

18th Century Material Culture Fire Starting



Flint & Steel Tinder Boxes



All fire and no smoke, a very Good Flint or a very Good Steel, do you want a Good Flint and Steel?
Fou sans fumée, ou excellentes pierres à Feu.

“All fire and no smoke, a very Good Flint or a very Good Steel, do you want a Good Flint and Steel?”
by Paul Sandby, sold by F. Vivarez, Engraver on Newport Street 1760
(Lewis Walpole Library)

GRPO 00000342
08/27/2009



Fire Steel - Flint Striker
18th Century
(Grand Portage National Monument, Minnesota)

GRPO 00017119
08/27/2009



Fire Steel - Flint Striker
18th Century
(Grand Portage National Monument, Minnesota)



Fire Steel - Flint Strikers
Late 18th - Early 19th Century
(Skinner)



Fire Steel - Flint Strikers
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Fire Steel - Flint Strikers
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Tinder Boxes



Tinder Box, ca. 1710

Gift of Montgomery Schuyler, 1925

Inscribed: "P.S. 1710"

This brass tinder box belonged to Peter Schuyler, first mayor of Albany, N.Y. and grandfather of Philip Schuyler.

MC-277

Brass Tinder Box of Peter Schuyler, First Mayor of Albany, New York

1710

(Fort Ticonderoga)



Tinder Box, Fire Steel (Striker) & Flint
18th Century
(Private Collection)



Tinder Box & Striker
Late 18th Century
(Art Antiques Michigan)



Tinder Box & Striker
Late 18th Century
(Art Antiques Michigan)



Tinned Iron Tinder Box & Striker
Late 18th Century - Early 19th Century
(Antiques of Early America)



English Sheet Brass Tinder Box with Candle Holder & Striker
c. 1770 - 1800
(Wendy Hamilton Antiques)



English Sheet Brass Tinder Box with Candle Holder & Striker
c. 1770 - 1800
(Wendy Hamilton Antiques)



English or Dutch Brass Tinder Box with Candlestick
18th Century
(Chambersticks.com)



English or Dutch Brass Tinder Box with Candlestick
18th Century
(Chambersticks.com)



American, English or Dutch Brass Tinder Box with Candlestick
18th Century
(Chambersticks.com)



American, English or Dutch Brass Tinder Box with Candlestick
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(Chambersticks.com)



