

No. 809,712.

PATENTED JAN. 9, 1906.

R. W. MANUEL.
DEVICE FOR TEACHING PENMANSHIP.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 24, 1905.

FIG. 1.

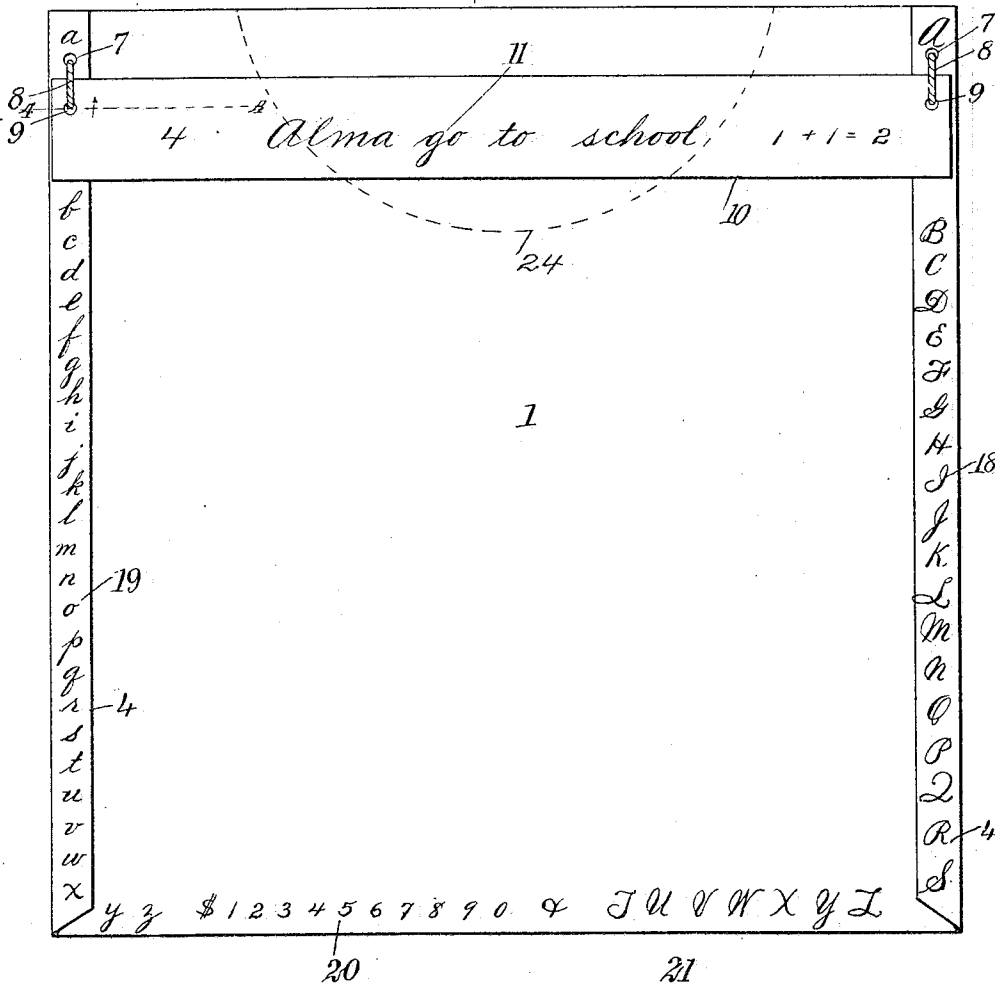


FIG. 2.

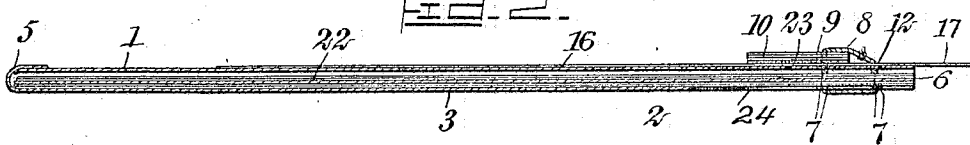
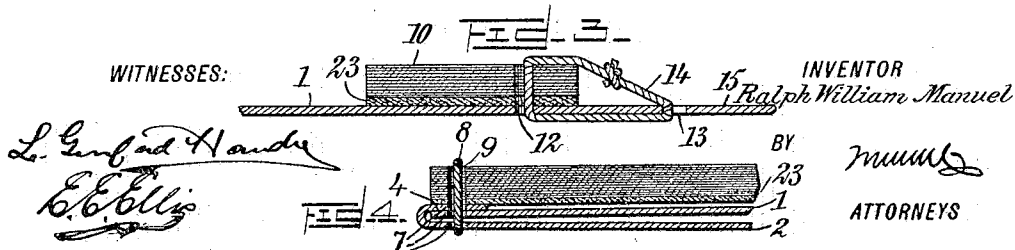


