(No Model.)

R. M. COLLARD.

EXTENSION CASE FOR PENCILS.

No. 300,693. Patented June 17, 1884.

Fig. 1.

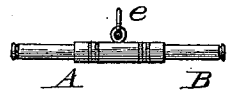


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

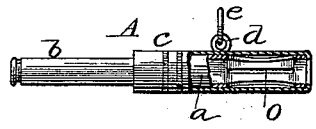
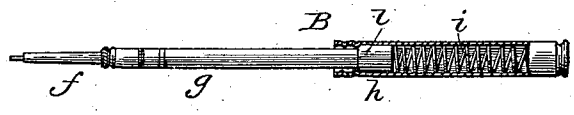


Fig. 4.



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EXTENSION-CASE FOR PENCILS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,693, dated June 17, 1884.

Application filed February 26, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD M. COLLARD, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Extension-Cases for Pencils, &c., of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain improvements in extension-cases of that class which are used for carrying a pencil-point, tooth-pick, or any similar implement, and which are combined with an outer case to be used as a chain-bar, breastpin, or any similar ornamental article; and the invention consists in providing the extension-case with a spring to render it self-adjusting, and in certain details of construction of the outer or holding case or sheath, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Figure 1 is a side elevation, natural size, of my improved device made up in the form of a chain-bar. Fig. 2 represents the same with the parts detached. Fig. 3 is a side elevation, partly in section, of the sheath or outer case enlarged to better illustrate the construction; and Fig. 4 is a similar view, also enlarged, of the extension-case detached.

It has become customary of late years to construct small pencil-cases so they can be carried in and made to form part of a chain-bar, breastpin, bracelet, or similar article of jewelry, these so-called "pencil-cases" being provided with a lead-carrying point, a tooth-pick, button-hook, ear-spoon, or whatever similar implement may be preferred. As usually constructed, the extension-case (and which for convenience I will denominate as the "pencil-case") has to be extended by hand after being withdrawn from its sheath or carrying-case, generally requiring the use of both hands for that purpose. My present invention is designed to obviate this by making the pencil-case in such a manner that it will automatically extend itself whenever it is withdrawn from the sheath or main case in which it is carried. To do this I construct the extension-case B, as shown in Fig. 4, in which *f* indicates the lead-carrying tube, ordinarily termed the "pencil-point," and *g* the tube which contains the screw for projecting the lead or other implement. Over this tube *g*, I fit another tube, *h*, and within the latter I arrange a spiral spring, *i*, in such a manner that it will bear at one end against the closed end of the outer tube, *h*, and at its opposite end against the inner end of the inner tube, *g*, as shown in Fig. 4. The tube *g* is provided with an enlargement or shoulder, *l*, while the tube *h* is compressed or has a shoulder otherwise formed on its interior surface by which the movement of the tube *g* is so limited as to prevent it from being pushed entirely out of the tube *h*, as represented in Fig. 4. By making the spring *i* of light well-tempered wire it can be compressed into a small space at the upper end of the tube *h*, and yet have sufficient force to project the tube *g*, as shown.

It will be obvious that when the extension-case B is held or left in its normal condition the case will remain extended to its full length; but that by pushing the part *g* back within the tube *h* its length, as a whole, can be decreased nearly one-half.

In order to carry this extension-case and keep it compressed until wanted for use, I construct a sheath, A, as follows: I provide a tube, *a*, (shown in section in Fig. 3,) of any desired length, and cut along its central portion a series of longitudinal slits, *o*, and compress or bend inward the strips of metal between these slits, as shown in Fig. 3, these inwardly-bent portions thus forming a series of friction-springs, so that when the extension-case is shoved into this tube *a* far enough to have its outer tube *h* inclosed by these springs they will hold it secure by the friction thus created. Over this tube *a*, I place an outer tube or case *c* which may be of gold, silver, hard rubber, or any suitable material, and be ornamented to suit the fancy, this outer shell or case *c* being left loose, so as to turn freely on the friction-tube *a*, it being held thereon by burring or turning out the ends of the latter, so as to prevent the shell *c* from moving endwise; or small collars or raised beads may be used for the purpose.

If it be desired to make up the article in the form of a chain-bar, as shown, I attach a short tube, *b*, to the end of the friction-tube *a*, as shown in Fig. 3, the outer end of said tube *b* being closed. In such case the tube *b* will be

of the same diameter as the tube *h*, and it should be of such a length as to project from the friction-tube *a* to the same extent or distance that the tube *h* will project from the opposite end when the parts are united, as represented in Fig. 1, the whole then forming a symmetrical chain-bar, it of course being provided with an eye, *d*, and ring *e*, in the usual manner. With the parts thus constructed it will be seen that when the extension-case B is shoved into the sheath or holding-case A the point of the pencil, tooth-pick, or whatever the implement may be that is attached to tube *g*, will strike against the closed end of case A, and as the tube *h* is pushed in it will be pushed down over the tube *g* and compress the spring *i*. As the extension-case is withdrawn from its sheath or case A the spring *i* will expand until the tube *g* is pushed out of the tube *h* as far as it can go; and thus it will be seen that whenever the extension-case is withdrawn from its sheath A it will be found to be extended to its full length, and will so remain until it is telescoped by being again shoved into its sheath. By this construction I am enabled to use an extension-case which is nearly double the length of the bar as a whole, and which automatically extends itself whenever withdrawn from its sheath or case.

While I have shown my invention applied in the form of a chain-bar, it is obvious that it may be applied equally well in the form of a breastpin by attaching the ordinary hinged pin and catch to the sheath, and which, if desired, may in that case be made of uniform diameter its entire length, and may be made as ornamental as desired. So, too, it is obvious that this extension-tube may be applied to a bracelet by simply securing the sheath A, with its friction-tube *a*, thereto in any suitable or desired position.

It is also obvious that, to whatever form of article it may be applied, the extension-case may have attached to it any of the ordinary implements carried about the person, provided only that they are of such a character that they can be made of a suitable size to fit the case. Among those that I propose to use are pencil-points, button-hooks, ear-spoons, nail-cleaners, tooth-picks, and similar small implements.

It is also obvious that, if desired, the device may be made up in the form of a pocket-pencil, in which case the sheath A may be made of uniform diameter, if desired, and large enough to carry implements of greater size than when applied to a chain-bar, breastpin, or bracelet. It will of course be understood that the friction-springs must act with sufficient force to overcome the resistance or force of the spiral spring *i* when compressed, in order to prevent the extension-case from being thrown or forced out of the sheath, as the spring *i* is necessarily compressed when the extension-case is closed by shoving it into the sheath.

If desired, the extension-case and the sheath may be provided with means for locking them together—such, for instance, as a stud or projection on one arranged to engage in a corresponding notch or recess in the other—after the style of what is known as the "bayonet-joint," in which case the friction-springs may be dispensed with. I prefer, however, to use the friction-tube, as it is simpler to construct and also to use.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim is—

1. An extension-case for pencils and similar implements, consisting of two tubes arranged to slide one within the other, with a spring arranged to operate upon the tubes, substantially as shown and described, whereby the case is automatically extended whenever it is withdrawn from its sheath.

2. In combination with an automatic extension-case, substantially such as described, a holding case or sheath provided with friction-springs or equivalent means for holding the extension-case therein, with its spring compressed, substantially as herein described.

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