American, English or Dutch Brass Tinder Box with Candlestick
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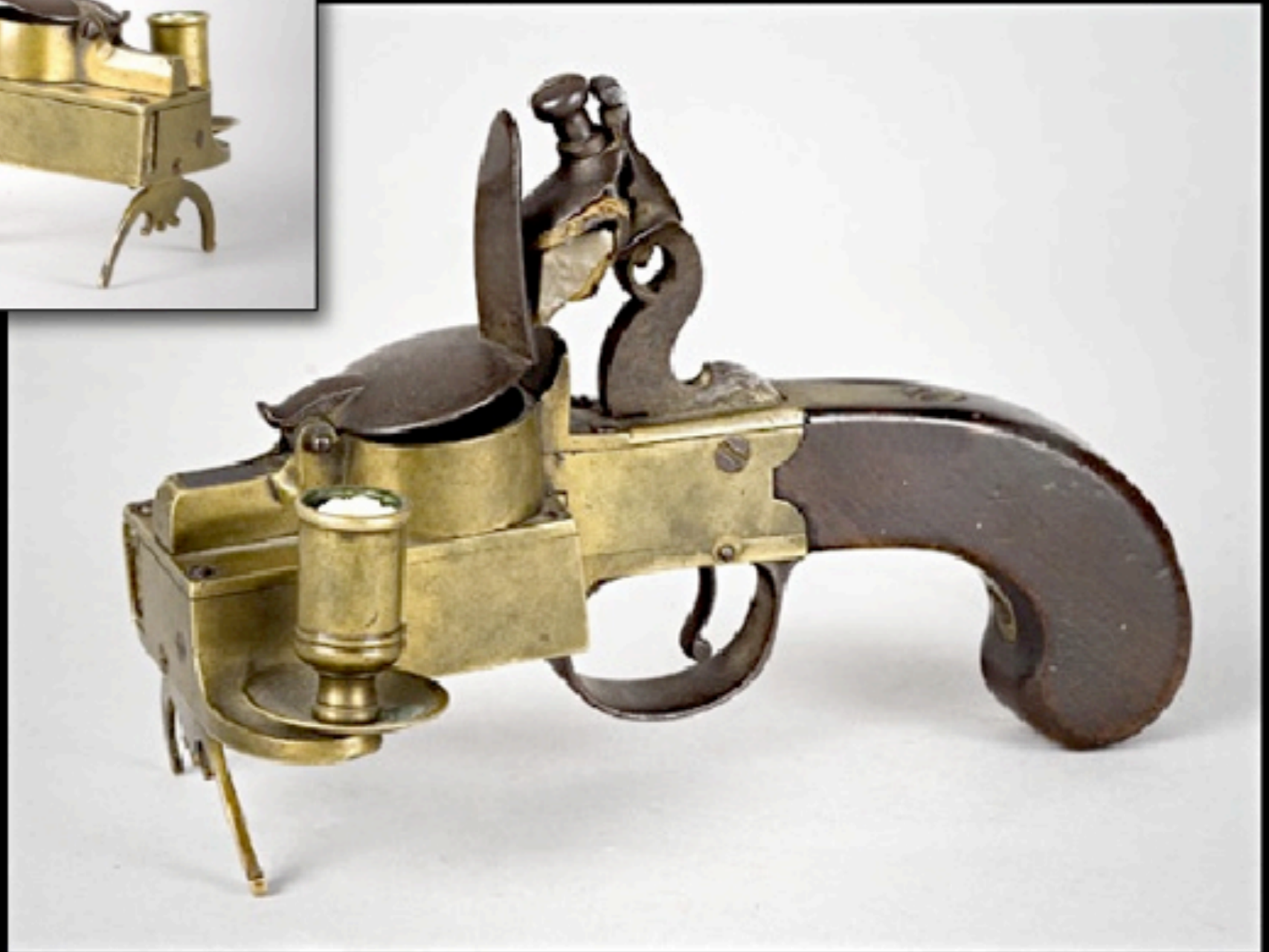


English Tin Tinder Box with Steel, Flint, Tow & Matches
c. 1775 - 1825
(The British Museum)

Powder Testers - Lighters



Flint and Steel Fire Lighter
Marked "JT" & "1776"
Once Owned by John Trumbell, Aide - De - Camp of General Washington
(Morristown National Historic Park)



English Powder Tester - Lighter with Candlestick
c. 1785
(Private Collection)



London Powder Tester - Lighter
London c. 1785



English Tinder Lighter
18th Century
(Skinner Auction House)



English Tinder Lighter
18th Century
(Skinner Auction House)



English Tinder Lighter
c. 1780
(Skinner Auction House)

Matches

Wood Tapers

Matches

Matches during the 17th and 18th centuries were sticks dipped on both ends with phosphorous of sulfur. They did not self ignite with friction. Held to hot embers or a spark within a piece of char cloth, they were used to light a pipe or start a fire with slightly greater ease. They were often sold in bundles by street venders.

The first modern self-igniting matches were introduced to the public in 1805 by Jean Chancel, assistant to French chemist Louis Jacques Thénard.





