extra deep concealed nickel silver reflector - exterior finish polished brass. Equipped with No. 120 Flame Protector, making lamp wind and water proof.

The lamp is especially designed for use in places subject to strong air currents. DRIVERS, MOUNTAIN MEN, ENGINEERS, TIMBERMEN and SURVEYORS will find this lamp very satisfactory.

**Supply Parts**

- No. 300 - Bottom, Polished Brass
- 301 - Bottom, Nickel Plated
- 302 - Side Reflector
- 303 - Side Reflector
- 304 - Side Reflector
- 305 - Side Reflector
- 306 - Side Reflector
- 307 - Side Reflector
- 308 - Side Reflector
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- 338 - Side Reflector
- 339 - Side Reflector
- 340 - Side Reflector

For Specifications of Lamps, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S LAMPS

Nickel Plated  
Equipped with Lighter Attachment  
Wire Feed

**Supply Parts**

- No. 340 - Bottom, Polished Brass
- 341 - Bottom, Nickel Plated
- 342 - Side Reflector
- 343 - Side Reflector
- 344 - Side Reflector
- 345 - Side Reflector
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- 390 - Side Reflector

For Specifications, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### "ACME" SUPERINTENDENT'S LAMP

Nickel Plated

**Specifications**

- Burning Capacity - 4 to 6 hours
- Carbide Pressure - 200
- Weight - 18 1/2 ounces
- Change 1 Carbide, Carbide
- Height of Lamp - 4 1/2 inches
- Maximum Bottom - 1 1/2 inches
- Maximum Reflector - 3 inches

A sturdy and dependable lamp highly recommended. Equipped with Folding Handles, Lighter Attachment, No. 120 Flame Protector, Polygen Feed.

**Complete List of Repair Parts**

- No. 400 - Carbide Container
- 401 - Carbide
- 402 - Carbide
- 403 - Carbide
- 404 - Carbide
- 405 - Carbide
- 406 - Carbide
- 407 - Carbide
- 408 - Carbide
- 409 - Carbide
- 410 - Carbide
- 411 - Carbide
- 412 - Carbide
- 413 - Carbide
- 414 - Carbide
- 415 - Carbide
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- 427 - Carbide
- 428 - Carbide
- 429 - Carbide
- 430 - Carbide
- 431 - Carbide
- 432 - Carbide
- 433 - Carbide
- 434 - Carbide
- 435 - Carbide
- 436 - Carbide
- 437 - Carbide
- 438 - Carbide
- 439 - Carbide
- 440 - Carbide

For Specifications of Lamps, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### SUPPLY PARTS FOR CAP LAMPS

REFLECTORS for "Victor" Lamps

**REFLECTORS**

- No. 300 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 301 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 302 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 303 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 304 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 305 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 306 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 307 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 308 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 309 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 310 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
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- 333 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 334 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 335 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 336 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 337 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 338 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 339 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector
- 340 - 2 1/2-inch Reflector

For Specifications of Lamps, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### SUPPLY PARTS FOR CAP LAMPS

Wire Feed

**Supply Parts**

- No. 400 - Carbide Container
- 401 - Carbide
- 402 - Carbide
- 403 - Carbide
- 404 - Carbide
- 405 - Carbide
- 406 - Carbide
- 407 - Carbide
- 408 - Carbide
- 409 - Carbide
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- 432 - Carbide
- 433 - Carbide
- 434 - Carbide
- 435 - Carbide
- 436 - Carbide
- 437 - Carbide
- 438 - Carbide
- 439 - Carbide
- 440 - Carbide

For Specifications of Lamps, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### SUPPLY PARTS FOR CAP LAMPS

Polygen Feed

**Supply Parts**

- No. 440 - Carbide Container
- 441 - Carbide
- 442 - Carbide
- 443 - Carbide
- 444 - Carbide
- 445 - Carbide
- 446 - Carbide
- 447 - Carbide
- 448 - Carbide
- 449 - Carbide
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- 451 - Carbide
- 452 - Carbide
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- 471 - Carbide
- 472 - Carbide
- 473 - Carbide
- 474 - Carbide
- 475 - Carbide
- 476 - Carbide
- 477 - Carbide
- 478 - Carbide
- 479 - Carbide
- 480 - Carbide

For Specifications of Lamps, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### ACCESSORIES for Carbide Lamps

**Carbide Containers**

- No. 480 - Carbide Container
- 481 - Carbide Container
- 482 - Carbide Container
- 483 - Carbide Container
- 484 - Carbide Container
- 485 - Carbide Container
- 486 - Carbide Container
- 487 - Carbide Container
- 488 - Carbide Container
- 489 - Carbide Container
- 490 - Carbide Container

**Carbide Flask**

- No. 490 - Carbide Flask
- 491 - Carbide Flask
- 492 - Carbide Flask
- 493 - Carbide Flask
- 494 - Carbide Flask
- 495 - Carbide Flask
- 496 - Carbide Flask
- 497 - Carbide Flask
- 498 - Carbide Flask
- 499 - Carbide Flask
- 500 - Carbide Flask

For Specifications of Lamps, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### ACCESSORIES - Continued

Justrite Wire Tip Cleaners

**Wire Tip Cleaners**

- No. 500 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 501 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 502 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 503 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 504 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 505 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 506 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 507 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 508 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 509 - Wire Tip Cleaner
- 510 - Wire Tip Cleaner

**Tip Removers**

- No. 510 - Tip Remover
- 511 - Tip Remover
- 512 - Tip Remover
- 513 - Tip Remover
- 514 - Tip Remover
- 515 - Tip Remover
- 516 - Tip Remover
- 517 - Tip Remover
- 518 - Tip Remover
- 519 - Tip Remover
- 520 - Tip Remover

**Gas and Flame Lighter**

- No. 520 - Gas and Flame Lighter

**Waterproof Match Box**

- No. 520 - Waterproof Match Box

**Woolproof Flame Protector**

- No. 520 - Woolproof Flame Protector

For Specifications of Lamps, see page 12.  
For Illustrations of Supply Parts, see page 12.

ACCESSORIES - Continued

Worstead Miner's Hat



Blank set of cloth with eye, with soft crown lining and ear flap. Metal and brass shell. 1/2 inch oval back band.

Cas Model



Metal and Fibre. Can be Used on Any Cap or Hat.

