

W. E. THOMAS.
PEN-RACK.

No. 178,814.

Patented June 13, 1876.

Fig. 1.

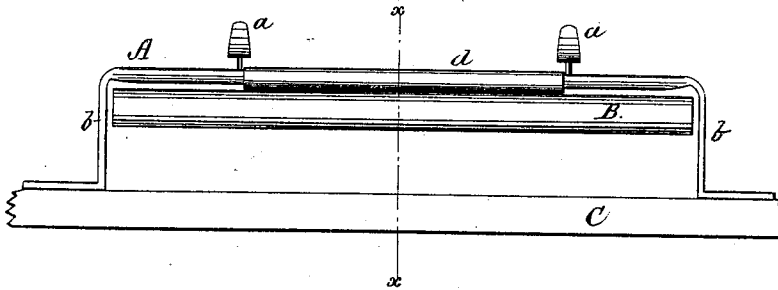


Fig. 2.

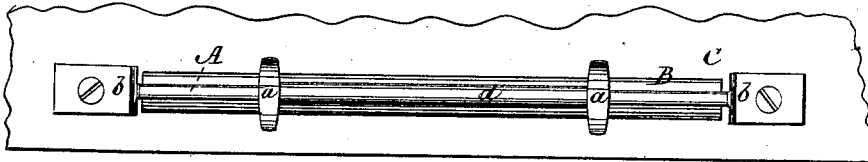
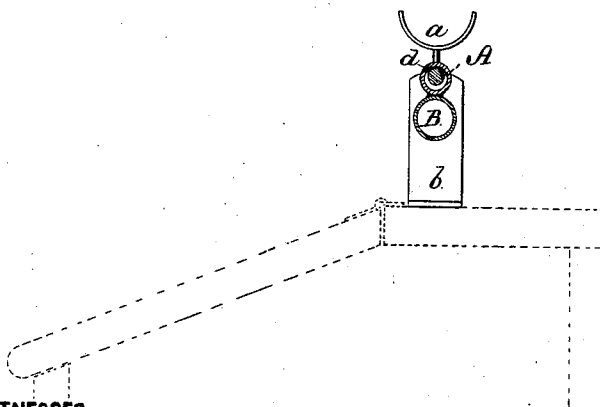


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

W. W. Hollingsworth
John O. Kemon

INVENTOR:

Wm E. Thomas
BY *Kenn T. C.*

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. THOMAS, OF FORD'S STORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
AND JOHN R. EMORY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN PEN-RACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 178,814, dated June 13, 1876; application filed
April 29, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. THOMAS, of Ford's Store, in the county of Queen Anne and State of Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Pen-Rack Attachment for Writing-Desks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

The object of the invention is to provide for use as an attachment for writing-desks, a combined pen-rack and safe, so constructed that the pen may be exposed to view, and readily accessible at such time, as it is frequently required for use, and may at other times be secured and protected against loss or injury.

To this end the invention consists of a pen-rack, supported upon a bracket formed of a bent metal rod, and constituting a fixed attachment of the desk, and an open-ended tube hinged to said rod in such manner as adapts it to be turned thereon, to expose its ends for insertion or removal of a pen. The rack receives and supports the pen while the owner or occupant of the desk frequently requires it for use, but at other times, as when leaving his desk at the end of the day, it is placed in the tube for safety.

In the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side view, and Fig. 2 a top view of the device. Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line *xx*, Fig. 1.

The pen-rack is formed by the rests or curved arms *a* attached to the rod *A*, and the pen-safe consists of a tube, *B*, which is hinged to said rod, and turns or swings thereon. The ends *b* of the rod are bent twice at a right-angle, and also flattened to adapt it for permanent attachment to the desk (*C*), by means of screws, and also to support the tube *B* above the desk, so that it may turn around the rod.

The pen-rack is employed for the same purpose and in the same manner as those in common use; but the arms *a a* are attached to the rod *A* at the ends of the sleeve *d*, which constitute the hinge proper of tube *B*. The latter is thus prevented sliding lengthwise of the rod, and its ends from coming in contact with the end portions *b* of the rod.

When the pen used by the occupant of the desk is no longer required for use, as at the close of the day's work, or at any other intermediate time, the tube is turned on the rod *A* sufficiently to expose its ends, the pen inserted therein, and the tube then allowed to swing back to its original position, in which the ends are wholly or partially covered and protected by the vertical parts *b* of the rod. The pen will thus be protected from injury, and accidental loss thereof prevented; at the same time it is instantly accessible when again required for use.

The device is a cheap and highly desirable attachment for desks in general, but is designed more particularly for school-desks.

What I claim is—

1. The combined pen-rack and open safe-desk attachment, formed of the rests *a*, the swinging tube provided with sleeve *d*, and the bent rod *A*, as shown and described.

2. The combination of the hinged open-ended tube and the bent rod, adapted for attachment to desks, as shown and described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 15th day of April, 1876.

WM. E. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

SOLON C. KEMON,
CHAS. A. PETTIT.