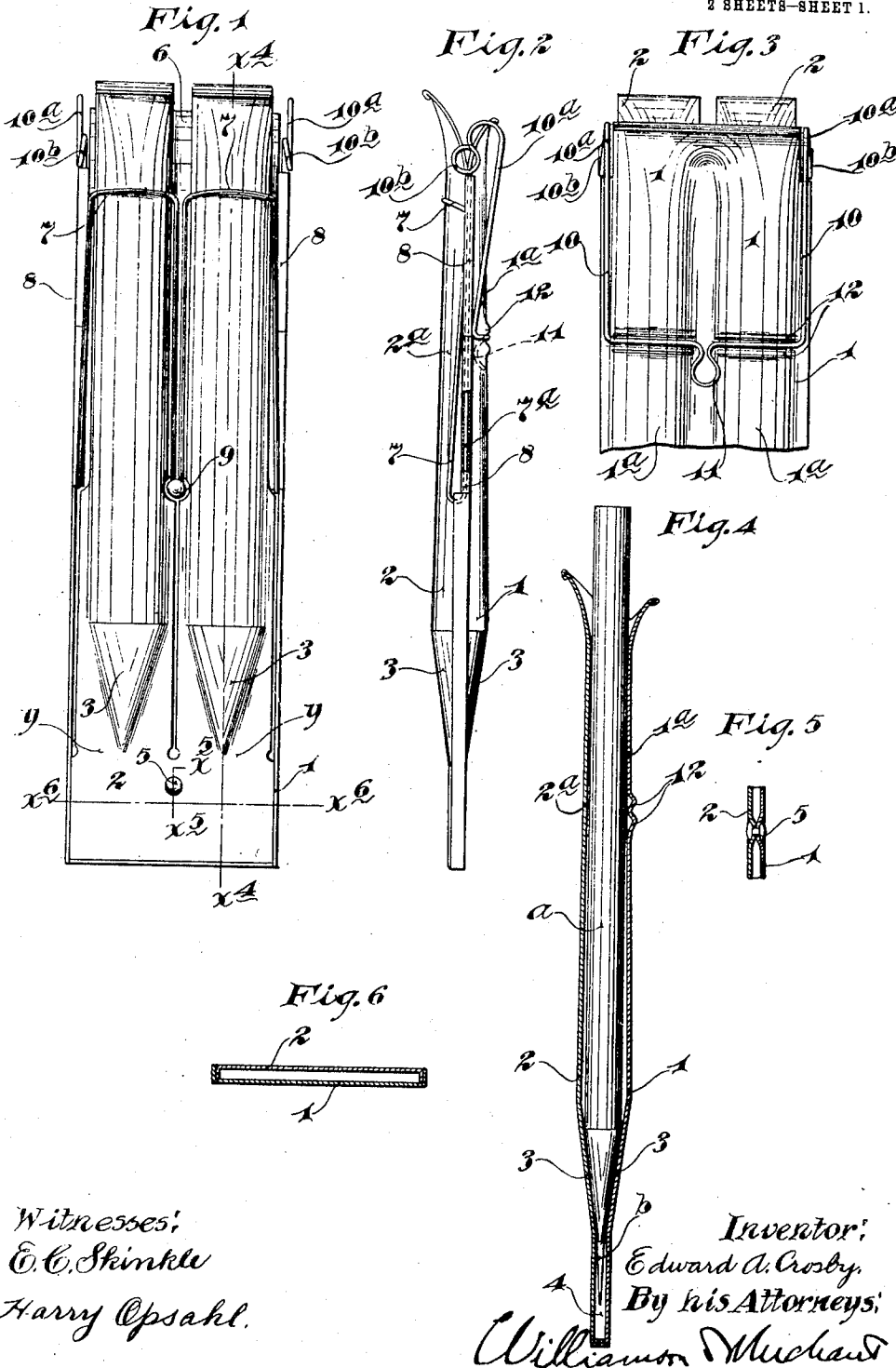


976,437.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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PEN AND PENCIL HOLDER.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 14, 1910.

