J. C. HARING.

Pencil-Case.

No. 214,820. Patented April 29, 1879.

Fig. 1

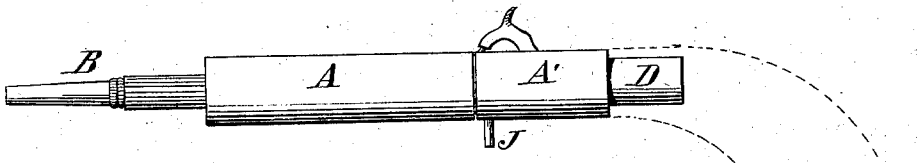


Fig. 2

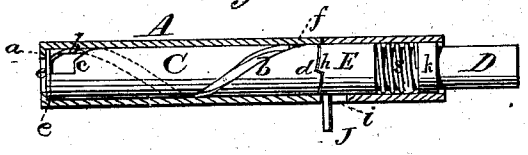


Fig. 3

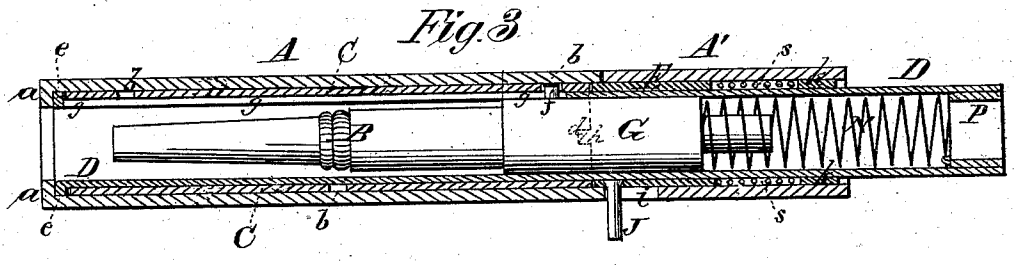
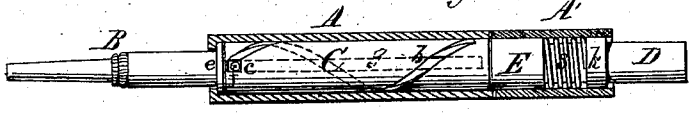


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN PENCIL-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **214,820**, dated April 29, 1879; application filed November 29, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. HARING, of Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Pencil-Cases; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 is a side view of the improved pencil-case, showing the nib of the pencil protruding beyond the same. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the outer shell or barrel, showing the position of the interior parts when the pencil-nib is retracted. Fig. 3 is a highly-magnified view, in section, of complete device. Fig. 4 is a view partly in section, showing the straight and helical slots, the pencil-nib extended.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to pencil-cases; and it consists in a certain novel combination of helical springs with a sliding nib or lead-holder, and with tubes which are constructed with straight and helical slots, and also with a catching device, whereby when the lead-holder is retracted inside of its case it can be instantly protruded and held in a position for writing, as will be hereinafter explained.

The following description of my invention will enable others skilled in the art to make and use it.

In the annexed drawings, A designates the main or outer case, which is preferably made cylindrical, with one end inwardly flanged, as shown at *a*, leaving an opening for the passage of the pencil-nib B, as shown. This outer case or shell A is suitably secured to a tube, C, having a helical slot, *b*, a shoulder, *c*, and notches *d*. The tube C is free to turn around a tube, D, and is prevented from receiving endwise movement on this tube by arranging it between a flange, *e*, and a sleeve, E. A stud, *f*, enters the spiral slot *b*, and passes freely through a straight slot, *g*, in tube D, and is rigidly fixed to a sliding plug, G, which is inside of tube D. Plug G has the pencil-nib or lead-holder applied to it, as shown in Fig. 3.

The sleeve E has a tooth or catch, *h*, formed on one end, which is intended to engage with a notch, *d*, in tube C, and prevent this tube from being rotated. This sleeve E is allowed to receive endwise movement, for the purpose of engaging it with tube C and disengaging it therefrom; but sleeve E is prevented from turning on tube D by means of a trigger, J, which is fixed to it and extended through a slot, *i*, made through an inclosing-tube, A′, which may be of the same diameter as the case A, and which is rigidly secured to a collar, *k*, formed on the tube D.

Between the sleeve E and the collar *k* a spring, *s*, is coiled around the tube D, which acts to keep the said sleeve engaged with the notched end of the helically-grooved tube C. (Shown in Fig. 2.) The tube D is extended back of the collar *k* and tube A′, for the purpose of securing a handle of the form of that of a pistol, a gun-stock, cannon, or any other design.

When the pencil-nib is retracted inside of the case, as shown in Fig. 3, by turning the tubes A′ D, the parts will be thus held by the tooth *h*, as above described.

To cause the pencil-nib to fly out, as shown by Figs. 1 and 4, the sleeve E is drawn back by pressing the finger against the trigger J, which allows a mainspring, N, inside of tube D to force out the pencil-nib.

Spring N is confined between the plug G and a plug, P, or its equivalent, fixed into the rear end of tube D.

It is obvious that instead of the pencil or lead-holder B, I may secure to the sliding plug G a watch-key, a tooth-pick, or any other device I may wish to combine with the improved movement. Therefore, I do not confine myself to the use of a pencil-nib. Neither do I confine myself to the external configuration or design of the case.

The shoulder *c*, above referred to, receives the pin or stud *f* when the pencil-nib is fully extended, and prevents this nib (or other device which may be substituted for it) from casually slipping back while using it.

Having described my invention, what I claim

as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The sliding plug G, spring N, straight-slotted tube D, and helically-grooved tube C, provided with notches *d* and shoulder *c*, in combination with the stud *f*, toothed sleeve E, spring *s*, and trigger J, substantially as described.

2. Tubes A A′, combined with the tubes C D, grooved as shown, and toothed sleeve E, with the plug G, its spring N, stud *f*, and trigger J, substantially as described.

3. The slotted tube A′, fixed to the collar *k* on tube D, and inclosing-spring *s*, in combination with sliding sleeve E and its trigger J, for the purpose described.

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