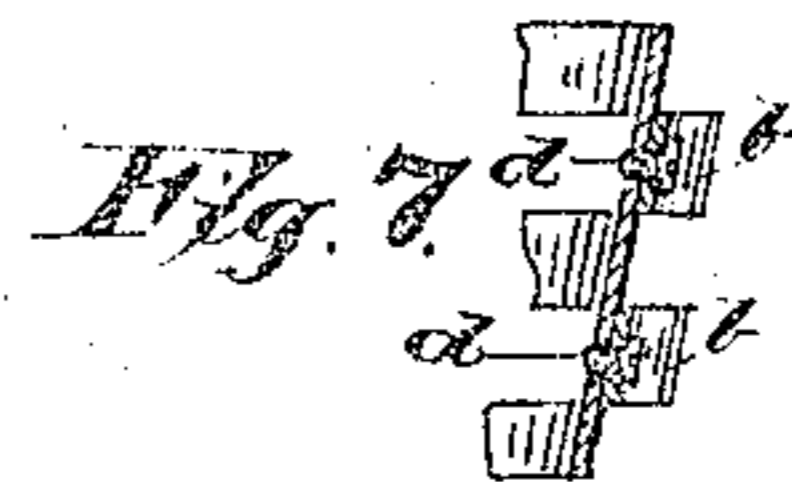
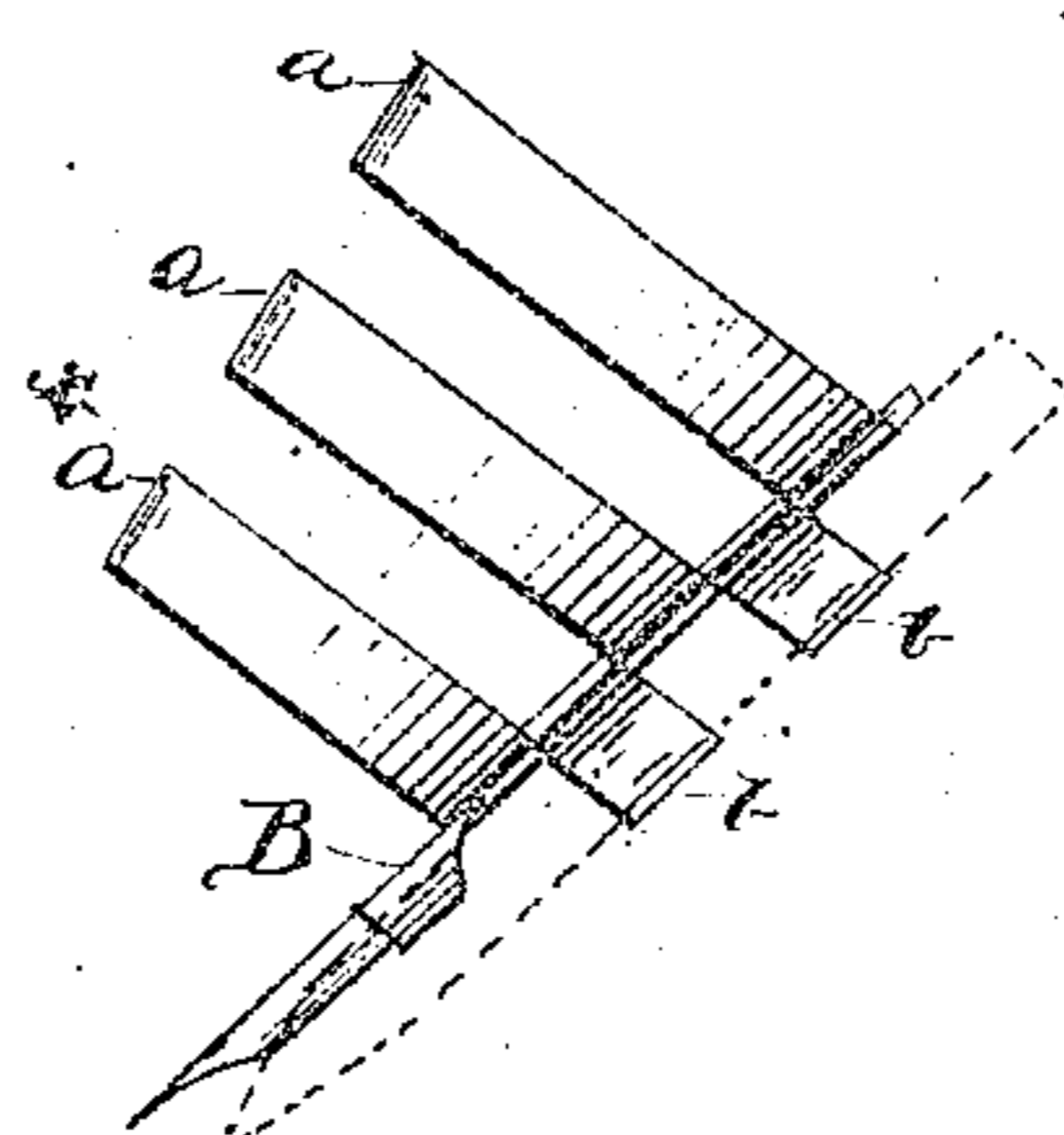
