

# 19th century textbook illustrations



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## The Ox-Hydrogen Blowpipe

“In the Compound Blow-pipe a jet of O is introduced into the centre of a jet of burning H, producing a *solid flame*. Inasmuch also as H unites with so much O, an immense heat is developed. A watchspring will burn in it with a shower of sparks. Platinum, the most infusible of metals, requiring a temperature of  $4591^{\circ}$ , or over twenty times that of boiling water, readily melts. In the common hollow flame, as we have seen, the little particles of solid C, heated by the burning H, produce the light. As there is no solid body in the Blow-pipe flame, it is scarcely luminous. If, however, we insert in it a bit of lime, a most dazzling light is produced. This is called the ‘Drummond,’ ‘Lime,’ or ‘Calcium’ Light, and has been seen at a distance of one hundred and eight miles in broad sunlight.”

### Literature Cited

Steele, J. D., “A Fourteen Weeks Course in Chemistry”, A. S. Barnes & Co., New York, 1868, frontispiece and pp. 80–81.