Crown Caps

For Round Back Lamps. Metal and Fibre Shield.



No. 239 - Brown Canvas

No. 240 - White Canvas

Lamp Clip



A thick rounded steel clip for holding Cap Lamps in right position. Can be easily attached to miner's cap or hat.

JUSTRITE REPAIR OUTFITS

For Miner's Carbide Lamps



Contents No. 2 Repair Outfit: 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Gas, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Glass, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Reflector, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Burner, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Tip, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens Holder, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens Cap, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Washer, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Seal, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Seal Washer, 2 Nos. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Seal Seal Washer.



Contents No. 1 Repair Outfit: 1 No. 36 Carbide Gas, 1 No. 36 Carbide Glass, 1 No. 36 Carbide Reflector, 1 No. 36 Carbide Burner, 1 No. 36 Carbide Tip, 1 No. 36 Carbide Lens, 1 No. 36 Carbide Lens Holder, 1 No. 36 Carbide Lens Cap, 1 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket, 1 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Washer, 1 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Seal, 1 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Seal Washer.



Contents No. 3 Repair Outfit: 36 No. 36 Carbide Gas, 36 No. 36 Carbide Glass, 36 No. 36 Carbide Reflector, 36 No. 36 Carbide Burner, 36 No. 36 Carbide Tip, 36 No. 36 Carbide Lens, 36 No. 36 Carbide Lens Holder, 36 No. 36 Carbide Lens Cap, 36 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket, 36 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Washer, 36 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Seal, 36 No. 36 Carbide Lens Gasket Seal Washer.

CARBIDE LAMP AND REPAIR PART DISPLAY CABINET



Description: A handsome metal case finished in white enamel. Sliding doors opening from the back. Glass cover and glass reflector show case with lit lamp clear at back. Room for 5 sample lamps. Made of steel, 15 inches wide, 10 1/2 inches deep, 15 inches high. Strong, durable and convenient. Sold only with Lamp Assortment No. 4 and No. 5.

Table of Repair Parts for Carbide Lamps, including Assortment No. 4 and Assortment No. 5.

METAL MINERS' LAMPS

With Lighter Attachment



Description: These lamps were first made in England and were considered the best in the world. They were made of brass and had a glass reflector. They were made in a variety of sizes and were used in a variety of mines.



Description: These lamps were first made in England and were considered the best in the world. They were made of brass and had a glass reflector. They were made in a variety of sizes and were used in a variety of mines.

"ACME" STEEL CARBIDE LAMP

Best-Proof - Heavily Tinned

Half Size

A strong and sturdy steel lamp, built to give service. Constructed with the dependable and reliable POLYGRON Water Proof and a REFLECTOR that cannot easily be bent or broken.

Equipped with the No. 25 Jewel Burner Tip and FLAME PROTECTOR. The use of this protector makes the burner disappear as well as wind-proof and is particularly useful in wet mines.



No. 38 - With Bell and Hook

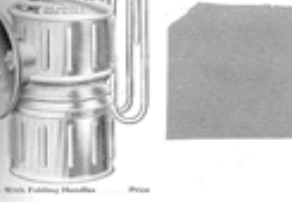
"ACME" STEEL CARBIDE LAMP

Best-Proof - Heavily Tinned

Half Size

Specifications of Acme Steel Lamps Nos. 38 and 39

Burning Capacity - 3 to 4 hours. Gasless Power - 18. Weight - 15 1/2 ounces. Charge - 2 ounces Carbide.

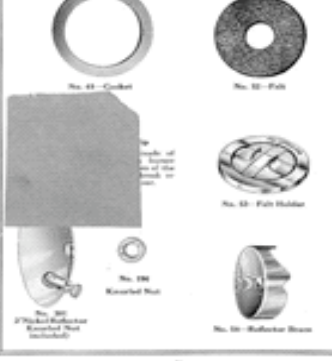


No. 39 - With Folding Handle

Supply Parts

"ACME" STEEL CARBIDE LAMP

- List of supply parts for ACME Steel Carbide Lamp, including carbide gas, reflector, burner, tip, lens, and lens holder.



ALUMINUM MINERS' LAMPS

"The 'Uncle Sam'"

See-Saw Aluminum Removable Spiral Valve Stem



Description: Strong and substantial in steel hard enough and tough enough to last - also built to last. Cap aluminum. Steel shell, glass and Tangle Lock. Simple, nothing to get out of order. Also the most rigid valve stem, never had that leaks water, never leaks, never leaks.

Table of specifications for Aluminum Miner's Lamps, including weight, height, diameter, and capacity.

Repair Parts for "Uncle Sam" Lamps. List of parts including carbide gas, reflector, burner, tip, lens, and lens holder.

ALUMINUM MINERS' LAMPS

"The 'Little Giant'"

Removable Spiral Valve Stem



No. 39 - 4 Hour Capacity

Specifications: Height of Lamp - 11 inches, Diameter Reflector - 3 inches, Diameter Burner - 2 1/2 inches, Weight - 18 ounces, Charge - 2 ounces, Gasless Power - 18.

Table of repair parts for 'The Little Giant' lamp, including carbide gas, reflector, burner, tip, lens, and lens holder.

THE ACETYLENE LANTERN



The Favorite Camp Light. Excellent for All Outdoor Uses. Equipped with Bell's Eye Lens and Reflector.

Table of repair parts for the Acetylene Lantern, including carbide gas, reflector, burner, tip, lens, and lens holder.

REPAIR PARTS FOR NO. 12 LANTERN



THE HUNTER'S HEADLIGHT



For Hunters, Trappers, Fishermen, Farmers. Also used for working our materials back at night. Three light beams of 20 feet directly in front of you when it is needed. Both hands free for whatever you are doing.

Table of repair parts for the Hunter's Headlight, including carbide gas, reflector, burner, tip, lens, and lens holder.

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### ACETYLENE CAMP STOVE

No. 11

One of the most compact camp stoves ever made for the auto tourist, prospector, trapper, hunter and sportsman. Also suitable for the motor boat and working ship.

Available in standard and extra size. 17 inches outside width enough gas to cook a meal. Consumption very economy—simple and economical to operate.

Power in Charolite—can be packed under water seal or with the carrying valve without danger of spoiling fuel or choking. These complete in round metal container 10 inches long, 5 inches diameter. Weighing weight, 4 pounds.