FIG. 3.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR TEACHING PENMANSHIP.

No. 809,712.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 9, 1906.

Application filed May 24, 1905. Serial No. 262,005.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RALPH WILLIAM MANUEL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented a new and Improved Device for Teaching Penmanship, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to devices for facilitating instruction in penmanship; and it consists, substantially, in the details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to overcome certain difficulties and objections attending the use of many other contrivances hitherto devised for a similar purpose.

A further object is to provide a device of this kind which is exceedingly simple in its embodiment, inexpensive to manufacture, besides being thoroughly effective and reliable in use, and possessing the capacity for long and repeated service.

The above and additional objects are attained by means substantially such as are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of one form of the device embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of a modification, showing the back and front of the envelop made separately. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view in detail of another embodiment to indicate more clearly the means by which the stack or plurality of copy-slips are fastened in position with reference to the base of the device, the slips for this embodiment being attached only to the back of the envelop; and Fig. 4 is also a sectional view in detail of a certain feature of the improvements, the section being on the line 4 4 of Fig. 1.

Before proceeding with a more detailed description it may be stated that in the form of my improvements herein shown I employ an envelop of special construction for containing the used and unused practice-sheets to be employed by the pupil, combined with which are special means for attaching in the desired relation to the back of the envelop a plurality

of copy-slips having either written or printed thereon examples to be followed by the pupil in any desired order when practicing the exercises given to him or to her to perform. The back of the envelop is utilized as a writing-base, upon which the practice-sheets are placed in carrying out or practicing the different exercises, and the organization of the coöperative elements of the device is such that as each line of a practice-sheet is filled out the sheet may be pushed forwardly to temporarily conceal such lines from view and to bring the next succeeding line adjacent to the lower edge of the copy-sheet being followed, and so on until all the lines of the practice-sheet have been utilized, thus preventing mistakes on the part of the pupil in copying his or her own writing instead of that of the exercise on the copy-slip. The number of practice-sheets is not limited, as in the case of the ordinary copy-books as now employed in schools, and they are loose and readily separable from each other either for the purpose of review of the exercise or otherwise.

While I have herein illustrated my improvements in a certain preferred embodiment, it will be understood, of course, that I am not limited thereto in precise detail, since immaterial changes therein may be resorted to coming within the scope of my invention.

Reference being had to the drawings by the designating characters thereon, 1 represents a suitable writing-base, which in the present instance preferably constitutes the back of an envelop 2, the front of which is indicated at 3, having the side edges 4 thereof turned over the corresponding edges of the said base or back and cemented or otherwise secured thereto. This envelop may be formed entirely of a single piece of material of the desired thickness and durability, as shown in Fig. 1, for instance, or the back 1 and the front 3 of the envelop may be made separately, in which case the lower end of the envelop will be closed by turning the lower edge of the front 3 over the corresponding edge of the back 1, as indicated at 5 in Fig. 2, for instance, the parts being secured by cement or otherwise, as in the case of the side edges of the envelop shown in Fig. 1.

The envelop 2 is formed in each of its side edges, near the mouth or open edge 6 thereof, with duplicate alined openings 7, extending

through both thicknesses of the envelop, and through which are received the ends of a light cord 8, which has previously been inserted through corresponding openings 9, formed in a plurality of copy-slips 10, arranged in a stack and each having printed or otherwise delineated thereon the example 11 of penmanship which is to be followed by the pupil in practice, the ends of said cord being tied into a knot 12 or otherwise secured from slipping out relatively to the said side edges of the envelop and the said copy-slips.

