



A Patent That Does Not Exist

by Dave Johnson

Patent dates on oilwick lamps are seen stamped on the font, spouts, bottom and cap of the lamp. The lamp pictured here has PAT'D Nov. 15, 89 clearly stamped on the wire hook in very tiny print. This is not a legitimate patent date as no patents were issued on November 15, 1889. This is the second oil wick I have found that has a non-existent patent date.



Other than displaying a non-existent patent, what sets this lamp apart from most other oilwicks is the double hook. Of the 15 oil wicks in my collection with double hooks, this is one of only three which has a double hook made from a single wire.

Made of tinned steel, except for the brass hinge wire, this lamp measures 2 5/8" high to the top of the cap. The single spout measures 3 1/16" in length and the base is 1 5/8" in diameter. The shoulder and collar are single piece construction.