Russian Cinder Bowl & Sulfur Tipped Matches for Lighting a Pipe
by Pieter Claesz 1636
(The Hermitage, St. Petersburg, Russia)



Russian Cinder Bowl & a Bundle of Sulfur Tipped Matches for Lighting a Pipe
by Pieter Claesz 1636
(The Hermitage, St. Petersburg, Russia)



A Bundle of 24 Dutch Matches Matches Made From Dried Stems of Hemp Dipped in Sulphur
18th Century
5" Long
(National Museums Scotland)



The Cries of the City of London "Any Card matches or Savealls"
by Marcellus Laroon II c. 1688, Republished c. 1750
(The British Museum)



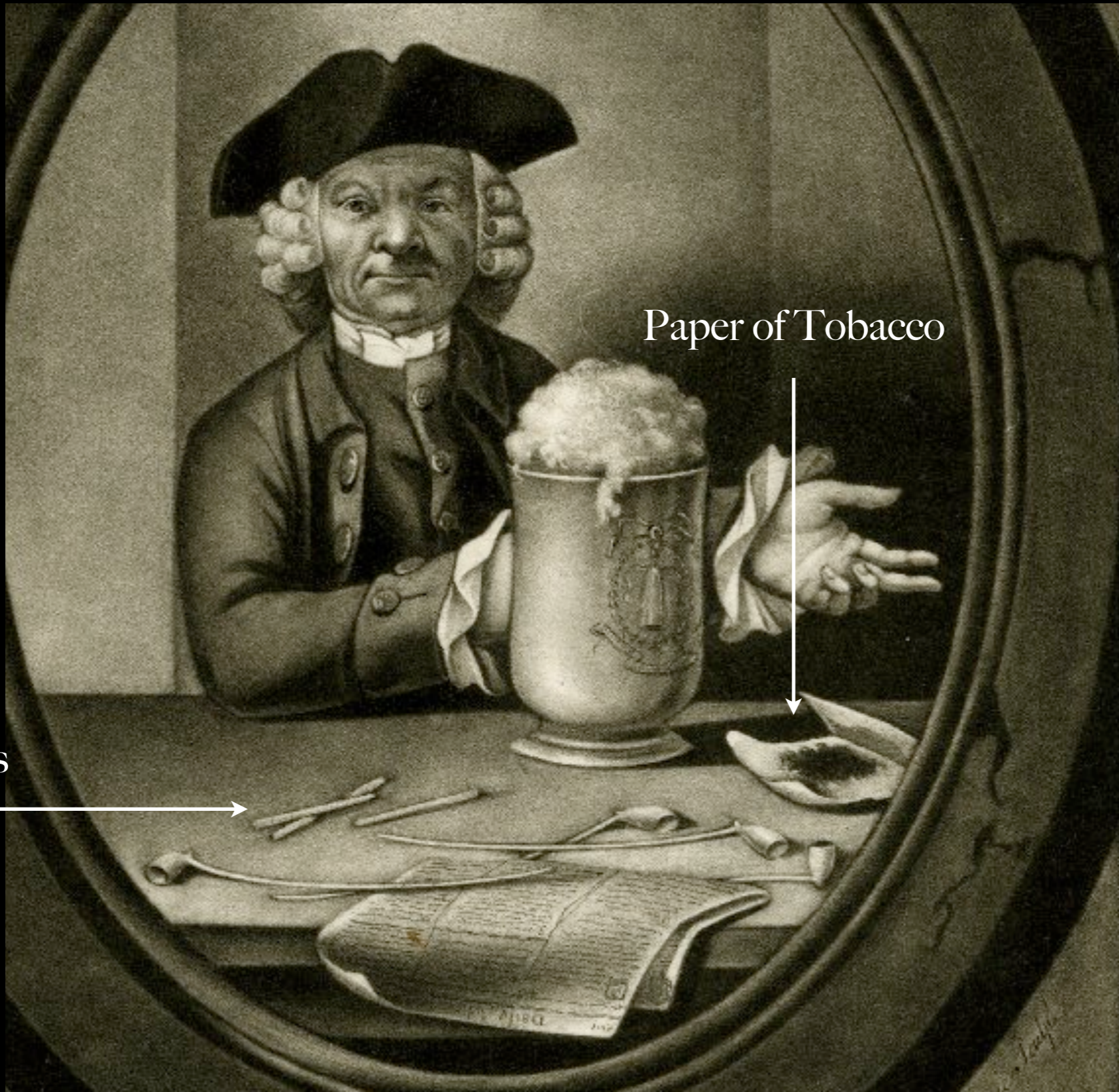
The Match Maker - An Itinerant Seller of Matches
by John Wright, Published by Henry Parker c. 1767 - 1773
(The British Museum)



