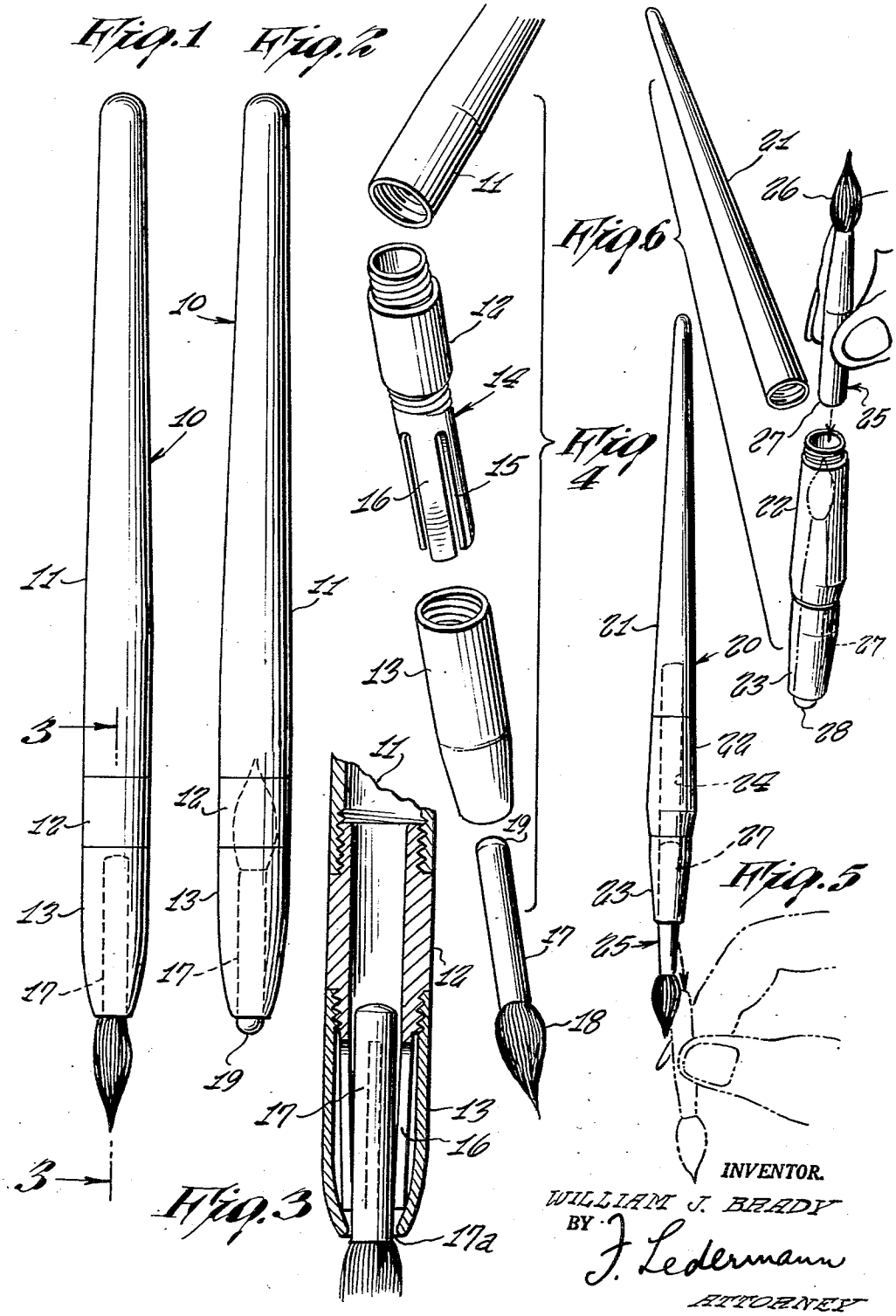
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BRUSH AND BRUSH-HOLDER COMBINATION

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BRUSH AND BRUSH-HOLDER COMBINATION

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1 Claim. (Cl. 15—184)

This invention relates to brush and brush-holder combinations, with particular reference to water color brushes, and the main object is the provision of novel improvements which serve to protect the brush when not being used and thereby prolonging the useful life of the brush. Water color brushes are rather expensive, so that when they are treated with neglect their necessary replacement at a relatively early date involves poor economy.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a novel combination brush and brush-holder permitting of easy and quick change of the brush from concealment within the holder to projection of the brush from the holder ready for use, with positive and secure retention of the brush in the latter, that is, in the working position.

The above broad as well as additional and more specific objects will be clarified in the following description wherein characters of reference refer to like-numbered parts in the accompanying drawing. It is to be noted that the drawing is intended solely for the purpose of illustration and that it is therefore neither desired nor intended to limit the invention necessarily to any or all of the exact details shown or described except insofar as they may be deemed essential to the invention.

Referring briefly to the drawing, Fig. 1 is an elevational or upright view of one form of the combination brush and brush-holder, with the brush extended, ready for use.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the holder with the brush concealed therein, in condition to be laid aside when not in use.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is an exploded perspective view of the combination brush and brush-holder of Figs. 1 and 2, showing how the various parts interengage.

Fig. 5 is an elevational or upright view of a modified form of the combination.

