

apothecary's four ounce measuring glass, lined inside with lamb's wool and silk. Into this cup is loosely fitted a plug of hard rubber, and these furnish the surfaces whose friction produces the electric spark. The cup, supported firmly on the bracket, is connected with the gas burner by a fine copper wire covered with silk, and terminating in a platinum point one-sixteenth of an inch from the aperture of the burner; merely lifting the rubber plug from its bed in the cup suffices to produce a spark, which, darting from the platinum point to the burner, ignites the escaping gas. This little apparatus, being without any fluid or screws, or any other adjustment than is described above, cannot get out of order by ordinary usage, and is always ready for instantaneous action. To render it infallible at all seasons and temperatures has been the inventor's chief anxiety, by the use of such materials for the friction surfaces as could not fail to produce a spark in the most unfavorable weather; and judging from the daily observation of one in our own dwelling during the present summer, at times when the exceedingly damp atmosphere would, if ever, interrupt its action, we are convinced that the present arrangement needs no improvement.

This elegant addition to our household convenience, when placed before the public (as it soon will be), will command universal attention and gratification.

The same principle is applied by the inventor in other forms. We have seen five burners of a chandelier simultaneously ignited by one turn of a screw. In this case the friction surfaces have the form of flat discs of about six inches in diameter, and merely raising one from the other with a slight twisting motion, causes a spark which is communicated to each burner by a separate wire conductor at the same moment.

Another form is that of a small brass tube enclosing a movable rod or piston, which slides from end to end of the tube as the latter is turned in the hand. The friction caused by the sliding of the piston produces the spark which is communicated to the burner when the tube is brought into juxtaposition with it. By this arrangement any gas jet may be ignited without either match or torch.

This is one of the neatest inventions it has ever been our fortune to witness; and will doubtless bring to its ingenious and philosophical contriver, what he justly deserves, an ample pecuniary return.—*Philadelphia Med. and Surg. Reporter.*