#### REPAIR PARTS

- No. 5001—Light Capstan
- No. 5002—Spark Plug
- No. 5003—Rubber Tip
- No. 5004—Valve
- No. 5005—Rubber
- No. 5006—Auto Minder
- No. 5007—Carriage Parting
- No. 5008—Carriage Parting with Valve
- No. 5009—Fuel

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### JUSTRITE HUNTER'S HEADLIGHTS

For Hunter, Trapper, Fisherman, Sportsman. Also ideal for working over mountain trails at night.

For Hunter, Trapper, Fisherman, Sportsman. Also ideal for working over mountain trails at night. These lamps are made of the finest material and are of the highest quality. They are of the latest design and are of the most reliable construction. They are of the most compact and portable construction and are of the most economical and efficient design. They are of the most durable and longest lasting construction and are of the most reliable and efficient design.

#### REPAIR PARTS

No. 300	No. 301	No. 302	No. 303	No. 304
No. 305	No. 306	No. 307	No. 308	No. 309
No. 310	No. 311	No. 312	No. 313	No. 314
No. 315	No. 316	No. 317	No. 318	No. 319
No. 320	No. 321	No. 322	No. 323	No. 324

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### REPAIR PARTS FOR No. 12 LANTERN

- Inner Glass No. 102
- Rubber Gasket No. 103
- Base No. 104
- Valve No. 105
- Valve and Tip No. 106
- Outer Glass No. 107
- Carbide Container No. 108
- Carbide No. 109
- Carbide No. 110
- Carbide No. 111
- Carbide No. 112
- Carbide No. 113
- Carbide No. 114
- Carbide No. 115
- Carbide No. 116
- Carbide No. 117
- Carbide No. 118
- Carbide No. 119
- Carbide No. 120

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### THE JUSTRITE HUNTER'S HEADLIGHT

For Hunter, Trapper, Fisherman, Sportsman. Also ideal for working over mountain trails at night.

These lamps are made of the finest material and are of the highest quality. They are of the latest design and are of the most reliable construction. They are of the most compact and portable construction and are of the most economical and efficient design. They are of the most durable and longest lasting construction and are of the most reliable and efficient design.

#### REPAIR PARTS

- No. 200—Carbide Container
- No. 201—Carbide
- No. 202—Light Capstan
- No. 203—Rubber Tip
- No. 204—Auto Minder
- No. 205—Carriage Parting
- No. 206—Carriage Parting with Valve
- No. 207—Fuel

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

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Available in standard and extra size. 17 inches outside width enough gas to cook a meal. Consumption very economy—simple and economical to operate.

Power in Charolite—can be packed under water seal or with the carrying valve without danger of spoiling fuel or choking. These complete in round metal container 10 inches long, 5 inches diameter. Weighing weight, 4 pounds.

#### REPAIR PARTS

- No. 5001—Light Capstan
- No. 5002—Spark Plug
- No. 5003—Rubber Tip
- No. 5004—Valve
- No. 5005—Rubber
- No. 5006—Auto Minder
- No. 5007—Carriage Parting
- No. 5008—Carriage Parting with Valve
- No. 5009—Fuel

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

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#### REPAIR PARTS

No. 300	No. 301	No. 302	No. 303	No. 304
No. 305	No. 306	No. 307	No. 308	No. 309
No. 310	No. 311	No. 312	No. 313	No. 314
No. 315	No. 316	No. 317	No. 318	No. 319
No. 320	No. 321	No. 322	No. 323	No. 324

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### ACETYLENE CAMP STOVE

No. 11

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Power in Charolite—can be packed under water seal or with the carrying valve without danger of spoiling fuel or choking. These complete in round metal container 10 inches long, 5 inches diameter. Weighing weight, 4 pounds.

#### REPAIR PARTS

- No. 5001—Light Capstan
- No. 5002—Spark Plug
- No. 5003—Rubber Tip
- No. 5004—Valve
- No. 5005—Rubber
- No. 5006—Auto Minder
- No. 5007—Carriage Parting
- No. 5008—Carriage Parting with Valve
- No. 5009—Fuel

JUSTRITE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

### SOLDERING IRON AND BLOW TORCH

No. 13

The Handy Tool For Anyone. It is simple, efficient, and economical. It is of the latest design and is of the most reliable construction. It is of the most compact and portable construction and is of the most economical and efficient design. It is of the most durable and longest lasting construction and is of the most reliable and efficient design.

#### REPAIR PARTS

- No. 600—Soldering Iron
- No. 601—Blow Torch
- No. 602—Carbide Container
- No. 603—Carbide
- No. 604—Light Capstan
- No. 605—Rubber Tip
- No. 606—Auto Minder
- No. 607—Carriage Parting
- No. 608—Carriage Parting with Valve
- No. 609—Fuel

## LAMPS AND LANTERNS FOR HUNTING-FISHING-TRAPPING-BOATING-CAMPING

See No. 23 and 24 Catalogs and No. 14 Catalogs for Complete Details of All Justrite Lamps and Lanterns. The Only Camp Stove, Soldering Iron and Blow Torch.

### EXPORT PRICE GUIDE No. 23—Catalogue No. 4

DECEMBER 15, 1923

Justrite Carbide Lamps and Accessories, Camp Stove and Soldering Iron

O. B. Packing for Export Included.

PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

NOTE: Catalogue numbers are arranged consecutively under each heading.

Name	Price	No.	Name	Price
Camp Stove	\$ 2.00	300	Carbide Lamp	\$ 1.00
Lantern	2.00	301	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Soldering Iron	2.00	302	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Hunter's Headlight	3.00	303	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	304	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	305	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	306	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	307	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	308	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	309	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	310	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	311	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	312	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	313	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	314	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	315	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	316	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	317	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	318	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	319	Carbide Lamp	1.00
Lamp	3.00	320	Carbide Lamp	1.00

The price guide in the back of the catalog dates it to December 1923.



# Patent Models, Prototypes, Copies — or Just Modern Fakes?

*by Al Winters*

Patented miners candlesticks are very collectible and it is almost beyond belief that inventors could apply for and receive approximately 88 patents for a simple metal device used to hold a candle. The Washburn, patented in 1872, was the first candlestick to receive a patent and the Huuskanen, received the last patent in 1917. Patented miners candlesticks seldom have a stamping and often do not exactly resemble the patent drawing.