ROBERT DIGHTON

ROBERT LAURIE. C. 9. 28

by Robert Laurie, Published by John Smirth after Robert Dighton 1779
(The British Museum)



Matches / Tapers
for
Lighting

Paper of Tobacco

by Robert Laurie, Published by John Smirth after Robert Dighton 1779
(The British Museum)



Match Boy



The GIN SHOP DISPLAYED.

Printed for Carington Bowles, Map & Druggist, No. 27, in St Paul's Church Yard, London.

*The Match Boy, actually the Money stroke.
The Basket Woman, great surprise reveals.*

“The GIN SHOP DISPLAYED”
by Carington Bowles c. 1764 - 1784
(The British Museum)



*Allumettes, bonne amadou,
Pierres à fusil et des Briquets.*

Cries of Paris - A French Woman Selling Matches
18th Century
(Gallica)

66.

11.^e C.



Cries of Paris - A French Woman Selling Matches
18th Century
(Gallica)



Painted by F. Wheatley del. CRIES *Engraved by A. Carson*
Do you want any Matches? LONDON *Marchande de allumettes, vende une boisse*
allumettes

CRIES of LONDON “Do you want any Matches?”
by Anthony Carson after Francis Wheatley 1794
(Yale Center for British Art)



Do you want any Matches? CRIES of LONDON *Marchande d'allumettes achete mes bonnes*
Paris 4^e

CRIES of LONDON "Do you want any Matches?"
by Anthony Carson after Francis Wheatley 1794
(The British Museum)



MATCHES

“MATCHES”
by T.L. Busby Late 18th - Early 19th Century
(Lewis Walpole Library)