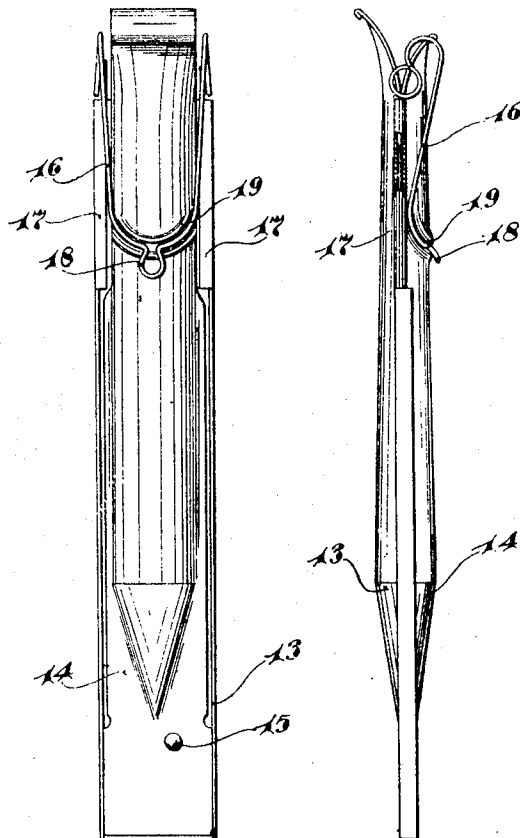
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2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.

Fig. 7

Fig. 8



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PEN AND PENCIL HOLDER.

976,437.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD A. CROSBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pen and Pencil Holders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has for its object to provide an improved pen and pencil holder adapted for use as an attachment within an upper vest pocket; and to such ends the invention consists of the novel devices and combinations of devices hereinafter described and defined in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing which illustrates the invention, like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings; Figure 1 is a view in rear elevation showing my improved pen and pencil holder; Fig. 2 shows the holder in side elevation, some parts being sectioned; Fig. 3 is front elevation of the holder, the lower portions thereof being broken away; Fig. 4 is a vertical section taken on line $x^4 x^4$ of Fig. 1 and showing a pencil positioned within the holder; Fig. 5 is a detail in section on line $x^5 x^5$ of Fig. 1; Fig. 6 is a horizontal section taken on line $x^6 x^6$ of Fig. 1; Fig. 7 is a front elevation showing a modified construction in which the holder is designed with but one barrel; Fig. 8 is side elevation of the holder shown in Fig. 7, some parts being sectioned.

Referring first to the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 to 6 inclusive, it may be stated that this improved holder is shown as designed with two barrels. The two barrels, and in fact the entire body portion of the holder, is made from two thin metal plates or sheets 1 and 2. These two plates are formed with cooperating longitudinally extended approximately semi-cylindrical bulges 1^a and 2^a respectively, that cooperate to form the barrels into which the pencil, pen, or similar article is adapted to be inserted; and to make the insertion of such object within the barrel an easy matter, the upper extremities of the cooperating bulged portions 1^a and 2^a are made to flare, as best shown in Fig. 4. The lower extremities of the barrels thus formed are made conical as

indicated at 3, and below the conical sections 3 the two plates are spaced apart to form a thin pocket 4, that extends across the entire lower portion of the holder and is adapted to receive the point of the pencil and to protect the same, without engagement therewith as shown in Fig. 4, wherein the pencil is indicated with the character a , the projecting lead point thereof being indicated by the character b .

As preferably constructed, the front plate 1 is formed with side and bottom flanges that embrace the sides and bottom portions of the inner plate 2. A single rivet 5, (see Figs. 1 and 5) passed through inwardly pressed portions of the two plates 1 and 2, rigidly connects the lower portions of the two plates, but leaves the upper portion of the inner plate 2 free for limited movements toward and from the outer plate 1. The sides of the plate 2 are cut away, as best shown in Fig. 1, in order to clear the marginal flanges of the plate 1.

To make the bulged portions 2^a of the inner plate 2 free for independent movements toward and from the cooperating bulged portions 1^a of the plate 1, the said plate 2 is provided with a long central slot 6, that extends from the extreme upper portion of the said plate to a point slightly above the rivet 5 and approximately to the lower extremities of the conical portions 3. The plate 2 is thus so formed that it will be flexible, at points indicated by the character y on Fig. 1 and will be inflexible at points both above and below said flexible line. The said flexible portions y , therefore, serve as sort of spring hinges, permitting independent movements of the relatively movable sections of the two holding barrels.

By referring to Figs. 1 and 4, it will be noted that the two barrels are so formed that when an ordinary pencil is inserted therein said barrels will flare, or increase in diameter toward the lower extremities, or toward the points of junction thereof with the conical sections 3. The said conical sections 3 will engage the tapered, wooden portion of the pencil and thereby limit the downward movement of the pencil in the barrel and the lead point b of the pencil will project into the pocket 4, without engagement therewith and will thus be so protected that it cannot be broken while the pencil is in the barrel. This feature is always of

importance, but is of specially great importance when an indelible pencil is carried in the barrel. In numerous instances, good wash vests have been practically ruined in the laundry by a broken indelible pencil point dropped into the pocket and which becomes dissolved producing an ugly indelible stain in the vicinity of the pocket.

