

(No Model.)

J. F. FOSTER.

PENCIL CLASP.

No. 273,268.

Patented Mar. 6, 1883.

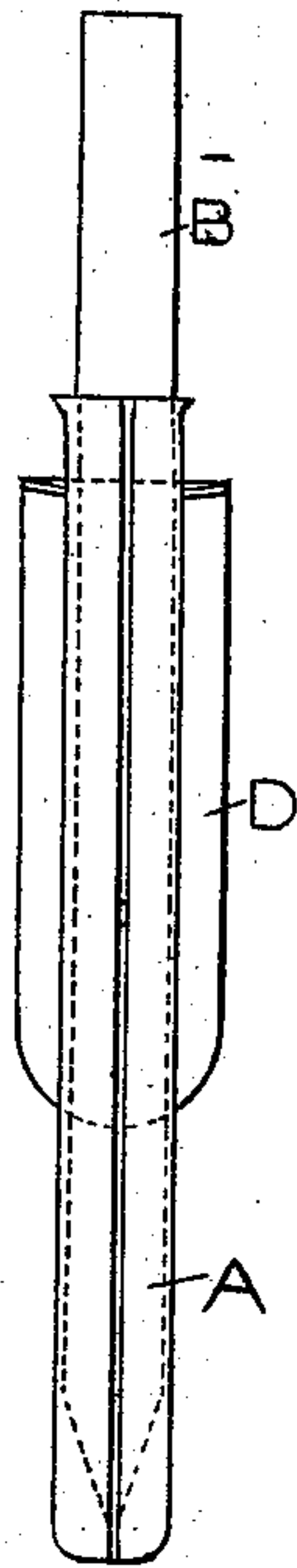


FIG. 1

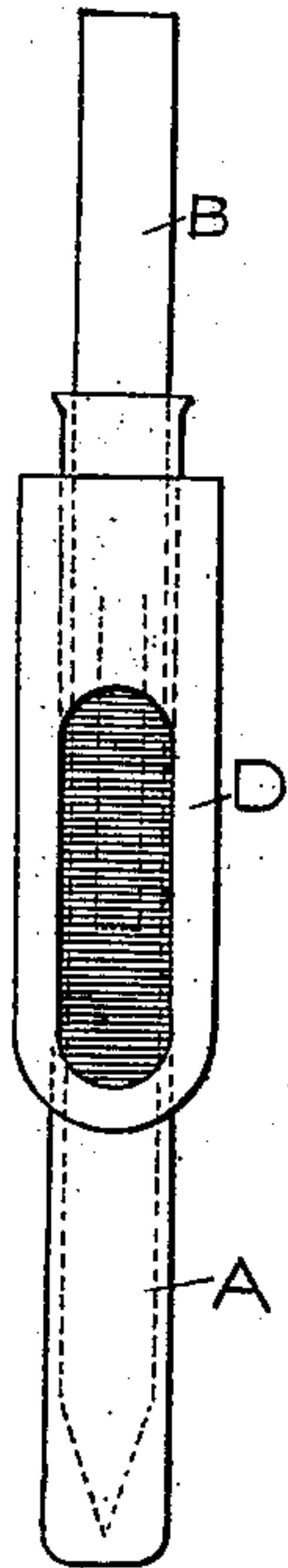


FIG. 2

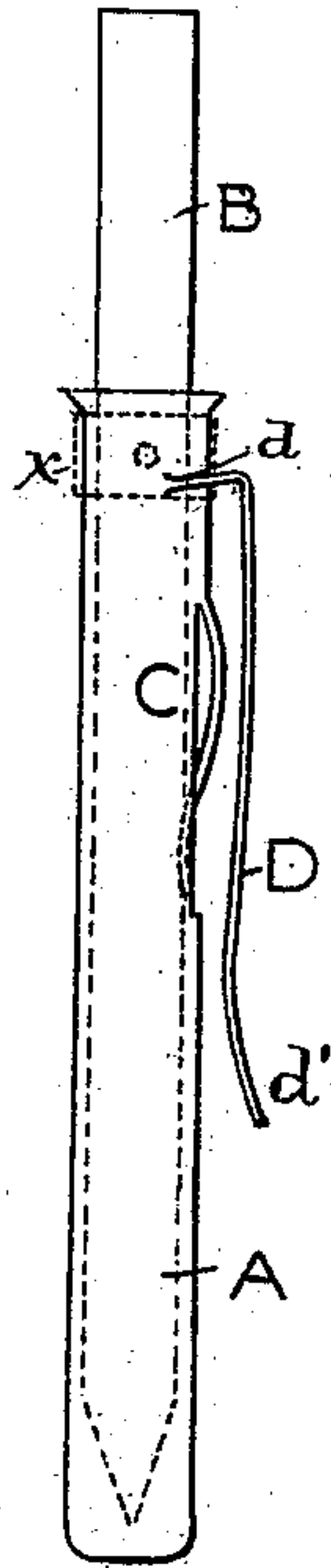


FIG. 3



FIG. 4

WITNESSES

*L. L. Frost*  
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*per George Paray*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. FOSTER, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

## PENCIL-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 273,268, dated March 6, 1883.

Application filed October 28, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN F. FOSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improved Pencil-Holder, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of pencil-holders which is intended to be secured to the edge of the vest or other pocket, and to form a holder or receptacle for the pencil.

This invention consists in the peculiar formation of the clasp which secures the holder in the pocket, by which the said holder is made available for pointing the lead, aniline stick, or crayon of the pencil or for striking matches.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a rear view, Fig. 2 is a front view, Fig. 3 is a side view, and Fig. 4 is a plan, of my device.

In all the figures of the drawings like letters of reference represent like parts.

A is the tube in which the pencil B is held. It is stamped out of a metal sheet and bent into shape, but not soldered or joined at the meeting edges, not only on account of cheapness of construction, but also to allow the tube to expand when an extra-sized pencil is introduced therein. (See Figs. 1 and 4) The tube should be closed at the bottom.

C is a spring, which is formed by cutting out a strip of the metal of the tube and bending it into such a shape as will cause it to press with some force against the pencil when in the holder. As this strip is not parted from the tube at its upper end no soldering is required.