When a candlestick is marked and resembles the patent drawing you can be sure of its authenticity. When it resembles the patent you can be fairly sure of its authenticity. The unmarked Powell candlestick (patented June 1899 in Lead, SD) for example, follows the patent drawing exactly but is made of round rather than square stock. It was found in the immediate area where the inventor lived which gives it some authenticity. The Peacock (patented Aug. 1900 in Altman, CO) is not marked and only partially resembles the patent drawing. Three examples are known to have come from the Cripple Creek area which gives them authenticity. One of the examples however, is constructed differently than the other two. Does it perhaps represent a patent model, prototype, a period copy, or an outright fake. The minor design change of two identical sticks would significantly reduce the manufacturing cost?

A blacksmith would come up with what he thought was a new and better idea for a different locking mechanism, fuse cutter addition, flame snuffer, or what have you and build a model incorporating his new idea. If the finished product looked promising, he would possibly apply for a patent and take the prototype to a manufacturer to get a quote for machine production. If there were flaws in the original design an improved model was often pounded out and perhaps resubmitted. Three different examples of the Werntz candlestick (patented Dec. 1888 in Placerville, CA) are known and are assumed to represent the inventors attempt to improve his design. On the other hand do the two which do not exactly follow the patent drawing represent a patent model, copy, prototype or fake?

At the manufacturing plant, the blacksmith prototype may again require modification to improve the design, reduce costs or to facilitate machine production requirements. Whatever the reason, major changes in design were sometimes experienced. The Bernier candlestick (patented Aug. 1899 in Victor, CO) is a good example of what I believe is a manufacturing change. The actual hook and thimble arrangement of the production stick compared to the patent drawing is certainly a good example of a design change to reduce cost of machine manufacturing.

The following candlesticks compare the patented stick and what may be a patent model, a prototype, an old copy, or fake. In most cases the questionable stick is built much stronger and more mine resistant than the patented production example.

The first example is the Fielding & Peterson which was patented in Grants Pass, OR in 1903. The patented stick was produced from machine stampings with a very unique locking device and is certainly one of the more practical folders. A similar stick is essentially the same size but is handmade with a perfection that can only be obtained by a gunsmith or similar craftsman. The precision of the locking device and fitting of the parts is marvelous to behold. When you hold this stick you have to ask yourself why would anyone go to the trouble to make a reproduction of the Fielding & Peterson? It is simply too difficult a task to complete for any potential returns.



*Left: patent model, copy, prototype?  
Right: genuine Fielding & Peterson compared to the unmarked example.*



*Opened up: the real thing and the other version.*

The next example is that of the Jones patent which was patented in Oregon City, OR in 1883. The rare patented sticks are both marked and unmarked. The example shown is owned by Chuck Tesch and is unmarked. It is 6 inches long, delicate and would last in a mining environment but a few shifts. Another stick of similar design is 9 inches long and blacksmith made. The construction is crude, very substantial and could be expected to last in a mine

setting. One has to ask however; Why would anyone reproduce a stick with a design that simply wouldn't work? The candlestick came from Northern California via a grandson from Butte, MT.



*Above: Jones patent stick.*



*Above and below: Jones-like sticks.*

*Right: a genuine Eureka stick.*

The next example is the “Eureka” or Pateneau stick (patented in Helena, MT in 1883). The patented stick is both marked and follows the patent drawing exactly. When unfolded the reciprocating folder is 7 ? inches long. The weak characteristic of the stick design is the flimsy hook. The spike is secured by means of a tapered lug which fits into a tapered slot in the handle. The hook depends solely on the spring in the handle steel to hold it in the upright or folded position. This compares to another stick that is larger and built the same, but the locking device is secured by an additional tightening nut. It is of very good construction and presently believed to be in the collection of Mike Bergman. In the past, this stick was the subject of discussion concerning authenticity but in my opinion represents either a patent model





(it is cheaper to manufacture without a tightening nut) or an after market improvement by the inventor to try and make the stick sturdier.



*Right: a Eureka folder — folded.*



*Not quite a Eureka — patent model, copy, prototype or fake?*



*The "not quite" Eureka, unfolded.*

In the examples shown the sticks similar to the patents appear old. Other examples of candlesticks similar in design to patented sticks exist, but you can never be 100% sure, so it is up to the collector to determine the authenticity. A seller or proud owner is far less likely to claim a stick is a modern reproduction, and patent model status is nearly impossible to substantiate without additional documentation. Is it a Patent Model, Prototype, Copy or Fake? You be the judge!

# Cast Aluminum Wick Lamps

*by Dave Johnson*

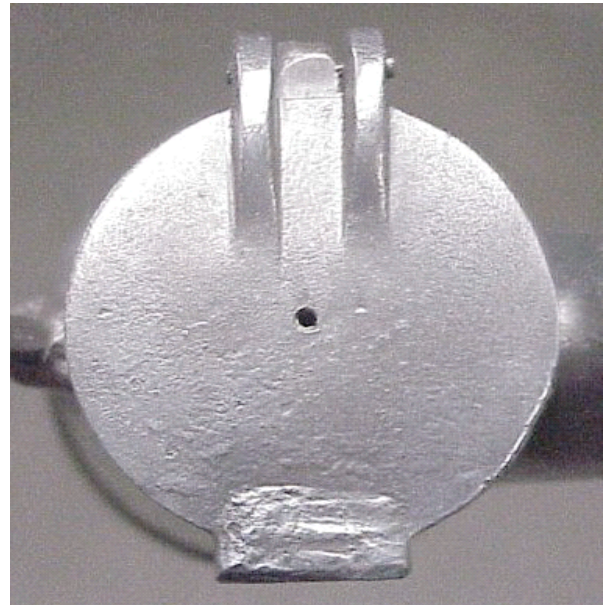
Most miners' oil-wick cap lamps were manufactured of thin sheet steel and many were tin-plated to protect the steel from rusting. This tin-plating has resulted in many people erroneously referring to them as "tin" lamps rather than tin-plated. After steel, the next most common material used was sheet brass, followed by sheet copper. There were also several combinations of materials — steel and brass, steel and copper, brass and copper, steel, copper and brass.

The material used least often by oil-wick lamp manufacturers was cast aluminum, which required an entirely different manufacturing process than the sheet metal lamps. Shown here are seven different models of cast aluminum oil-wick cap lamps. Two of them are much more common than the other five, these are the two marked PAT. APD. FOR.