Fig. 6 is an exploded perspective view of the combination brush and brush-holder shown in Fig. 5, again showing how the various parts thereof interengage.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the numeral **10** indicates the hollow brush holder of the form illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4. The holder **10** is composed of three separable sections, shown successively at **11**, **12** and **13**; the complete assembled holder **10**, of course, constitutes the handle of the brush when the brush is extended as shown in Fig. 1.

The intermediate section or sleeve **12** is threaded at both ends to engage complementary threads in the adjacent ends of the end members **11** and **12**. A substantially cylindrical and elongated hollow tube or extension **14**, of reduced diameter with respect to the internal diameter of the upper portion of the lowest section **13**, extends downward from the section **12** and is provided with circumferentially spaced slots **15** to form prongs **16** adapted to extend into the end section **13**. The latter tapers toward its lower extremity and has a reduced opening **17***a* through the said lower extremity. It is apparent that upon insertion of the pronged extension **14** into the end

section **13** through the top of the latter, the tapering inner wall of the section **13** will force the prongs **16** toward the axis of the extension.

The brush per se comprises a relatively short substantially cylindrical stem **17** having the bristles or hair **18** extending from the lower end thereof. The upper extremity of the stem **17** is rounded, substantially as shown, at **19**.

The brush **17**, **18** may be secured in the assembled holder, to prepare it for use as shown in Fig. 1. The brush is released from its confinement within the holder by loosening the section **13** through a turn or two with respect to the section **12**; that is, upon loosening the section **13** the brush of Fig. 2 falls through the opening **17***a*. The brush is then inverted and reinserted into the section **13** as illustrated in Fig. 1, and the section **13** is again tightened on section **12** whence the prongs **16** grip the brush and hold it firmly, ready for use. To remove the brush **17**, **18**, the section **13** is loosened one or two turns and the brush then drops down through the lower end of the section **13**. To re-insert but conceal and protect the brush within the holder **10**, as indicated in Fig. 2, the section **12** is detached from the upper end section **11**, section **13** is loosened a turn or two from section **12**, then the stem is dropped upside down into the section **12** through the upper end of the latter to position the stem substantially as shown, in Fig. 2, with respect to the section **12**, and finally the lower section **13** is screwed tight on the section **12** with the prongs **16** again gripping the stem **17**. Thus, the brush **17**, **18** is securely locked in concealed and protected position within the holder, preferably with the rounded extremity **19** of the stem just projecting from the opening **17***a*.

In the modification shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the holder **20** again comprises three separable sections **21**, **22** and **23**, having, when assembled, an axial passage **24** extending entirely through the sections **23** and **22** and partway up into the section **21**; this passage is of constant diameter. The brush per se comprises, as before, the stem **25** with the bristles or hairs **26**. The stem **25** has the upper portion **27** of constant diameter substantially equal to that of the passage **24** so that the stem may be slid yet frictionally held in the passage; the lower portion of the stem tapers toward the bristles **26**. When in position for use, the brush stem extends a substantial distance from the lower extremity of the holder, as shown in Fig. 5, and it may be readily pulled out or reinserted in an obvious manner. To stow the brush **25**, **26** within the holder **20**, the section **22** is detached from the section **21** and the section **23** is detached from the section **22**. The brush **25**, **26** is then inserted upside down into the section **22** and pulled partway down through the lower end thereof to the relative position thereof with respect to the section **22** shown in Fig. 6. Finally, the section **23** is slid over the stem and screwed into the section **22** and the latter is screwed back into the section **21**. Here again the lower rounded extremity **28** of the stem **27** projects slightly from the lower extremity of the section **23**.

In both of the forms described and illustrated, the brush bristles are well protected and kept in proper shape, i. e., conformation and arrangement, while the brush is stored, thus preventing the rapid deterioration of the bristles which results from casual and neglectful putting aside of brushes when not being used, and the novel and practical separable holders permit of easy and positive restoration of the brushes into condition for use.

Obviously, modifications in form or structure may be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

I claim:

A brush and brush-holder combination comprising a holder composed of at least three separable sections hav-

ing means for releasably interlocking the sections to form the holder and including an upper section, a lower section and an intermediate section, at least said lower and said intermediate sections having a continuous passage therethrough, and a brush comprising a stem having a brush head composed of bristles on one end of the stem, said intermediate section having a sleeve of reduced external diameter extending downward therefrom and registering in said lower section, said sleeve having circumferentially spaced longitudinal slots extending upward from the lower end thereof to form resilient prongs, the inner wall of said lower section tapering toward the lower extremity thereof and terminating in a reduced opening into said passage having substantially the diameter of said stem, said stem in one position of the brush extending through said opening with the brush head extending from the lower end of the holder and said stem positioned between said prongs, said tapering wall of said lower section being adapted to urge said prongs against said stem to lock said stem in said position upon tightening the lower section against the intermediate section, said brush being removable from the holder by loosening said lower section thus permitting said prongs to spread to allow the brush to fall through said opening, the brush being reinsertable into the holder in inverted position upon detaching said upper section and dropping the inverted brush into said passage in the intermediate section whereby the stem falls into position between said prongs, and finally tightening said lower section against the intermediate section and restoring said upper section on the intermediate section.

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