

No. 840,413.

PATENTED JAN. 1, 1907.

J. M. ALEXANDER & H. FOX.
RULING PEN.

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Fig. 1.

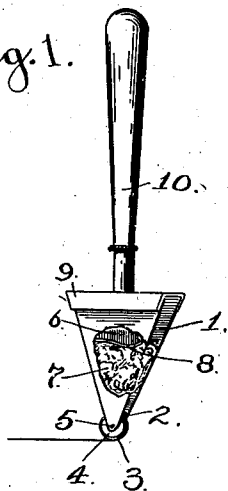


Fig. 2.

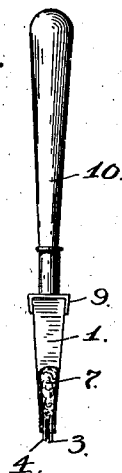


Fig. 3.

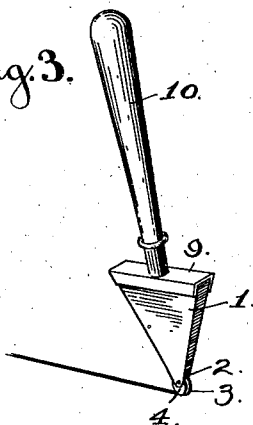


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RULING-PEN.

No. 840,413.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 1, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JULIUS M. ALEXANDER and HENRY FOX, citizens of the United States, residing at Healdsburg, in the county of Sonoma, State of California, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Ruling-Pens; and we hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

10 The present invention relates to an improved automatically ink-supplied ruling-pen for use of bookkeepers, drafts men, and architects, the object of the device being to permit the ruling or drawing of either a single
15 line or a double line on a single stroke or movement of the pen, thereby rendering the device particularly adapted to the needs of an accountant in the closing of a book account or in the footing up of ledger accounts.

20 While the hereinafter-described device is described as a "pen," such is to be understood as the commercial term therefor, for as a matter of fact the marking of the ink-lines is performed through the medium of a series of
25 self-inked rolls, which rolls vary in diameter.

To comprehend the invention, reference should be had to the accompanying sheet of drawings, wherein—

30 Figure 1 is a perspective view of the pen positioned for single-line ruling, the cap for covering the ink-rolls being removed and the ink-reservoir partly broken away. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail front view of the ink-reservoir, the same being partly broken away
35 to disclose the location of the ink-pad therein for supplying ink to the periphery of the working rolls. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 of the drawings, illustrating the device when positioned for the drawing of double
40 lines, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the cap for covering the ink-rolls when the device is not being used.

The numeral 1 is used to indicate the ink-holding reservoir, which may be of any suitable shape. In the present case the said
45 reservoir is triangular in shape, the form so shown being merely for the purpose of convenient use in connection with a centrally-slotted rule commonly used by accountants
50 and draftsmen. However, as stated, the form of the reservoir may be such as practice may determine the most expedient for general use.

55 The lower end portion 2 of the reservoir is cut away or left open, and within such open portion of the said reservoir is located a

series of marking-rolls 3 4, which rolls are mounted on a cross-shaft 5, working in bearings carried by the reservoir. The mounting of the marking-rolls is such that a portion of 60 each roll extends within the ink-holding chamber 6 of the reservoir 1.

Within the ink-holding chamber 6 is located an ink-applying pad 7, which pad at all times bears on a portion of the periphery 65 of each marking-roll 3 4. While it is believed that the ink-applying pad will be maintained in position by frictional contact with the inner walls of the ink-holding chamber 6, still to insure against displacement of the pad 70 and to positively hold the same against the periphery of the rolls 3 4 there is located within the chamber 6 a pressure-spring 8, which spring bears onto the ink-applying pad and holds the same down onto or against 75 the rolls 3 4.

The slide-cover 9, which slips onto the reservoir 1 to close the open upper end thereof, is in the present case provided with an upwardly-extending stem or handle 10, which 80 serves as a means for steadying the pen when in use, also as a means to facilitate the removal of the slide-cover 9 from the reservoir when it is desired to open the same to re-ink 85 the pad 7 contained therein. It will be understood that any other suitable form of handle may be employed, or, in fact, the said handle may be dispensed with.

The marking-rolls 3 4 are of different diameters, the diameter of roll 3 being slightly 90 greater than that of roll 4. By thus utilizing rolls of varying diameters the result is that when the pen is held in vertical position only one roll bears on the surface of the paper to be marked or ruled, and if the pen so positioned 95 be drawn over the paper only a single line is ruled thereon, Fig. 1 of the drawings. By slightly inclining the pen to the horizontal each of the rolls will bear in the surface of the paper, and if the pen so positioned be drawn 100 over the surface of the paper the result will be the marking or ruling of two distinct and independent parallel lines, as disclosed by Fig. 3 of the drawings. As the pen is moved 105 over the surface of the paper to be ruled the rolls 3 4 bear against the ink-pad 7, and the periphery of each roll is properly inked for the marking of the paper to be ruled.

The number of marking-rolls of varying diameters may be increased at will, independent 110 of parallel lines being ruled by each roll when the pen is positioned to place each of

the rolls in contact with the paper to be marked or the number of lines ruled varied in accordance with the position at which the pen is held.

- 5 By the use of the described pen a single line or a number of lines may be ruled by a single stroke of the pen, the inking of the rolls being performed automatically.

When the device is not in use, the same
10 may be carried in the pocket of the accountant. To provide against ink from the rolls soiling the clothes, the same should be covered by the cap 11, which slips onto the lower end portion of the reservoir 1, and thus covers the marking-rolls.

15 Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be protected by Letters Patent, is—

- 20 1. In an automatically ink-supplied ruling-pen, the combination with an ink-reservoir, of a series of marking-rolls of different diameters carried thereby, and means within the reservoir for supplying ink to the periphery of the marking-rolls.

- 25 2. In an automatically ink-supplied ruling-pen, the combination with an ink-reservoir, of a series of marking-rolls of different diameters carried thereby, and an ink-applying pad located within the ink-reservoir and in contact with the periphery of the marking-rolls.

- 30 3. In an automatically ink-supplied ruling-pen, the combination with an ink-reservoir, of a series of marking-rolls of different diameters carried thereby, of a spring-held ink-applying pad located within the reser-

voir and in contact with the periphery of the marking-rolls.

4. In an automatically ink-supplied ruling-pen, the combination with an ink-reservoir, of a series of marking-rolls of different diameters carried thereby, of an ink-applying pad located within said reservoir and in contact with the periphery of the marking-rolls, and a cover for closing the upper open end of the ink-reservoir.

5. In an automatically ink-supplied ruling-pen, the combination with an ink-reservoir, of a series of marking-rolls of different diameters carried thereby, of an ink-applying pad located within said reservoir and in contact with the periphery of the marking-rolls, of a cover for closing the upper open end of the reservoir and a handle projecting from said cover.

6. A ruling-pen, the same comprising an ink-holding reservoir, of devices carried by the said reservoir for the marking of a series of independent parallel lines at one stroke of the pen, and means for automatically supplying ink to the said marking devices, including an absorbent pad within the reservoir, and spring-actuated means for holding the pad in inking position relative to the marking devices.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands in the presence of witnesses.

JULIUS M. ALEXANDER.
HENRY FOX.

Witnesses:

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