*Above: PAT. APD. FOR lamp.*





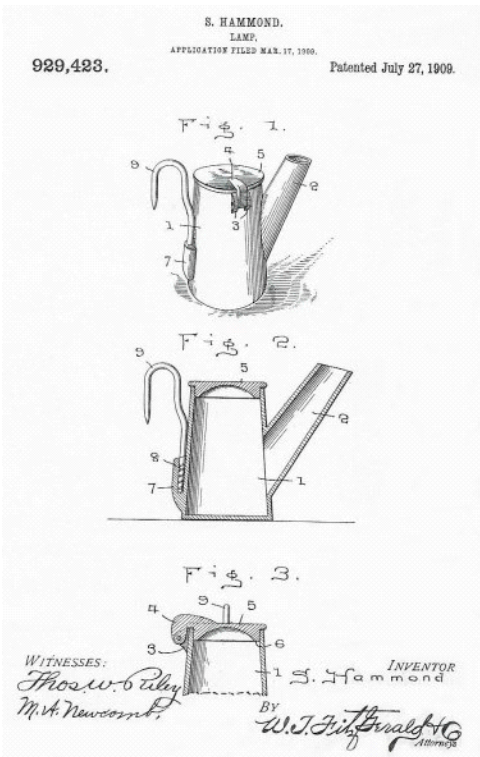
*Above: A second variety PAT. APD. FOR lamp.*

The only cast aluminum oil-wick cap lamp with a name appearing on it is the rare NO MELT lamp with the raised cast name appearing vertically on the side of the font shown here. This lamp also has the patent date of JULY 27, 1909 cast into the lid. This patent date corresponds to patent number 929,423 issued to Scott Hammond of Freeport, Stephenson County, Illinois. This lamp measures 2 1/8" to the top of the lid.



*Above: The NO MELT lamp follows the 1909 Hammond Patent shown next page*





*Left: Hammond patent as followed by the No Melt lamp.*

Hammond’s patent addresses a lamp with a “one piece cast body and spout“. The patent also addresses “a pair of ears cast integral with the body and adjacent the upper end thereof between which is pivotally secured a tongue, which tongue is integral with a cover, said cover having a flange which is adapted to extend into the upper end of the body and form a perfect closure.” The patent further states that “the outer face of the body is also provided with an integrally cast socket which is cast around the threaded end of a suspension hook thereby making the hook a fixture with the body and holding the same against removal from the socket.” The patent finally states “By constructing the lamp in this manner and casting the various parts thereof, it will be readily seen that the lamp will be indestructible and will have no joint of points of leakage and it will be further seen that the lamp may be cheaply constructed and

comparatively light and will not become battered and broken as is the case with lamps constructed of tin and similar metal.”

This lamp was also produced without the NO MELT name or patent date as shown in the example pictured here. This lamp is identical to the No Melt and may have been produced prior to the July 27, 1909 patent.



*Above: A small cast aluminum lamp that is identical to the NO MELT, but without stamping.*

*Right: Cast lamp with match striking surface and drip ring on spout.*

One of the PAT APD FOR lamps mentioned earlier is a slightly larger model cap lamp with small letters and the other is a slightly smaller lamp with larger letters. The larger lamp measures 2 5/8" to the top of the lid and the smaller lamp measures 2 7/8" to the top of the lid. The smaller lamp has the spout sitting higher on the side of the font than the slightly



larger model. The lid of the larger lamp has a small cast tab to facilitate opening the lid, while the smaller lamp does not have this feature. The lid hinges on the two lamps are identical. These hinges differ from Hammond's patent in that on the No Melt lamp the two cast "ears" are integral to the lamp font, while on the PAT APD FOR lamps the "ears" are integral to the lid. On both the NO MELT and the PAT APD FOR lamps the lid is attached with a steel pin. As many collectors know, steel and aluminum are not a good combination. With age, the steel pin reacts with the aluminum and the hinge no longer swings freely. In an effort to open the old lamps force is used and the weaker cast ears tend to snap off rather than the steel pin breaking. An unmarked lamp with the same hinge style as the PAT APD FOR is the unique lamp pictured here with a cast match striker on the side of the font. Also cast-in is a ring near the end of the spout and a raised spiral that runs around the spout. This lamp measures 2 3/8" tall to the top of the lid.

The last two cast lamps are of different but similar designs, they both have flat backs. The flat back allowed the lamp to side flat against the lamp bracket and not tip side to side as the round back lamps with wire hooks would do. The first of these is the very rare INDESTRUCTIBLE oil-wick lamp made by the American Safety Lamp and Mine Supply Co., manufacturers of many models of safety lamp and the Scranto carbide cap lamp. This lamp appeared in ASL&MSCo. advertisements but does not carry their name. This example measures 2 13/16" tall to the top of the lid. This lamp has the "ears" integral to the lid and the lid is held in place by a brass pin, a much better design than the steel pinned lids found on the other cast oil-wicks.





*Above: The flat backed "Indestructible".*

The last cast oil-wick lamp is a real anomaly, it is another flat back lamp but the manufacturer never completed it. There is no lid, no hinge, and the opening to the font was never machined to accept a lid. The steel hook is very thin wire, much thinner than any other full-size oil-wick cap lamp I have ever seen. The base of the font flares out to give the lamp more stability when sitting.



*Above: an unfinished flat backed lamp.*

I am aware of another cast aluminum oil-wick with a squared spout, making it very unusual. Cast aluminum oil-wicks are just another of the myriad differences found in oil-wick cap lamps. There seems to be no end to the differences that can be found among oil-wick cap lamps.

