

# Miners' Oil Wick Lamp Patents *by Dave Johnson*

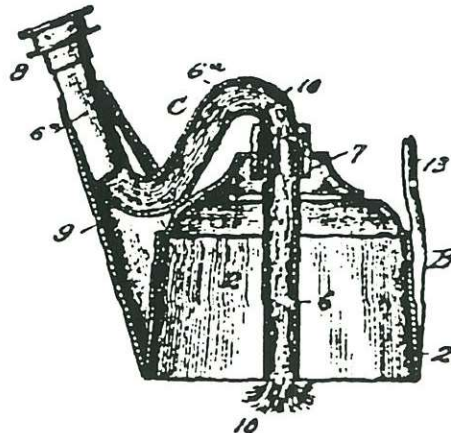
The first patent for a miner's oilwick lamp was granted on May 13, 1862 and the last patent was granted on April 20, 1915, a period of 53 years. It is interesting that 66 (58.4%) of the 113 oilwick patents were granted to applicants in the state of Pennsylvania, more than the other 15 states and Canada together. Twelve of these sixteen states were commercial coal producers. It was in the coal mines that the oilwick lamp saw its greatest use. The notable exception was in the iron mines of Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota and the copper mines of Michigan. In the western hardrock mines, miners generally went from candle holders directly to carbide lamps, without the intermediary oilwicks seen in the Lake Superior Region. In the coal mines candleholders of the type used in hardrock mines were seldom seen.

The oilwick lamps gave off more light than a candle and were less easily extinguished by air currents in the mine. The oilwick lamp was worn on the cap so that the miner always had his light in his immediate working area and always had both hands free when moving about the mine. The hardrock miners used candleholders that were carried by hand and then placed in a timber or rock crevice. The candleholders used in the Lake Superior copper and iron mines had the closed hook that allowed the stick to be hung from a cap or helmet. For these miners the progression from cap mounted candleholder to cap mounted oilwick was natural.

## Number of Patents by State

Pennsylvania	66
Ohio	7
Illinois	6
Michigan	6
Colorado	3
Kentucky	3
Oregon	3
W. Virginia	3
Wyoming	3
Canada	2
Indiana	2
Montana	2
Texas	2
Wisconsin	2
Iowa	1
New York	1
South Dakota	1
	113