Chandlers: Sellers of Candles & Soap



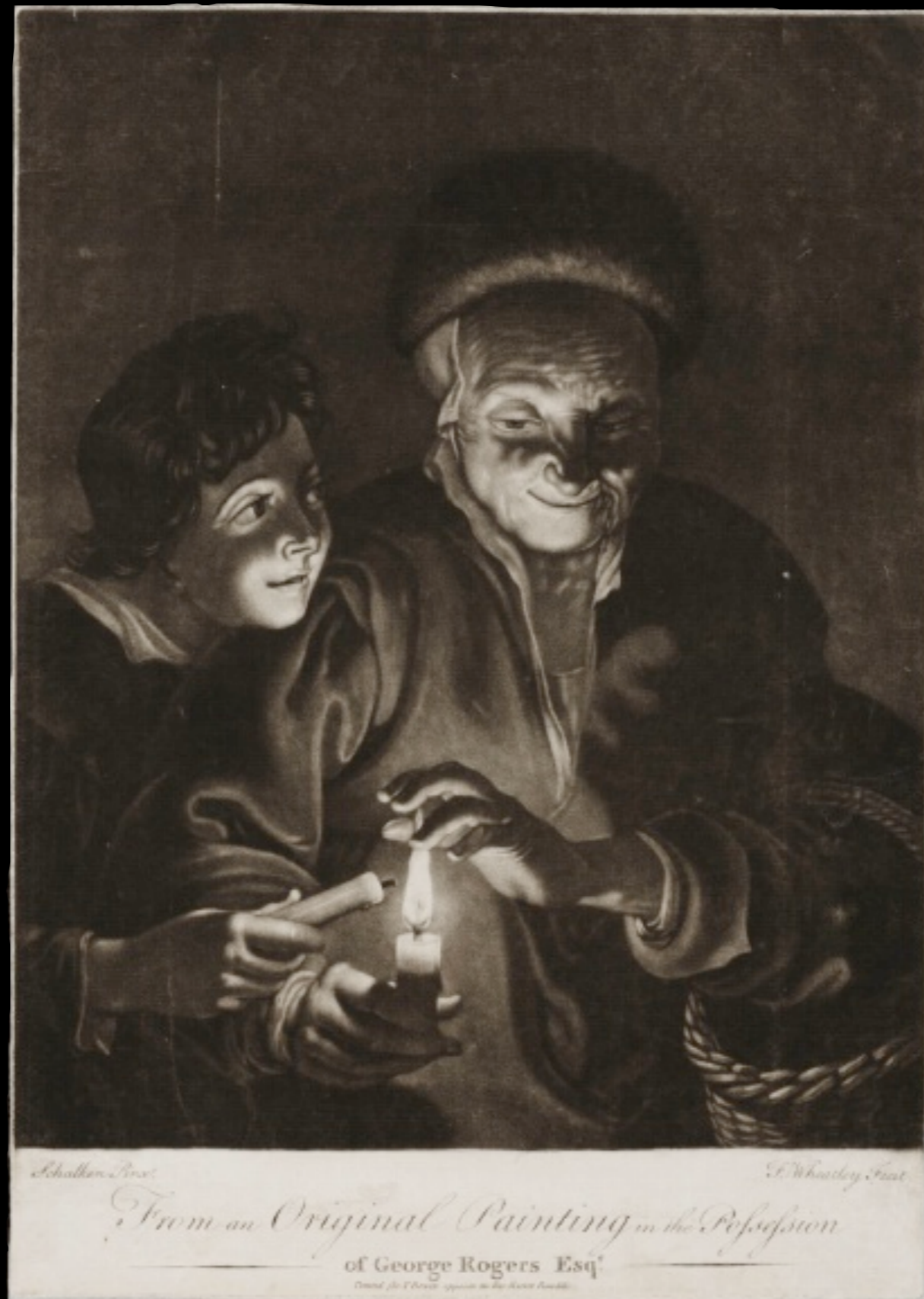
*Downy Crutche tells surprising News, —
Doe! Drah her Face with wonder serene*

The CHANDLER'S SHOP GOSSIPS, or WONDERFUL NEWS.
Printed for Carington Bowles, Map & Printeller, N^o. 69 in St Pauls Church Yard, London.

*Jack Fidd, while she turns up her Eyes,
Her Cash to his own use applies.*

"The CHANDLER'S SHOP GOSSIPS, or WONDERFUL NEWS"
by Carington Bowles c. 1770
(Colonial Williamsburg)