D is my improved spring-clasp. It is made of hard brass or steel, and about five-eighths of an inch wide. It is fastened to the tube at *d*, approaches close to it at *d'*, and curves forward away from it at its lower edge. A portion of the face of this clasp is roughened like a file, as shown in Fig. 2, though, if need

be, the whole face may be so roughened. The clasp, when made of brass, may be soldered on the tube, but if made of steel it may be formed with a collar, as shown by dotted lines at *x*, Fig. 3, and a rivet passed through it and the tube to hold it in place. The particular manner of putting the parts together is, however, a matter of choice with the manufacturer. The outward curve which is given to the clasp at the bottom serves the purpose of facilitating the passing of the edge of the pocket in between the holder and its clasp in the act of placing the holder in position. Also, in striking a match it is important that the match, being struck and lighted, should be guided or directed away from the wearer's clothing.

This holder may be made of any suitable material and should be neatly polished or plated.

In using my improved pencil-holder, the wearer puts the tube inside the pocket and squeezes the cloth edge thereof in between the clasp and the tube. The pencil is inserted into the tube point downward.

A match may be struck without removing the holder, but in pointing the pencil it may be well to remove the holder and hold it horizontally in the left hand, while the pencil to be pointed is quickly moved over the roughened surface with the right hand.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

In a pencil-holder, the combination of a tube, A, and a broad rough-faced clasp, D, to hold the same in place, as and for the purpose herein described.

JOHN F. FOSTER.

Witnesses:

GEORGE PARDY,  
THOMAS BARCLAY.