

June 19, 1923.

1,459,517

T. C. SAWYIER  
PEN AND PENCIL HOLDER  
Filed Nov. 20, 1922

FIG. 1

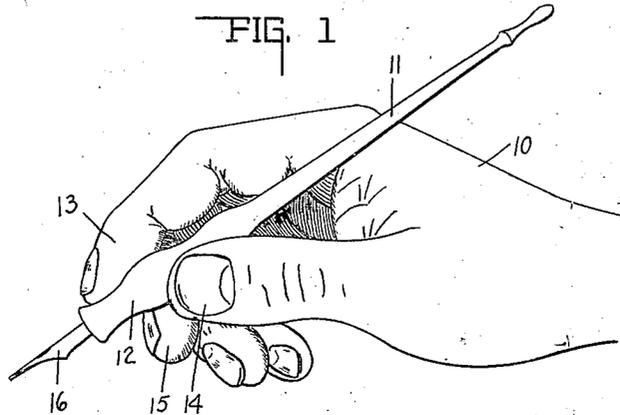


FIG. 2

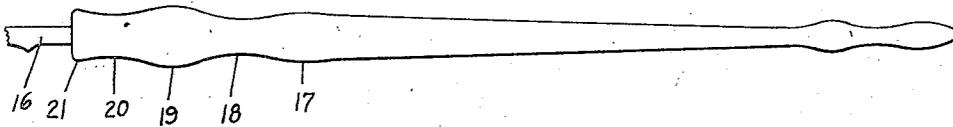


FIG. 3

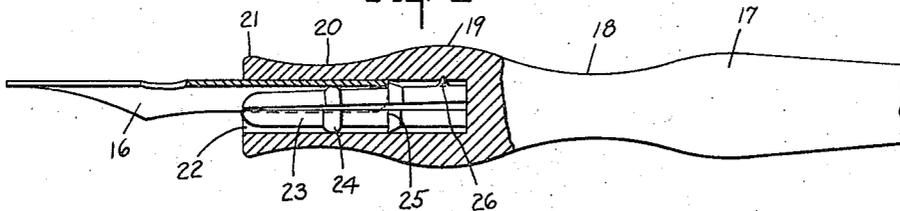


FIG. 4

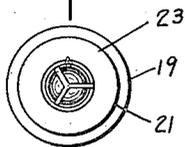


FIG. 5

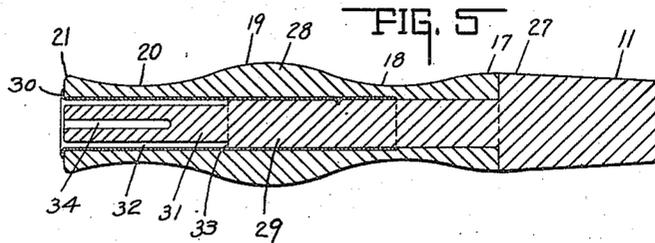
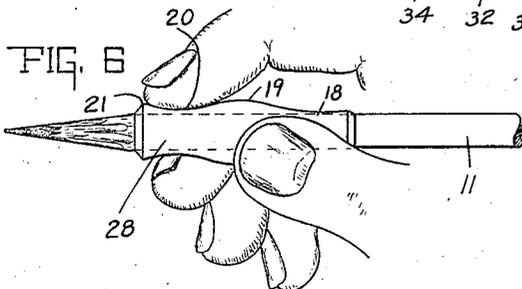


FIG. 6



INVENTOR.  
THOMAS C. SAWYIER.

BY *Richard L. Lusk*  
ATTORNEYS.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS C. SAWYIER, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

PEN AND PENCIL HOLDER.

Application filed November 20, 1922. Serial No. 602,125.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS C. SAWYIER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, have invented a certain new and useful Pen and Pencil Holder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals refer to like parts.

This invention relates to a pen or pencil holder, and particularly to the contour and proportions of the finger-grasping portion, wherein it would be more adaptable to the position of the fingers for corrective and instructive purposes.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a grasping member for writing instruments having the finger-grip portion so curved as to put the writing hand at ease, and encourage the relaxation of the hand and wrist, discouraging so-called pen-gripping.

It is designed to develop light touch and fluency in the handwriting movement, and the finger-fitting curves keep the fingers from slipping into awkward and tiresome distortions. The large hump on the holder provides a rest for the ball of the thumb and keeps it up opposite the first joint of the index finger to induce a sense of security for poise and control. The slight pressure exerted diagonally across the hump of the holder between the thumb and index finger tends to keep the holder up in the hand and the pen in correct angle of contact with the paper. In other words, the contour and proportion of the finger-grasping portion is arranged to conform to the natural curves of the fingers when held in correct writing position, whereby the holder will be corrective and instructive to the user.

Another feature of the invention lies in the pen-holding means associated with the finger-grasping portion, wherein the pen-point will be properly limited in its insertion to the proper position, whereby it will extend a given distance from the end of the holder and be securely but removably held in that position.

The full nature of the invention will be understood from the accompanying drawings and the following description and claims.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a perspective

view showing a penholder in writing position with the fingers in proper grasping position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the pen. Fig. 3 is an enlarged side elevation showing the finger-grasping portion and the pen-point with a portion thereof cut in central longitudinal cross section. Fig. 4 is an end elevation of the penholder with the pen removed. Fig. 5 is a modified form showing the penholder with the grasping portion formed separately thereon in central longitudinal cross section, with a different type of pen-holding means. Fig. 6 is a side elevation showing the finger-grasping portion applied to a pencil.