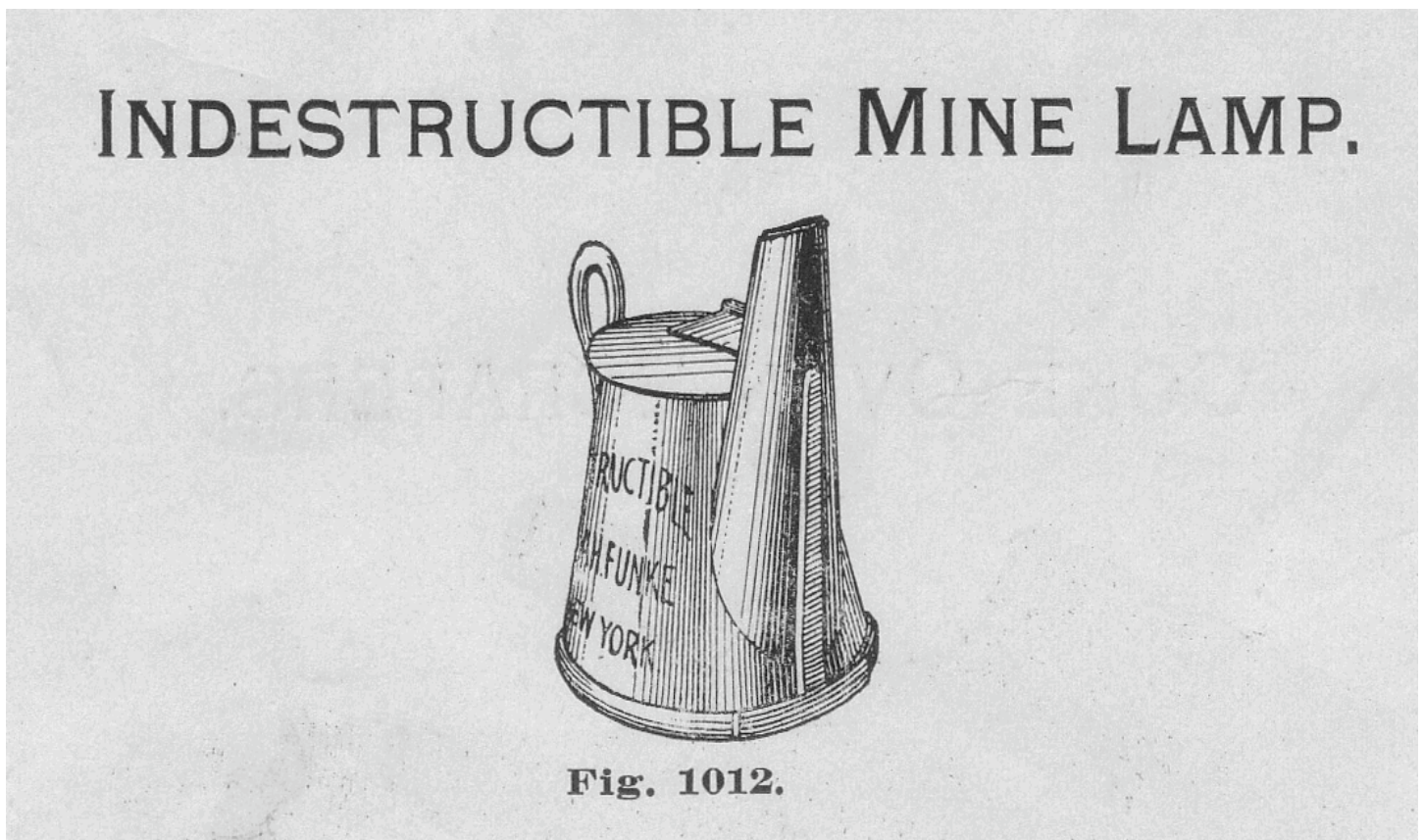


# Funke's Indestructible Lamp

*by Dave Thorpe*

The Indestructible name is most often associated with a cast aluminum oil-wick lamp that was made by the American Safety Lamp and Mine Supply Co. of Scranton, PA. They have neither the Indestructible name nor the company name stamped into the lamp, rather they are known as "Indestructible" from advertisements.

Yet there was another Indestructible lamp made of sheet metal that was manufactured by A. H. Funke of New York. The image below is from a 1902 Miller Supply Catalog of Huntington, WV. The lamp shown is stamped with both the Indestructible name as well as the maker. The text tells us that the lamp was made more indestructible by adding a reinforcing bar along the spout. Such a lamp has been found by John Leahy as is shown here.





*Funke's Indestructible lamp, John Leahy collection. Note the reinforcing bar that is an inverted "T".*

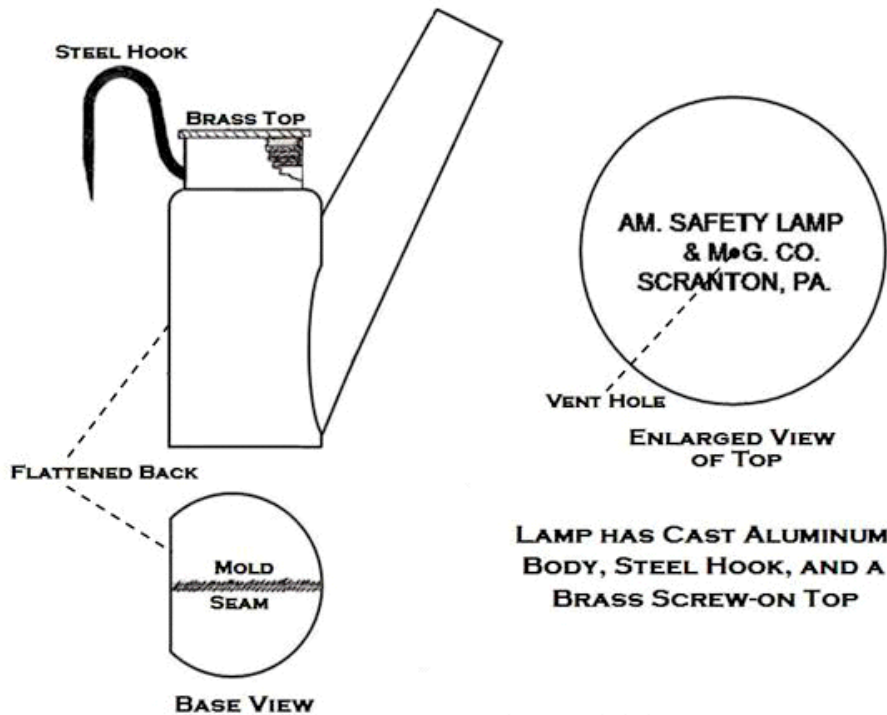
Is reinforced with a steel shoe along the spout, and around the bottom, to receive the oft repeated blows given by the miner, when knocking up the wick.

