(No Model.)

W. S. HICKS & H. ISLEY.

PENCIL CASE.

No. 280,313. Patented June 26, 1883.

Fig. 1.

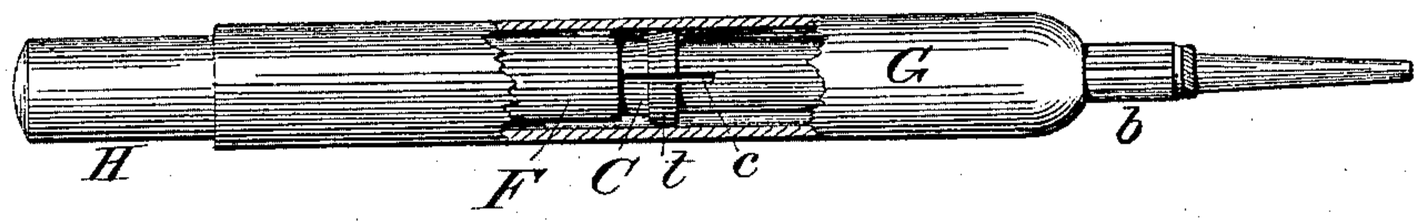


Fig. 2.

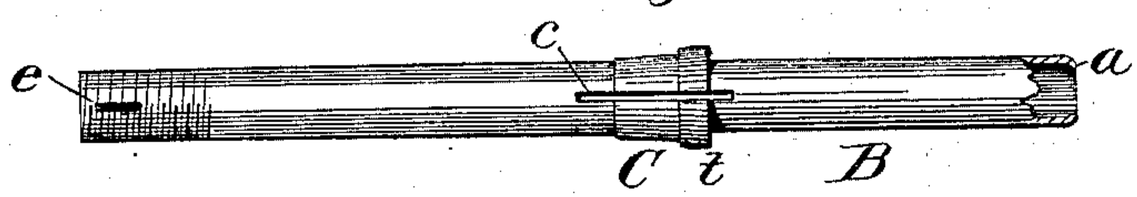


Fig. 3.

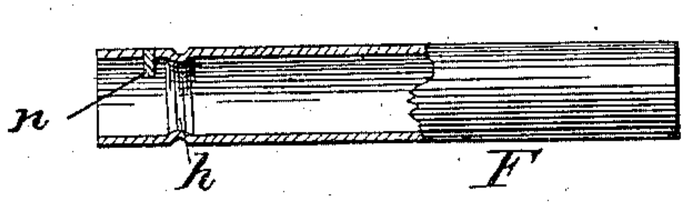


Fig. 4.

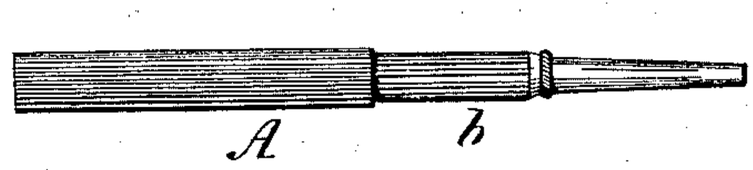


Fig. 5.

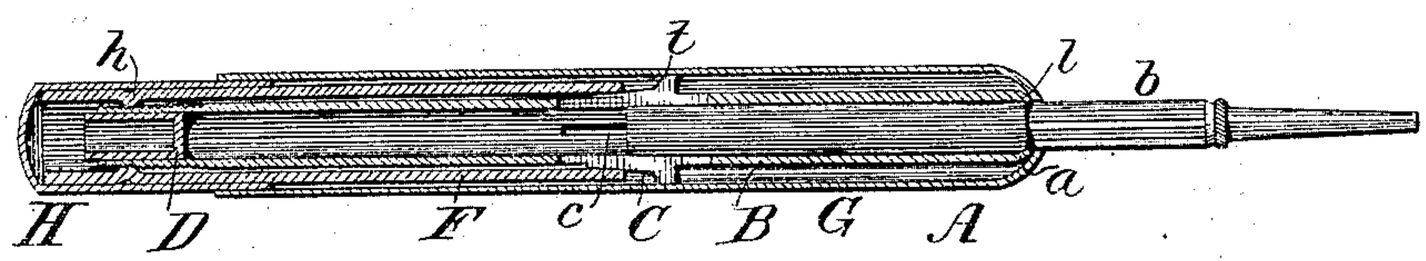


Fig. 6.