**622,742. MINER'S LAMP.** JOHN D. WILLIAMS, Sherodsville, Ohio. Filed Mar. 15, 1898. Serial No. 673,894. (No model.)



PAT.#	. PAT. DATE	PATENTEE	STATE	PAT.#	. PAT. DATE	PATENTEE	STATE
28,594	May 10, 1898	Eugene F. Long(Design)	PA	643,281	Feb. 13, 1900	Richard C. West	PA
35,264	May 13, 1862	Wm. Seybold	PA	678,852	July 23, 1901	Christopher L. Anton	PA
49,477	Aug. 15, 1865	Wm. McClave	PA	686,290	Nov. 12, 1901	Michael F. Hammond	PA
75,603	Mar. 17, 1868	George W. Trimble	PA	718,129	Jan. 13, 1903	John Jacobsen	ONT
90,434	May 25, 1869	W. G. Dowd	PA	730,907	June 16, 1903	Thomas Gossack	MT
90,963	June 8, 1869	William Seybold	PA	744,686	Nov. 17, 1903	Lawrence J. Husson	MI
90,967	June 8, 1869	John S. Sommerville	PA	756,151	Mar. 29, 1904	John Anton	PA
115,143	May 23, 1871	William C. Winfield	OH	757,189	Apr. 12, 1904	Joshua A. Hadley, Edward B. Putnam	IN
126,606	May 7, 1872	William C. Winfield	OH	764,700	July 12, 1904	George Anton	PA
163,414	May 18, 1875	James Sawyer	IL	787,678	Apr. 18, 1905	Ferdinan Koch	PA
167,323	Aug. 31, 1875	William Eynon, R. C. Cook	PA	791,276	May 30, 1905	Eugene F. Long	PA
171,675	Jan. 4, 1876	James C. Marshall	PA	796,870	Aug. 8, 1905	William J. Rump	PA
176,650	Apr. 25, 1876	John Q. Lee	PA	802,978	Oct. 31, 1905	Gustavus A. Duncan	SD
180,258	July 25, 1876	James C. Moore	PA	804,659	Nov. 14, 1905	David E. Herron	OH
188,705	Mar. 20, 1877	Josiah J. Weinel	PA	809,111	Jan. 2, 1906	Richard J. Jenkins	MT
204,628	June 4, 1878	James C. Smythe	PA	814,241	Mar. 6, 1906	Frank A. Smith	CO
217,791	July 22, 1879	John H. Gable	PA	816,725	Apr. 3, 1906	Edwin D. Hodson	IL
219,352	Sept. 9, 1879	John Fleming	PA	818,871	Apr. 24, 1906	Thomas T. Carter, Samuel J. Thompson	WV
220,582	Oct. 14, 1879	J. O. Davies, J. O. Jones, T. Thomas	PA	829,824	Aug. 28, 1906	Rudolph Zicha	OH
227,333	May 4, 1880	Louis Weihe	PA	839,002	Dec. 18, 1907	Peter S. Keenan	WY
229,117	June 22, 1880	Edward Gough	PA	853,078	May 7, 1907	Ralph L. Graves	OR
229,351	June 29, 1880	John A. Anton	PA	862,027	July 30, 1907	Frank A. Smith	CO
229,929	July 13, 1880	Jacob Vogeles	PA	869,049	Oct. 22, 1907	Phillip Birch	PA
252,284	Jan. 10, 1882	D. D. Williams	PA	884,199	Apr. 7, 1908	Charles Murray	PA
258,802	May 30, 1882	Henry F. Pearce	PA	886,204	Apr. 28, 1908	Ralph L. Graves	OR
268,994	Dec. 12, 1882	James Sawyer	IL	886,441	May 6, 1908	Samuel J. Thompson	WV
279,503	June 12, 1883	Edward K. Rollins	PA	888,768	May 26, 1908	William Tunnessen	PA
280,738	July 3, 1883	Richard W. Grimes, John Fern	PA	892,836	July 7, 1908	August Husson	WI
281,846	July 24, 1883	John B. Deeds, Wm. Mack	IN	894,587	July 28, 1908	Alfred Brile	WY
284,865	Sept. 11, 1883	Charles A. Lee	TX	903,064	Nov. 3, 1908	Louis Eisenbeis	IA
301,495	July 8, 1884	John Hamilton	PA	918,611	Apr. 20, 1909	William Tunnessen	PA
320,287	June 16, 1885	Henry J. Richards	PA	920,882	May 4, 1909	Charles M. Rimmel	PA
326,858	Sept. 22, 1885	John Fern, John Fern	PA	923,655	June 1, 1909	Zachariah Hough, Leslie F. Weaver	PA
335,041	Jan. 26, 1886	Henry J. Richards	PA	925,077	June 15, 1909	Alfred Brile	WY
373,244	Nov. 15, 1887	John L. Morris	PA	929,428	July 27, 1909	Scott Hammond	IL
410,562	Sept. 3, 1889	Warren C. Rockwell	PA	934,243	Sept. 14, 1909	Adletia M. VanLiew	MI
427,013	Apr. 29, 1890	Henry J. Richards	PA	941,897	Nov. 30, 1909	John VanLiew	MI
431,733	July 8, 1890	Frederic M. Anton	PA	942,823	Dec. 7, 1909	Ralph L. Graves	OR
431,734	July 8, 1890	George Anton	PA	944,171	Dec. 21, 1909	Thomas A. Black	PA
435,120	Aug. 26, 1890	Peter J. Miller	PA	949,318	Feb. 15, 1909	Thomas Davis, Robert F. Monteith	PA
438,490	Oct. 14, 1890	John Ratz	PA	974,690	Nov. 1, 1910	Dominick Miglio	MI
439,656	Nov. 4, 1890	George Hayes	PA	982,612	Jan. 24, 1911	George Laws	PA
478,487	July 5, 1892	Julius R. Watts	IL	995,909	June 20, 1911	James A. Roush	PA
519,616	May 8, 1894	William P. McMasters	PA	998,466	July 18, 1911	John Chevallard	OH
535,136	Mar. 5, 1895	William M. Harrison	PA	1,011,868	Dec. 12, 1911	Matthew F. Smith	KY
541,948	July 2, 1895	William G. Price	PA	1,016,645	Feb. 6, 1912	William E. Pinkney	WV
564,450	July 21, 1896	Edward J. O'Keefe	PA	1,024,362	Apr. 23, 1912	William P. Rice	KY
567,099	Sept. 1, 1896	Charles H. Hobson	PA	1,032,130	July 9, 1912	Frank L. Flynn	PA
574,821	Jan. 5, 1897	Moses Raker	PA	1,037,948	Sept. 10, 1912	Edward C. Mangin	CO
584,780	Jun. 22, 1897	Charles H. Hobson	PA	1,052,075	Feb. 4, 1913	Claude V. Martin	OH
589,441	Sept. 7, 1897	Robert A. Miller	MI	1,062,504	May 20, 1913	William P. Rice	KY
597,840	Jan. 25, 1898	Hugh Dixon	CAN	1,068,533	July 29, 1913	Carl G. Sallander	TX
600,418	Mar. 8, 1898	William D. Grace	PA	1,080,050	Dec. 2, 1913	Charles Dushek	WI
622,742	Apr. 11, 1899	John D. Williams	OH	1,090,250	Mar. 17, 1914	John VanLiew	IL
623,370	Apr. 18, 1899	Peter Home	MI	1,099,753	June 9, 1914	William H. Logan	PA
628,653	July 11, 1899	William A. Dunlap	PA	1,136,303	Apr. 20, 1915	Stanley J. Yellen	NY
643,112	Feb. 13, 1900	William A. Dunlap	PA				

*Special thanks to Paul and Nancy Hyatt for sharing their research on patents and adding to this list.*