(No Model.)

A. REID.

FOUNTAIN PEN.

No. 421,614. Patented Feb. 18, 1890.

FIG. 2.

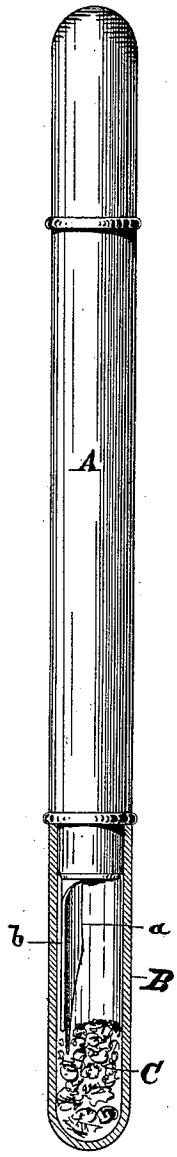
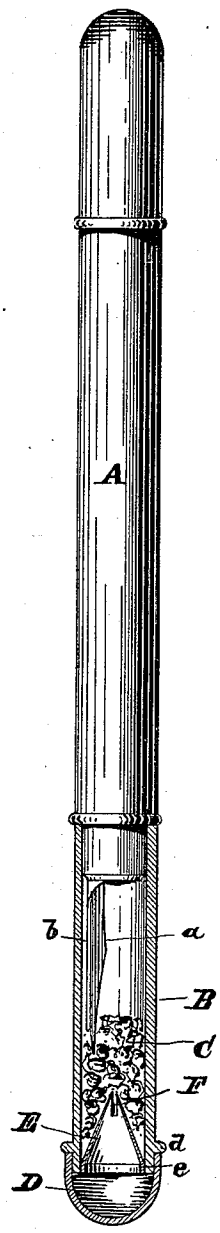


FIG. 1.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADAM REID, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

FOUNTAIN-PEN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 421,614, dated February 18, 1890.

Application filed May 13, 1889. Serial No. 310,582. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADAM REID, of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fountain-Pens; and I do hereby declare that the following description of my said invention, taken in connection with the accompanying sheet of drawings, forms a full, clear, and exact specification, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My present invention has general reference to improvements in fountain-pens; and it consists, essentially, in the novel and peculiar combination of parts, and details of construction, as hereinafter first fully set forth and described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings already mentioned, Figure 1 is an elevation of a fountain-pen having my attachment thereon, parts being shown in section to better illustrate the same. Fig. 2 is a similar view slightly modified.

Like parts are designated by corresponding letters of reference in all the figures.

The object of this invention is the production of a simple, cheap, and efficient attachment for fountain-pens, to prevent the same from gumming when not in use.

It is a well-known fact that fountain-pens as now made have a serious defect—viz., that when the pen has not been in use for some time, the ink lodging in the nib of the pen dries and gums, thus rendering the same useless until taken apart and thoroughly cleaned, the latter being a very disagreeable performance.

To remedy these serious defects I construct my device, essentially, of a cap or tube B to fit over the lower end of the pen. Near the lower extremity of this tube is formed a bead *d* to act as a stop for a cap D, placed upon the outer extremity of said tube, and adapted to close the same when necessary. Within the tube B, at its lower extremity, is placed a cone, having at its base a rim *e*, to snugly fit the interior of the said tube, said cone having at its apex a slotted aperture, the use of which is hereinafter to be described. In the interior of the tube B, above and around the cone E, is placed an absorbent material C, reaching to within a short distance of the upper extremity of the pen proper *a*, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 1.

In use the absorbent material or substance is moistened with any suitable liquid that will not readily dry—such as glycerine—so that when the pen is thrust into the tube B the nib *b* and pen *a* being pushed into the moistened material, they are kept continually moist or damp, so that ink collecting between the nib and pen is prevented from drying or gumming.

When through using the pen, the cap D is removed and the point of the pen thrust into the cone and through the slotted aperture in its apex, said aperture acting as a cleaner or wiper to wipe the ink off the point of the pen when the same is thoroughly cleaned, after which the cap D is replaced and the pen thrust into the tube B, as above described.

In Fig. 2 I have shown my device without the cap and cone, it being in some cases advantageous to dispense with the same, such construction being an equivalent of the device hereinbefore described and within the scope of my invention.

It will now be observed that the herein-described device may be applied to other styles of fountain, stylographic, and other reservoir-pens without change or modification.

The hereinbefore-described device may be produced in vulcanized rubber or gutta-percha, and, when suitably ornamented will make a neat and tasty addition to fountain-pens, which can be produced at a very low figure, and can be attached to all kinds of reservoir-pens without making the same any more expensive.

The absorbent material or substance heretofore mentioned may consist either of sponge, cotton-waste, bibulous paper, cloth, or other textile fabric, felt, &c., and can be applied by simply pushing it into the tube B in suitable quantity.

Heretofore fountain-pens have been made in which a cap having in its interior a porous substance or material is used for the purpose of cleaning and drying the pen. This device has for its object the very contrary result of that sought to be reached by my device—viz., that of drying the pen—so that when same is to be used, the ink will not flow over

the same, and the pen has usually to be violently shaken or dipped into ink to cause the ink contained in the pen-fountain to flow over the pen. I do not, therefore, claim a fountain-pen having a cap provided with a porous substance; but desire it to be understood that my invention consists in a fountain-pen having a moist substance in its cap, whereby the pen proper is kept continuously in a moist state.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure to me by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. In a fountain-pen, the combination, with the holder A, of a tubular cap-piece B, having in its upper end a cone-shaped plug provided in its apex with a slotted aperture and an absorbent saturated with a non-drying liquid, such as glycerine, and a cap to close said tubular cap on one end, as and for the object set forth.

2. A fountain-pen having a cap provided with an absorbent substance saturated with a non-drying liquid, such as glycerine, substantially as described, whereby the pen when covered by said cap is kept in a moist condition, as set forth.

3. In a fountain-pen, a cap having in its interior an absorbent substance saturated with a substantially non-drying liquid, whereby the pen when not in use and covered by said cap is kept in a moist condition, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have hereto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ADAM REID.

Attest:
MICHAEL J. STARK,
WM. O. STARK.