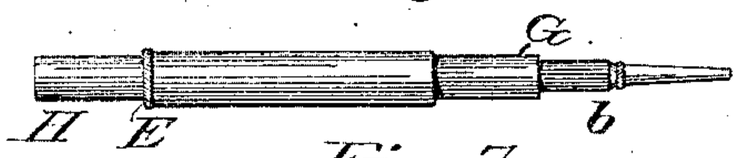
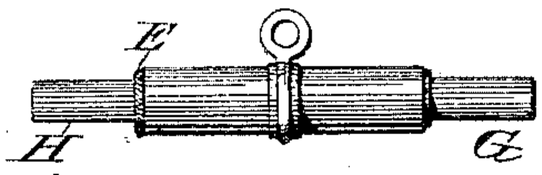


Fig. 7.



Witnesses;

Jas. F. Duhamel.

Walter S. Dodge.

Inventors:

W. S. Hicks, &

Henry Isley,

by Dodgeson,

Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. HICKS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., AND HENRY ISLEY, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

PENCIL-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 280,313, dated June 26, 1883.

Application filed March 16, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM S. HICKS, of New York city, county and State of New York, and HENRY ISLEY, of Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Pencil-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to cases for pencils, tooth-picks, and similar small implements; and the invention consists in a novel construction of the mechanism or working parts of the case, whereby it is rendered exceedingly simple and very efficient, as hereinafter more fully described.

Figure 1 represents a pencil complete, with a portion of the exterior case broken away. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 represent portions detached. Fig. 5 is a central longitudinal section, and Figs. 6 and 7 represent the pencil or case as applied to a chain-bar.

To construct a case on our plan we provide a tubular body, B, as shown detached in Fig. 2, it being open at both ends, but having the edge *a* at its lower end turned inward slightly to form a shoulder or stop to prevent the lead-carrying point or tube from dropping out. Upon this tube B is secured or formed a conical enlargement, C, which may be provided with a collar, *t*, of proper size, to bear against and support the outer case, G, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5, and a series of longitudinal slots, *c*, are cut through the cone and tube, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 5, to render this part flexible and permit it to be compressed by a sleeve, so as to clamp and hold the lead-carrying tube A, which is placed within it, as shown in Fig. 5. At its upper end this tube B is provided with an external screw-thread, *d*, as shown in Fig. 2; but which may, if desired, be made at any point between the end and the collar *t*. A shorter tube, F, Fig. 3, is then provided, of a proper size to fit over the tube B, and has an internal screw-thread, *h*, to correspond with the thread *d* on tube B, this tube or sleeve F being of such a length that when the screws engage the lower end of the sleeve F will be forced onto the cone C, thereby compressing the slotted portion of the tube B and causing it to grasp and firmly hold the lead-carrying tube A within it, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5. As shown in Fig. 3, the tube or sleeve F has an annular groove formed on it at the point where the internal screw-thread, *h*, is cut, the object being to force the metal in at that point, and thus produce a raised internal portion in which the thread may be cut. It is obvious that it may be done in other ways—as, for instance, by the insertion of a short piece of a tube, or by cutting the screw-threads on the cone and in the lower end of the sleeve F; but the plan shown is preferred as being the simplest and cheapest when a screw is used at all.