The barrel sections 2^a are independently spring pressed, as shown by inverted U shaped springs 7 having upturned outer ends 7^a securely held by folded edged portions 8 of the outer plate 1. The inner prongs of the two springs 7 are shown as integrally formed and anchored to the central portion of the front plate 1 by a rivet 9. Thus it will be seen that the prongs of the springs 7 are securely anchored to the front plate 1 and work clear of the sides of the relatively movable barrel sections 2^a, with their bowed upper portions independently pressed against the upper portions of the said barrel sections 2^a, and yieldingly pressing the same toward the front plate 1 so that they will independently yield and independently hold pencils, pens, or similar objects placed within the two barrels.

For securely but detachably clamping the holder in the vest pocket, a bail-like clamping spring 10 is provided, and the upwardly extended prongs thereof are curved at 10^a, then preferably bent downward to form spring loops 10^b and from there extended further downward and rigidly secured within the upper portions of the edge folds 8 of the front plate 1. At the transverse center of its lower portion, the clamping spring 10 is shown as bent to form a finger piece 11 which is located in the channel between the two barrel sections 1^a of the plate 1. The transversely extended lower portions of the spring 10, which run on opposite sides of finger piece 11, are arranged to normally lie in transverse channels or seats 12 formed in the outer intermediate portions of the said barrel sections 1^a.

When the holder is placed in the vest pocket, the flap of the pocket will be clamped between the spring 10 and the upper portions of the barrel sections 1^a and the seats 12 assist the spring 10 in more firmly securing the holder to the pocket. The curved portions 10^a of the spring 10 afford clearance for the upper portion of the pocket flap, thereby leaving the clamping action entirely in the vicinity of the transverse lower portion of the spring.

The form of holder illustrated in Figs. 1 to 6 inclusive may be extended and provided with any desired number of barrels. In Figs. 7 and 8, however, the invention is shown as incorporated in a holder having a single barrel. In this construction, the outer plate 13 and inner plate 14 are connected by a single rivet 15 but are constructed to form

a single holding barrel of the same character as that described above, but otherwise stated, they are provided with the same cooperating relatively movable barrel sections, with conical lower extremity and depending pocket below the same. In this single barrel holder, however, a single spring is used to clamp the device to the pocket and to yieldingly press the sections of the barrel together. This spring 16 is an approximately U-shaped spring, constructed much like the spring 10, and having its downturned prongs securely held by folded edges 17, on the back plate 13. The bow of the spring 16, is formed with a finger piece 18, and is arranged to engage a segmental seat 19, formed in the plate 14. By reference to Fig. 7, it will be noted that the rivet 15 is laterally offset from the axis of the barrel so that it will clear the point of the pencil inserted into the barrel. Also the plate 14 is cut away at its sides, as best shown in Fig. 7, in order to clear the marginal flanges of the plate 13.

The desirable features of the improved holder above described may be summarized as follows: It insures against loss of pen or pencil; protects pencil point from being broken; saves the pocket from wear; keeps the pocket clean from leads and indelible inks; affords separate barrels, or compartments for each article held; accommodates itself to pencils and pens of different sizes; may be easily attached and removed; is perfectly sanitary; and a pen or pencil may be easily inserted in the barrel and will be securely held therein. The metal plates of the holder are preferably made of aluminum which is extremely light, sufficiently strong and does not require plating to make it non-corrodible.

What I claim is:—

1. A pen or pencil holder comprising cooperating light sheet metal members constructed to afford a holding barrel and a pocket at the lower extremity thereof, one of said members having a yielding portion approximately at the junction of the barrel and the pocket, and a spring applied to yieldingly press the upper portion of the said members toward each other, substantially as described.

2. A pen or pencil holder comprising cooperating light sheet metal barrel forming members yieldingly connected at their lower portions, and a spring having prongs anchored to one of the said members and embracing and engaging the other member and yieldingly pressing the upper portions of the said members together, substantially as described.

3. A pen or pencil holder comprising light sheet metal barrel forming members yieldingly connected at their lower portions and provided with depending unyielding pocket,

which, in width, is much less than the smallest transverse portion of said barrel, the said barrel and pocket being united by tapered portions affording a stop surface adapted to engage the tapered wooden portion of the pencil, when the sharpened lead of the pencil is inserted into the said unyielding pocket, and a spring applied to press the upper end

portions of said barrel forming members toward each other, substantially as described. 10

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD A. CROSBY.

Witnesses:

F. D. MERCHANT,
HARRY D. KILGORE.