This constant knocking causes the ordinary lamp soon to leak around the spout, and become useless. Our steel shoe receives all this shock without damage, causing the lamp to last indefinitely. Made with either hinged cover or screw top.



# The Indestructible: Early Model

by John Leahy



Above is a sketch of an early version of the cast aluminum Indestructible oil-wick lamp. I believe this screw-top model predates the more usual version with a hinged door. The advertisement shown below is from 1898. The screw-top lamp would predate this. It is noteworthy that the stamping on the door of this lamp is American Safety Lamp & Mfg. Co. — different from the more recent American Safety Lamp & Mine Supply Co. I have also seen the Funke sheet metal Indestructible lamp as shown in Dave Thorpe's article, however the lamp was all but destroyed with rust and pitting.

## **SAFETY LAMPS, ALL TYPES.**

American Manufacture.

EVERY LAMP GUARANTEED PERFECT.

GLASSES, IRON OR COPPER GAUZZES, AND ALL PARTS FOR ANY MAKE OF SAFETY LAMPS.  
REPAIRING PROMPTLY DONE.

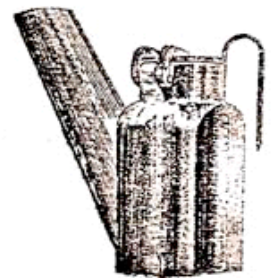
### **SEAMLESS ALUMINUM HEAD-LAMPS**

CAST IN ONE PIECE. With Either Brass or Steel Hook.  
No Spout or Hooks to Melt off.

### **GREASE CUPS,**

Brattice Cloth, Pneumatic Signal Gongs, Cotton Duck, Mine Whistles, General Brass and Aluminum Work.

**AMERICAN SAFETY LAMP & MINE SUPPLY CO., Scranton, Pa.**



SEAMLESS ALUMINUM HEAD-LAMP  
SEND FOR CATALOGUE



# Restoration of Miner's Candlesticks

*by Al Winters*

Several collectors have written articles on their efforts to repair, restore and preserve both oil and carbide lamps. The techniques developed were largely by trial and error and most likely involved many failures and I might add tears before their techniques were successful. Excellent work has been documented and shared by several of our present day collectors and our hats are off and thanks given to these craftsmen. Fewer collectors have probably attempted to repair candlesticks but excellent work has been achieved and noted. Roger Peterson, undoubtedly the most talented of today's craftsmen, has developed the techniques and experience to tackle the most difficult of repairs. Roger published an article in the spring issue of *The Mining Review* in 1997 called *Restoring Mining Artifacts* and discussed several of his projects, the rewards of preservation of these beautiful and rare artifacts and his ideals regarding marking and restoration.

Repair or restoration of artifacts will always be controversial and collectors will have to judge for themselves what their personal thoughts are regarding the subject. I have personally made a few repairs and believe that restoration is of great benefit in certain cases and not in others. I have also purchased a couple of replacement parts such as the wind shield for the Kelly candlestick and spare reflectors for a few carbide lamps used for my personal display purposes. The following three examples of candlestick restoration are illustrated for your review and thoughts. I chose to have these three patented candlesticks restored as the damage was severe and I felt strongly that these patented sticks because of their rarity, should be restored to near their original design or construction. Great effort went into the design, manufacture and patenting of these candlesticks and I felt restoration would honor those efforts. Two of the candlesticks are the only examples known and only a couple examples of the third may actually exist.



## **Viera Candlestick**

This first candlestick surfaced a few years back and was patented November 1, 1910 by Antonio Viera of Ray, Arizona Territory. The stick has a unique locking system employing a steel spring attached from the handle which forces both the hook and thimble to remain in the upright or folded position. The stick does not exactly follow the patent design but the locking

mechanism is so unique as to verify its authenticity. The stick as found had the handle broken off. As this is the only known example of the Viera patent and one of the few (if not the only) surviving patented examples from Arizona, I asked Roger Peterson if he felt it could be repaired. The challenge proved too much for Roger and he accepted. He later termed the artifact as the

“Candlestick From Hell” because of the difficulty in the repair and welding. The metal at the handle break was comprised of two layers of steel brazed together which of course presented all kinds of problems in attaching the new handle. The following pictures illustrate the before and after as well as Roger's talent.



*Viera stick repaired.*

### **Huuskanen Combined Lamp-Holder and Candlestick**

This second example was Patented December 4, 1917 by William Huuskanen of Butte, Montana. This was the last patented candlestick and incorporated a lamp holder as well. I purchased the candlestick years ago. It was painted gold and eventually the candle holder and hook broke at the sharp bend of the metal strap following the lamp ring. I simply bent the strap outward and showed the holder as a lamp stick for several years. Later, after obtaining a copy of Wilson's patent book, I realized what the artifact actually was and contacted Peterson who just happened to have the other known



example. Again I called on Roger to make the repairs and an excellent job was completed. To my knowledge only two exact examples of the patent are known with a third variation in existence. As this was a machine stamped product, there likely will exist additional examples.





*Huuskanen stick repaired.*

The timing of the patent however, would have limited the numbers as the carbide lighting in the Butte mines had become standard prior to the patent date. One can just imagine an old time Finnish miner who had reluctantly changed to a carbide lamp but still hesitated to trust it enough to go without his candle. The following pictures show the artifact before, after and fully loaded with candle and lamp.

### **Cox Candlestick**



This third example was patented August 17, 1886 by Thomas Cox of Gloster, Montana Territory. The stick was purchased from an e-bay dealer a year ago and was recently the subject



of discussion in the Eureka Forum. I decided to try and restore this stick as it is the only known example of the Cox Patent with the patented outside spring and candle lock. The handle was broken and the stick severely rusted. Most people, without knowledge of what the item was, would have thrown it out as a piece of rusted junk. Liquid Wrench and a lot of elbow grease, wire brushing and some sanding took care of most of the rust and I was able to weld on a new handle after cutting the broken ends off square. The following pictures show the artifact before and after the restoration.



*Thomas Cox stick after repair.*

Again, restoration is up to the collector and repairs should always be documented. Most importantly, major candlestick restoration should only be attempted by a qualified craftsman who appreciates the significance of the artifact and its historical value.