Candles & Wicks



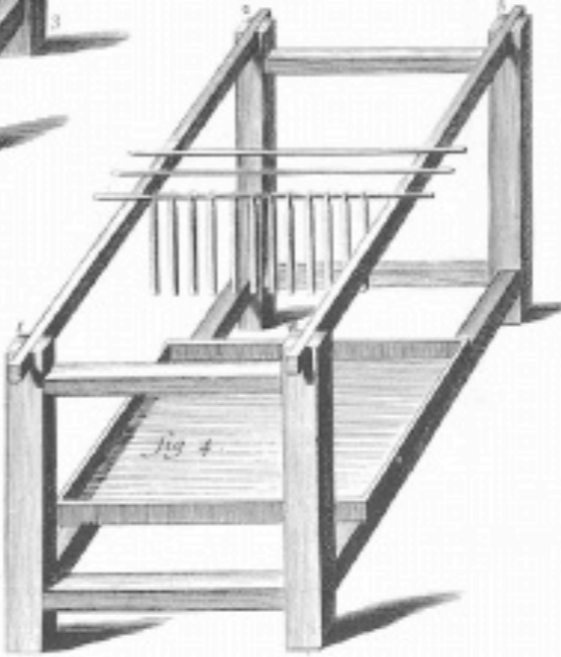
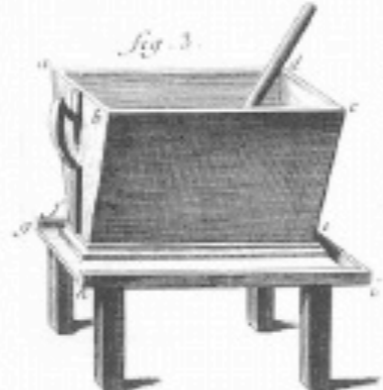
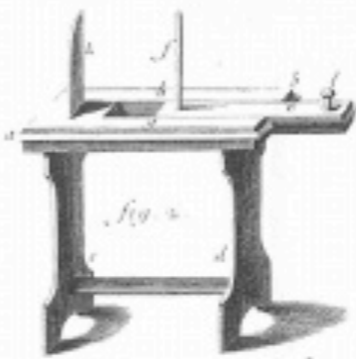
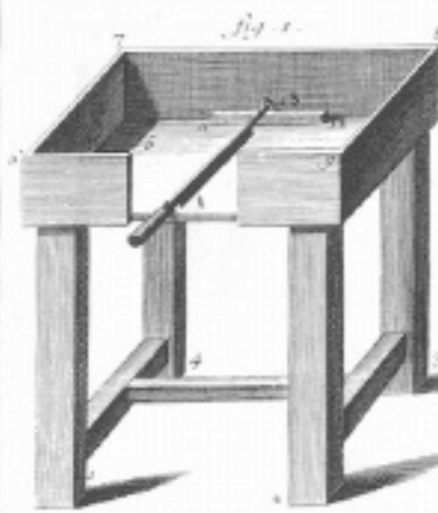
Schalken Pinx.

J. Whistler Pinx.

From an Original Painting in the Possession
of George Rogers Esq.