The lead is contained in an ordinary screw-point consisting of the parts A and *b*, Fig. 4, the part A having a screw-rod working within it to push the lead out of the tube or point *b* as it is worn away, in the usual manner. This is simply dropped into the upper open end of tube B, and when held upright will slide or drop down until its shoulder comes in contact with the inturned end *a* of tube B, which thus limits its movement, as shown in Fig. 5. By turning the sleeve F and forcing it down on the cone C the tube B is compressed and made to grasp the part A, thereby holding it firmly in position and keeping the point steady and firm without any movement, either laterally or longitudinally, in relation to the other parts of the case, thus avoiding the wabbling movement so common to screw-pencils, and which is a serious objection to them, especially when it is desired to do fine or accurate work. By loosening the sleeve F and turning the point uppermost it will at once slide back within the case, when a turn of the sleeve will fasten it there. It will be seen that the point may be made to protrude more or less and be firmly held at any point desired within the range of its movement, and wherever stopped it will be held rigidly in position, in consequence of its being so firmly grasped by the compression of the tube B.

This pencil, or the operating parts thereof, may be arranged and used in various styles of outer cases. If made of a small size, and for carrying in the pocket, it will be provided with an outer metallic case, G, which will have its lower end bent inward, as shown, and is soldered fast to the end of tube B at the point *l*, and, if desired, may also be soldered to the collar *t*, although this will not generally be necessary. To complete the external case a

cap, H, is secured to the upper end of sleeve F, and is of such a diameter as to permit it to fit and turn freely within the upper end of the outer case, G.

If desired, a magazine, D, for lead-points, may be slipped loosely into the upper end of the tube or body B, as shown in Fig. 5, it being shown detached in Fig. 2. It should fit tight enough to be held in place by friction, and when thus inserted it will serve as a stop to limit the movement of the part A when slid back within the case.

Thus far we have described the parts B and F as being provided with screw-threads for forcing the sleeve B upon the cone; but it is obvious that the screw may be dispensed with and the sleeve be simply shoved upon the cone, where it will be held by friction until drawn back, and will operate to clasp the part A just the same. In that case a small slot, *e*, will be made in the tube B, as shown in Fig. 2, and a pin, *n*, Fig. 3, will be secured to the sleeve B in such a position as to work in said slot when the parts are assembled, these serving to limit the backward movement of the sleeve and prevent it from being pulled off. This latter form is specially adapted for use with the cheaper cases, while the screw will be suitable for the more costly styles of cases.

In Figs. 6 and 7 we have shown the pencil-case as applied to a chain-bar, the former showing the pencil detached, and Fig. 7 as being inserted within the open-ended tubular chain bar. When made for this purpose, the pencil-case will be provided with a small annular bead, E, to serve as a stop to prevent it from being shoved through too far. While we have shown it provided with the ordinary screw-point for holding the lead, and as having a comparatively short case, it is obvious that it may be made without the screw-point, and of such a size as to use the long leads in common use, the body B in such case being made to grasp the lead itself, or a small plain tube containing the lead, the cone in such case being located near the lower end, so as to grasp and firmly hold the lead, even when nearly used up. The outer case may be made as ornamental as desired, and may be of metal, vulcanite, celluloid, or any suitable material.

While we have shown the case as being used for a pencil, it is obvious that it may be used in same manner as a case for a tooth-pick, button-hook, or any similar small implement, the latter being merely substituted in place of the point *b*. One great advantage of this construction is that it enables us to make a pencil of unusual length, when extended, in proportion to its diameter, and for that reason it is specially adapted for use in chain-bars, and also for carrying in the pocket.

We are aware that crayon and pencil holders have been made of a tube provided with a series of slits at its lower end, and having a ring or ferrule to fit over and compress the same in order to hold a lead or tool, and we do not claim such a device; but

What we do claim is—

1. The combination of the tube B, provided with the cone C, and the slots *c*, located at a distance from either end of the tube, and the adjustable sleeve F, having its end arranged to operate upon the cone C, substantially as shown and described.

2. In combination with the tube B, provided with the cone C, and slots *c*, arranged centrally on said tube, the sleeve F, and the exterior case, G H, all constructed and arranged to operate as described, for the purpose of grasping and holding the lead-tube A, or any similar article, as set forth.

3. In combination with the body B and detachable sleeve F, the removable magazine D, substantially as shown and described.

WILLIAM S. HICKS.
HENRY ISLEY.

WITNESSES:
EDWARD D. HICKS,
OSCAR R. WILCOX.