The construction just referred to is indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings; but it is apparent that instead of extending the alined openings 7 through both thicknesses of the envelop, as well as the turned-down side edges 4 of the front 3 thereof, as shown in Fig. 4, I may dispense with the said turned-down edges 4 (see Fig. 3, for instance) and form the openings 12 and 13 for the cord 14 through the edge portions 15 of the back 1 only of the envelop. I prefer, however, the construction shown in Figs. 2 and 4, wherein the turned-down edges of the front 3 of the envelop are employed, as well as the alined openings 7, extending through such edges and both the front and back of the envelop. In this way greater strength of fastening for the copy-slips is derived, in that the turned-down edges 4 of the back of the envelop constitute reinforces for the structure, as well as a means by which the front of the envelop is secured to the back thereof.

A practice-sheet for the pupil is indicated at 16 in Fig. 2, the upper or forward edge 17 thereof being extended beyond the stack of copy-slips 10, beneath which this portion of the practice-sheet has been placed for the purpose of enabling the pupil to copy the exercise from that one of the copy-slips which may be uppermost of the stack. Each copy-slip may have thereon a different example 11, as will be understood, any one of which may be brought to view by simply turning forwardly on the cords 8 all the copy-slips above or in advance of the same. As each spaced line of the practice-sheet is filled out by the pupil the same is moved beneath the stack of copy-slips (thus to be concealed temporarily from view) to bring the next succeeding line in position to be filled out in like manner.

Preferably the turned-over side edges 4 of the front 3 of the envelop are provided with examples of penmanship in the way of the alphabet in capitals 18 on one side and in small letters 19 on the other side. Along the lower edge of the back 1 of the envelop other exercises may be placed, as indicated at 20 and 21, for instance, it being apparent, however, that these laterally-described exercises are not essential to my improvements.

The envelop is preferably provided interiorly with a sheet of cardboard 22 or the like

for separating the used and unused practice-sheets from each other, so as to avoid soiling of the latter by the former, and beneath the stack or plurality of copy-slips 10 is preferably disposed a strip 23 of blotting-paper, so that as the lines filled out by the pupil on the practice-sheets are successively passed beneath the stack of copy-slips the ink thereon will be absorbed or dried and prevented from blurring, as might otherwise result.

Both the front and back of the envelop may be constructed of any desired material—as, for instance, heavy Manila paper, cardboard, celluloid, or the like—and, as before stated, the outer surface of the back of the envelop constitutes a writing-base upon which the practice-sheets are placed in the manner already described.

The device is simple and inexpensive to manufacture, and whenever it is desired to substitute a new stack or set of copy-slips the same may be readily effected by simply untying the cords 8, as will be understood.

The open edge of the front 3 of the envelop is preferably formed with a notch 24 (as is common in many envelops) to facilitate the entrance of the fingers within the envelop either to place the sheets therein or to remove the same therefrom, said notch being shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, and in full lines, Fig. 2.

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

1. A device of the character described, comprising an envelop, a writing-base having sets of alined openings therein at the side edges near adjacent corners thereof, a stack of copy-slips having openings therethrough near the ends thereof, and fastening means for said slips inserted through the latter openings and through those of each set in the base, said base forming the back of the envelop.

2. A device of the character described, comprising an envelop having a back constituting a writing-base for a practice-sheet and having the side edges of the front thereof turned over the corresponding edges of said back and secured, the device being formed, near adjacent corners thereof, with sets of alining openings extending through the three thicknesses of material thus provided, a stack of copy-slips having openings therethrough near the ends, and fastening means for said slips extending through the latter openings and through those of each set of said alining openings.

3. A device of the character described, comprising an envelop having a back constituting a writing-base for a practice-sheet and having the side edges of the front thereof turned over the corresponding edges of said back and secured, the device being formed, near adjacent corners thereof, with sets of

alining openings extending through the three
thicknesses of material thus provided, a stack
of copy-slips having openings threthrough
near the ends, and fastening-cords for said
5 slips extending through the latter openings
and through those of each set of said alining
openings.

In testimony whereof I have signed my
name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

RALPH WILLIAM MANUEL.

Witnesses:

J. VAN VALKENBURG,

C. H. SMITH.