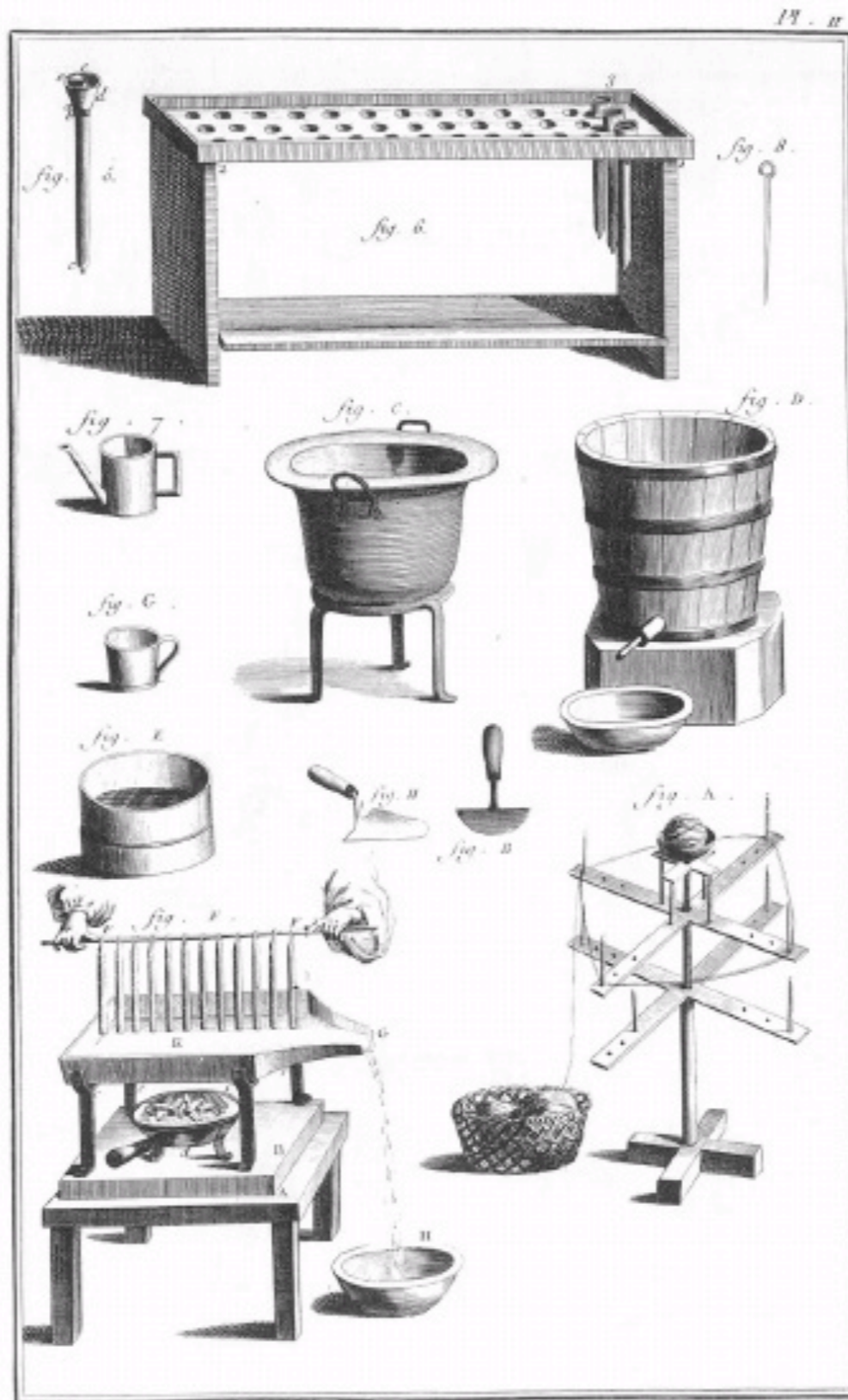
Printed for J. Rogers, opposite the Royal Academy.

“From an original painting in the Possession of George Rogers, Esq”
for T. Bowen
(Lewis Walpole Library)



Chandelier.

Chaandelier - Candle Making
The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1763
(University of Michigan Library)



Chandelier.

Chaandelier - Candle Making
The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1763
(University of Michigan Library)



New England Dipping Sticks for Making Tallow Candles
Late 18th to Early 19th Century
(Sharon Platt)



New England Dipping Sticks for Making Tallow Candles
Late 18th to Early 19th Century
(Sharon Platt)



New England Tallow Candles
18th to Early 19th Century
(Sharon Platt)



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New England Tallow Candles
18th to Early 19th Century
(Sharon Platt)



Tallow Candles
(Skinner)

