

A Patented English Clanny Lamp

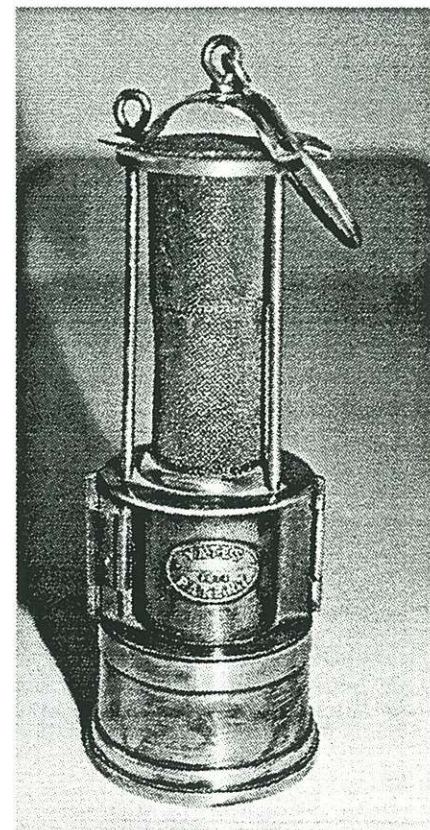
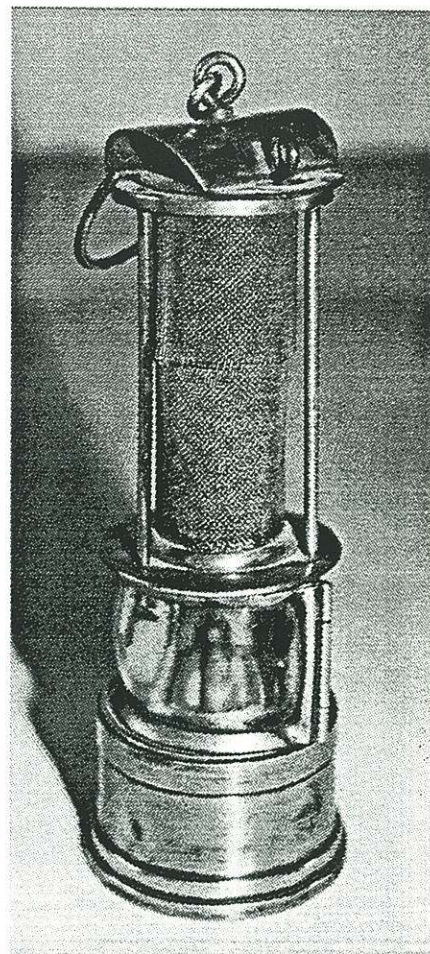
by Manfred Stutzer

Recently, while on a visit to England and the huge antique fair near Newark-on-Trent, I found a clanny safety lamp I have never seen before. This lamp has three remarkable differences from ordinary clanny lamps:

1. It is fitted with a thick "bulls-eye" glass lens on one side.
2. On the reverse is a maker's sign, with the embossed letters YATES 1871 PATENT.
3. It has a locking device similar to the Cosset-Dubrulle oil safety lamps from France.

This locking device is the subject of the lamp patent. I received a copy of the patent letter dated October 9th, 1871. The patent number is 2677, and was given to William Yates, of Upper Bedford Place, in the County of Middlesex, for the invention of "Improvements in Miners' Lamps."

I consider this lamp to be one of my favourite flame safety lamps!





A.D. 1871, 9th OCTOBER. N° 2677.

Miners' Lamps.

LETTERS PATENT to William Yates, of Upper Bedford Place, in the County of Middlesex, for the Invention of "IMPROVEMENTS IN MINERS' LAMPS"

Sealed the 9th April 1872, and dated the 9th October 1871.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said William Yates at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 9th October 1871.

I, WILLIAM YATES, of Upper Bedford Place, in the County of Middlesex, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "IMPROVEMENTS IN MINERS' LAMPS" to be as follows:—

The object of this Invention is to construct miners' lamps in such a manner that they cannot be tampered with or opened by the miner without first extinguishing the light, thus preventing all risk of explosions in the mine from an exposure of the naked flame.

To this end I adapt to the body of the lamp a locking pin, which will prevent the lower part from being unscrewed or detached from the upper part until such pin is drawn back. This locking pin is constantly kept pressed forward by means of a spring behind it, and it is provided with an arm which bears against a shoulder or block on a screwed pin which works the wick carrier up and down. This screwed pin is provided outside the lamp with a milled head or equivalent device, v/hereby it can be turned.

The operation of these parts is as follows:—Before the bottom part of the lamp can be unscrewed and detached from the upper, the locking pin must be drawn down by unscrewing the pin connected with the wick carrier. By so doing, however, the wick will be drawn down at the same time as the locking pin, and consequently the lamp will be extinguished before the lamp can be opened.

