

(No Model.)

C. ANDREW.
AUTOMATIC CRAYON HOLDER.

No. 276,128.

Patented Apr. 17, 1883.

Fig. 3.

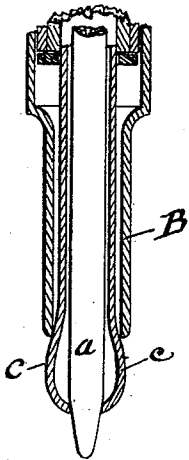


Fig. 2

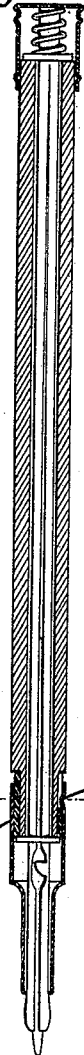


Fig. I

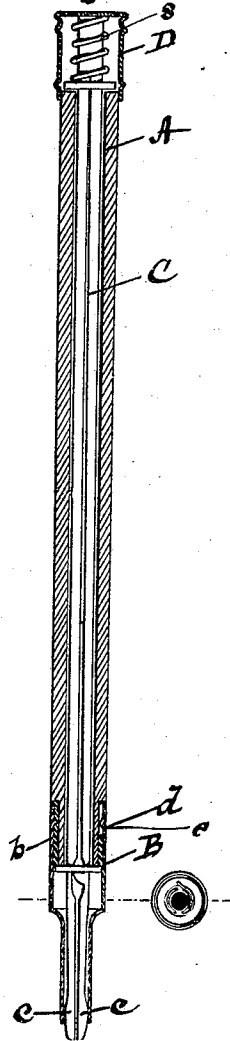
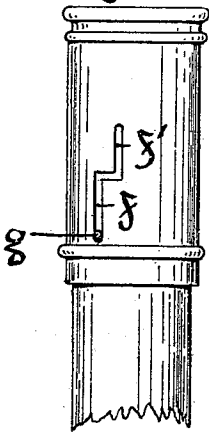


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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AUTOMATIC CRAYON-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 276,128, dated April 17, 1883.

Application filed June 19, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES ANDREW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Crayon-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of pencils or crayon-holders in which the clamping-jaws are actuated to close upon and retain the lead or crayon by the movement of the crayon-holding tube within a sheath, and are allowed to spring apart and release the crayon by a contrary movement.

As ordinarily constructed and used, one form or style of such crayon-holder consists essentially of a hollow containing-case, usually of wood, forming the body of the pencil, within which a tube containing the crayon has a longitudinal movement. The crayon-tube is split at the end to form two jaws, which are somewhat expanded near their extremities to form a taper, which is suddenly contracted at the ends to form a holding or clamping edge when compressed against the crayon. The contraction or forcing together of the taper jaws is effected by withdrawing the crayon-tube within its sheath, the containing-case acting upon the taper expansion of the jaws as a cam. The outward movement is effected by pressure of the finger against the projecting end of the crayon-tube, which is provided with a suitable cap and a spiral spring to return it to its proper normal position. The principal objection to the pencil thus constructed is that when the jaws are open to allow the crayon to move forward there is nothing to prevent the crayon from passing entirely out of its containing-tube except the pencil be held near the table or some other object and the exit of the crayon prevented. This objection is more serious than might at first appear, and my invention is directed to its removal, to which end it consists in combining with the longitudinally-movable crayon-tube means for limiting its travel, and thereby regulating the degree of opening of the clamping-jaws, so as to permit only the conical point of the pencil to protrude, and in the construction and arrangement of the particular means, hereinafter set forth, for this purpose.

My invention is embodied in the drawings

accompanying and illustrating this specification, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are sectional views, showing the pencil with the crayon-tube in its ultimate positions, respectively—that is to say, with its terminal clamping-jaws retracted in one case and protruded in the other. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view, showing the relations of the sheath, clamping-jaws, and crayon when in position for use. Fig. 4 exhibits a modified construction of the crayon-holder.

In the drawings, A designates the body or containing-case of the pencil; B, its terminal sheath; and C the crayon-tube, terminating in the clamping-jaws *cc*; D, a cap secured to the end of the crayon-tube and inclosing the spiral springs. These parts are constructed and operate in the usual manner, and require no further description. My improvements consist in adding thereto and combining therewith means for limiting and regulating the forward thrust of the crayon-tube, so as to permit the jaws *cc* to separate when in ordinary use only far enough to allow the point of the pencil to protrude. The preferable device for this purpose consists in the following construction: I provide at the end of the body or containing-case A a ferrule, *b*, arranged to fit snugly within the terminal sheath B, and form for it a sliding bearing-surface, on which the sheath B may move forward a short distance, or as far as may be necessary. The movement is regulated by means of a small stud or protrusion, *d*, on the inner periphery of the sheath B, moving in a slot, *e*, of regulated length in the ferrule *b*.

It will be readily understood that the sheath B can move forward only so far as allowed by the slot *e*, and by this movement of the sheath the protrusion of the clamping-jaws through the same is relatively lessened, hence limiting the expansion of the latter. The movement of the sheath B forward is effected by the outward pressure and consequent friction of the clamping-jaws, which, as the crayon-tube is driven forward, carry forward the sheath B to the regulated limit of its travel. The end of the crayon *a* having been previously sharpened to a conical point, the same is permitted to project beyond the jaws, as clearly exhibited in Fig. 3. Whenever it is desired to pro-

trude the crayon-tube C to the full limit of its travel the sheath B may be held stationary and the tube forced through, as usual, when the crayon may be removed or replaced in the ordinary manner.

The modified means of limiting the movement of the crayon-tube C and its jaws *cc* with respect to the sheath B (shown in Fig. 4) consists in providing a slot, *f*, in the cap D of the necessary length, and a pin or stud, *g*, in the containing-case A. The stud *g*, acting as a stop in connection with the slot *f*, limits the protrusion of the jaws *c* through the sheath B and operates, as before described, upon the crayon. By making a lateral offset and further extension of the slot *f*, as shown at *f'*, the cap may be rotated to bring the pin or stud *g* opposite to the extension *f'*, and the crayon-tube then may be forced to the utmost limit of its travel, so as to open the jaws for the removal or replacing of the crayon.

Having described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with an automatic crayon-holder such as described, of means, substan-

tially as described, for limiting the protrusion of the crayon-tube and regulating the dilation of the clamping-jaws so as to prevent the entire withdrawal of the crayon, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with an automatic crayon-holder such as described, of means, substantially such as described, for automatically limiting the protrusion of the crayon, but permitting the entire dilation of the clamping-jaws when required to remove or replace the crayon, substantially as set forth.

3. In combination with the containing-case A, crayon-tube C, terminating in taper jaws *cc*, and sheath B, provided with stud *d*, the ferrule *b*, provided with slot *e*, arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHAS. ANDREW.

Witnesses:

L. M. HOSEA,
W. HOFFMAN.