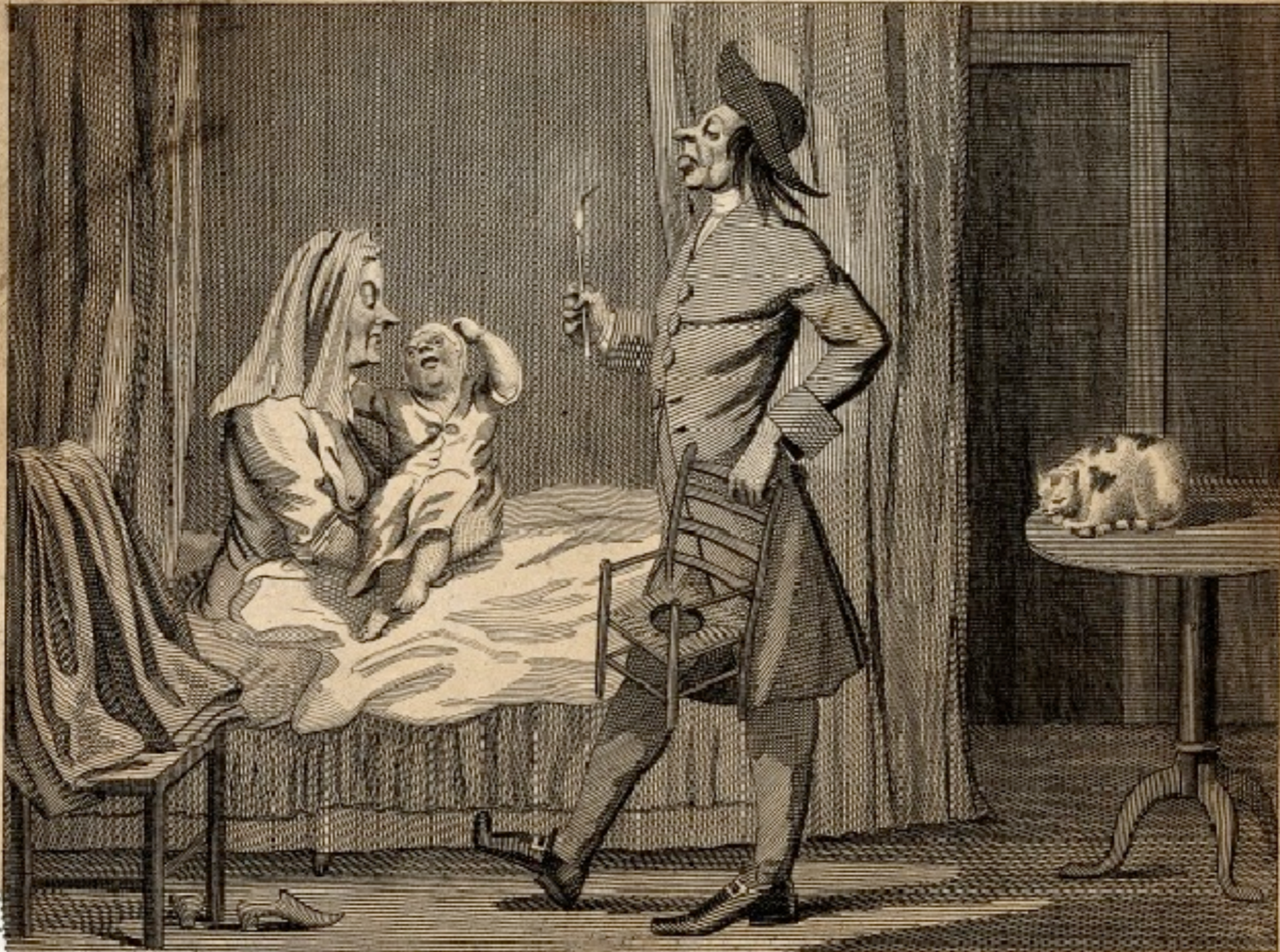


Tallow Candles
(Skinner)



New England Candle Drier in Dark Brown Paint
Late 18th Century
(Sharon Platt)

NEHEMIAH'S DISASTER—A TALE.



19A
7

And behold about the ninth hour Tabitha the Wife of my Bosom awoke and said unto me, Arise Nathaniel speedily and make no long tarrying or delaying, but enter into the next Room, and nigh unto that which payeth tribute to Cesar, standeth a Wicker Chair, whercon hangeth a Garment call'd a Red Petticoat— Dive in the Pocket thereof and take out thence two Farthings and go to Obadiah the Tallow Chandler and buy two Candles, light one of them & bring it presently for I fear our last born Son Nehemiah, hath befouled himself— Hem— Hem.

229

Printed by J. Smith, in the Strand, and W. White, in Fleet Street, London.

“NEHEMIAH'S DISASTER.... A TALE”

England 1769
(Wellcome Library)

Acknowledgements

Special thanks is extended to Paul Dickfoss and Karen Harris for their many contributions to the matches section of this slideshow.

Acknowledgements

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Thank you!

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