## Joseph Cooke (Birmingham)

# Safety Lamp

*by Jim Van Fleet*

I'm happy to report a lamp find from central Pennsylvania, a fairly unusual one from the home turf of American Safety and Mine Supply and other US lamp manufacturers. When I found this beauty in a local antique shop, all I knew was that it was a Davy style safety lamp, and I guessed it might be from a European maker. The lamp top bears a very faint maker's stamp, possibly a triangle, with the letters C and B visible.



The original owner was

proud of this lamp, or very protective, and had his name stamped on it in large bold letters, both on the oil font and the lamp body. 'Edwin W. Davies' was my second clue that this was likely a British or Welsh safety lamp.







In the age of the Internet and instant gratification, it took me only one day and two emails to find out what I wanted to know! Manfred Stutzer, the Eureka! correspondent and resident expert on safety lamps suggested that the maker was Joseph Cooke, Birmingham. David Barrie, author of *The Wand of Science* reference book and web site (<http://www.thewandofscience.co.uk/>) confirms the maker, and sent me

some very helpful text and images from his safety lamp references, including a drawing of the complete logo. The stamped numeral 10 on both the lock and the oil font is also a common Cooke feature.

As David points out, the hinged wind shield “was a Cooke speciality; you could just open it when you needed to do a gas test, closing it when the ventilation current was too strong.” Joseph Cooke apparently made safety lamps in Birmingham from 1854 to 1918. Having found out this much so easily, I did some genealogical research and found an Edwin W. Davies, born in Mountain Ash, Wales in 1864. He emigrated to the United States in 1884 and lived in Kinston, PA where he worked as a superintendent at a coal mine. A passport photo from 1923 is shown right.





The lamp body is brass, including the hook and the locking eye on top. It stands 8 inches tall not counting the hook. The hinged parts of the wind shield are held together with a wire pin, possibly steel. The wick holder and wick “pricker” inside the oil font look like they are steel. The very bottom of the lamp is also steel, and these all show some minor rust. The lock is a simple threaded steel screw. Although the lamp appears to have been polished with Brasso or some similar white paste (which fills in the lettering and makes Edwin’s name stand out), it is still an amazing example of preservation and the durability of brass.



### Baby Wolf Safety Lamp Fille by Dave Johnson

It seems there is no end to the new mining artifacts that keep appearing. Anyone other than a newbie artifact collector is aware of the full-size and baby Wolf safet Most collectors, if they don't own one, have at least seen the Wolf safety lamp filler, but how many of us have seen a Baby



# Baby Wolf Safety Lamp Filler

*by Dave Johnson*

It seems there is no end to the new mining artifacts that keep appearing. Anyone other than a newbie artifact collector is aware of the full-size and baby Wolf safety lamps. Most collectors, if they don't own one, have at least seen the Wolf safety lamp filler, but how many of us have seen a Baby Wolf safety lamp filler. I definitely had not seen or heard of such an item, not until I recently saw one listed on ebay. This was one of those "got to have items" so I checked the piggy bank and put in my bid. Fortunately, no one thought as much of this unusual item as I did and I ended up as the successful bidder.

The full-size lamp filler is solid brass, as is the baby filler. Both have threaded filler spouts and a threaded lid at the end of the filler spout, and they are interchangeable between the two fillers. Both have Wolf brass labels. The full-size filler measures 15" tall to the top of the filler spout cap, the baby filler measures 10" tall to the top of the filler spout cap. The full-size filler measures 8 1/8" tall to the base of the sloped shoulder, the baby filler measures 6 1/16" to the base of its much less sloping shoulder. The full-size filler measures 3" in diameter at the base, the baby filler measures 1 7/8" in diameter at the base. Both have the filler caps attached with a chain to keep them from being lost.





# Youngs' Patent Oil Wick Lamp

by Dave Johnson

What exactly is the odd sounding occupation of coal getter? According to *The History, Topography, and Directory of the County Palatine of Durham* by Francis Whellan. Second edition published in 1894, "The actual coal getter is the one who is directly employed in digging and filling away the coal. This work while it lasts is of all the occupations in a coal-mine the most laborious. Whether the seam be so narrow that he can only creep into it on his hands and knees, or whether it be lofty enough for him to stand upright in, he is the responsible workman who loosens the coal from its bed. All the arrangements below ground are made to suit him; he is in fact the centre of the mining system. The getters are divided into what are called fore-shift and back-shift men. The former are usually roused by the caller at three in the morning, commence work at four, and leave off at eleven. The back-shift men start at ten, and cease work at four. All the men work in each shift one week alternately. For all the working places in a colliery "cavels" or lots are drawn as to which places the men are to work during the ensuing three months. This system prevents them from being subject to the caprice or favor of the overmen, and may account in some degree for the spirit of sturdy independence which so strongly characterizes the northern miner." The coal getter was the skilled miner, the most highly paid underground worker. I have also heard these individuals referred to as a faceman, hewer and coal digger.



Few mining artifacts are actually marked with the word miners' and even fewer the unusual term getters'. The lamp shown here carries both terms. It is a Scottish-style oilwick cap lamp stamped YOUNG'S PATENT MINERS' OR GETTERS' LAMP. While the Scottish-style oilwick is a unique shape, this oilwick lamp is unique among Scottish-style lamps both for its stamping and for several physical attributes. Of the 71 Scottish-style oilwick cap lamps in my collection, this is the only steel one to have a copper wick tube. It is also the only one (steel brass or copper) to have holes in the wick tube, vent holes in the outer spout brace, holes around the wick tube where it pierces the outer spout brace and the hanging hook attached to a bracket made of fine wire mesh that is soldered to the front. The only function I see for this mesh is to act as a match striker. This is truly a unique little lamp.





Having tracked all known oilwick names for years, when I first saw this lamp listed on ebay I recognized the Youngs' Patent to be a new name. It is the only Scottish-style oilwick I have seen that makes any reference to a patent, either being patented or a patent date.

In the photos shown in the listing the Young's Patent stamping could be made out. However, I could see that there was a stamping on the other side of the lamp that the seller did not include in the listing and that was not legible in the photo. When asked about this, the seller could not see the second stamping.

It was not until I received the lamp that I was able to determine that it said Miners' or Getters' Lamp. The lamp was covered with a heavy coat of gold paint that was obviously added after the lamp was used (see before photos). When the paint was removed the two deep stampings were fully revealed. While obviously used, this lamp was not at all beat up. It stands 2 7/8" tall to the top of the dome lid.





*The lamp as it appeared on eBay before removing old paint.*