In the drawings there is shown the representation of a hand 10 in writing position, grasping the penholder 11. The grasping portion 12 of the penholder is adapted to be held in the usual manner between the index finger 13, thumb 14 and against the side of the second finger 15. The pen-point 16 is removably secured in the end of the holder.

The grasping portion 12 is annular in cross section, and provided with a series of longitudinal curves arranged to conform to the curvature of the fingers when in proper writing position. From the upper tip of the pen to the writing end, the contour of the pen gradually increases in diameter to the point 17 after which the annular surface converges to a point 18 of minimum diameter, providing a thumb-receiving and grasping hollow, or reduced portion. The diameter of the penholder is then increased in proportion to its decrease to a maximum diameter 19, which is rounded in contour and provides a separating hump for separating the thumb from the index finger, and providing a ball rest for the thumb on one side and a rest for the index finger on the other. The diameter then gradually decreases the second time to the point 20, providing a grasping hollow for the reception of the index finger and second finger, after which the diameter of the penholder increases to the end of the penholder 21, which is of slightly increased diameter for giving the proper support and positioning to the index finger.

The curves formed by the varying diameters above described are so proportioned and are of such length and depth of sweep to be best fitted for the reception of their respective grasping fingers when placed in proper writing position, spacing the thumb

and index finger from each other so as to cause the penholder to be properly grasped and to prevent the fingers from slipping out of proper position into an awkward and tiresome position. In other words, the reduced finger portion with the supporting intermediate hump, control the positioning of the fingers and unconsciously forces the writer to adjust the thumb and first two fingers into natural relationship and correct placement for proper penholding.

For removably receiving the pen-point 16, there is provided a central and longitudinally extending bore 22, annular in cross section, and adapted to receive the retaining member 23 which is slit longitudinally into three sections, as shown in Fig. 4. Each of said sections is provided with a corresponding annular bead 24, a corresponding annular stop shoulder 25 and a locking projection 26 near the rear end thereof. Upon the three sections of the member 23 being inserted within the bore 22 of the penholder, and the insertion of the pen-point 16 within the bore adjacent the curved surface of the member, the inserted end of said pen will pass over the small bead 24 and abut against the shoulder 25. This will limit the position of the pen-point, so that it will project the proper distance from the end of the holder; and the fact that it is squeezed between a wall of the bore 22 and the bead 24 will tend to cause the sections of the member 23 to be pressed at their outer ends and spread apart at their inner ends so as to force the projecting point 26 into the inner surface of the bore. This will cause the member 23 to be secured and held within the bore, while the pen-point is held therein by frictional engagement between the wall of the bore and the bead 24.

In the modified forms shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the penholder pencil 11 is provided at the writing end with a straight annular shank 27 adapted to receive the finger-grasping cushion 28 which may be removably mounted thereon and secured by glue or other means in the usual manner, said portion being curved and provided with the finger-receiving contours above described for receiving and positioning the grasping fingers. The cushion 28 may be made of rubber, cork or other suitable material for cushioning purposes.

Mounted about the reduced end 29 of the penholder, shown in Fig. 5, there may be secured a metal sleeve 30 for reinforcing purposes, surrounding the pen-retaining portion 31. The retaining portion 31 is formed integral with the holder 11, but of reduced diameter so as to provide a receiving space 32 for the pen-point, and a shoulder 33 against which the end of the pen-point may

abut for limiting its position therein. The slot 34 is cut in the end of the portion 31 so as to extend longitudinally and diametrically thereof for permitting the ends thereof to be pressed together when the pin-point is inserted in the usual manner.

The invention claimed is:

1. A writing instrument comprising a longitudinal stem having a finger-grasping portion at the writing end thereof, said finger-grasping portion having about the periphery thereof an annular thumb-receiving recess, an annular index finger-receiving recess, and an annular intermediate enlarged portion for separating said recesses and providing a bearing for said thumb and index fingers.

2. A writing instrument comprising a longitudinal stem having a finger-grasping portion at the writing end thereof, said finger-grasping portion having an annular thumb-receiving portion of reduced diameter, an annular index finger-receiving portion of reduced diameter, and an annular intermediate separating portion of maximum diameter for separating said fingers and providing a rest therefor, whereby said fingers and thumb will be maintained in proper grasping position.

3. A writing instrument comprising a longitudinal stem having a finger-grasping portion at the writing end thereof, said finger-grasping portion having an annular surface of varying cross sectional diameters, there being adjacent the writing end thereof an annular index finger-grasping hollow of reduced diameter having a contour adapted to fit the curve of the finger, an enlarged annular curved hump adjacent thereto away from the writing end, and a second annular thumb-receiving hollow of reduced diameter adjacent said hump and away from the writing end, having a smaller diameter so proportioned in contour as to receive and fit the curvature of the thumb, whereby said thumb and index finger may be properly and conveniently held in easy writing position.

4. A penholder having a central and longitudinally extending bore in the writing end thereof, a pen-point receiving member adapted to extend into and be secured within said bore, an annular bead formed about the periphery of said member, a shoulder formed thereon for limiting the inner movement of said pen-point when inserted in said bore, and a projecting projection formed on the periphery of said member for engaging in the wall of said bore and locking said member therein when said pen-point is inserted between said wall and bead.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature.

THOMAS C. SAWYER.