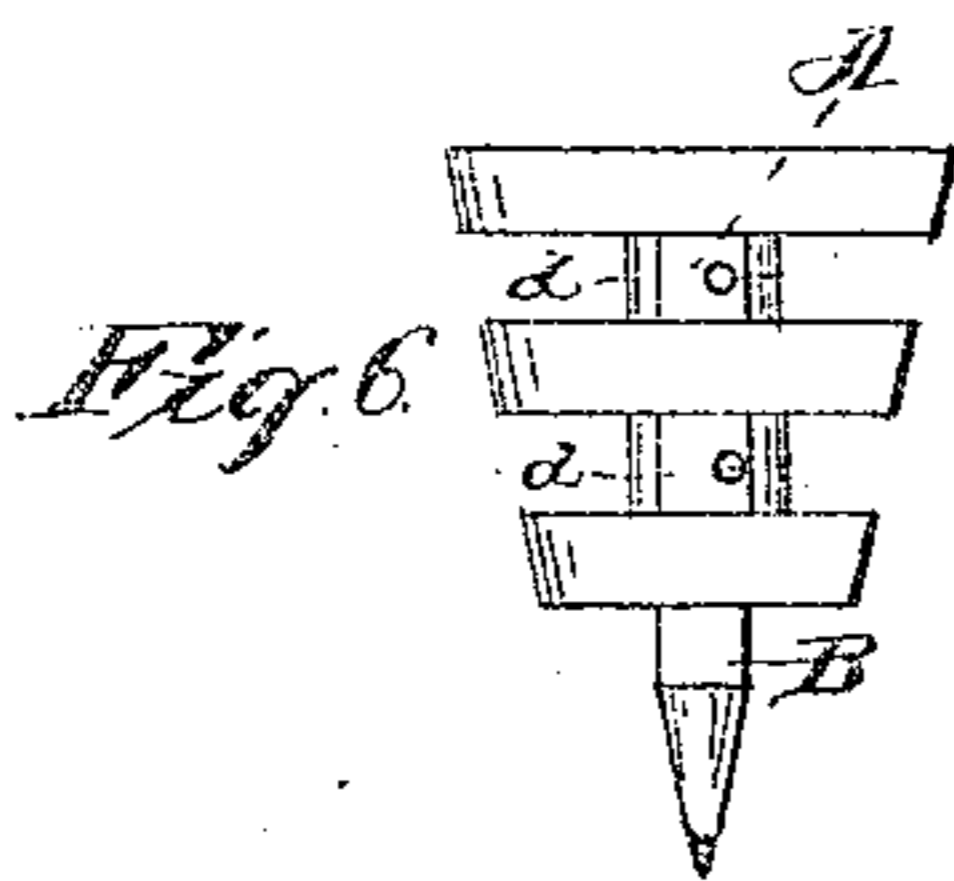
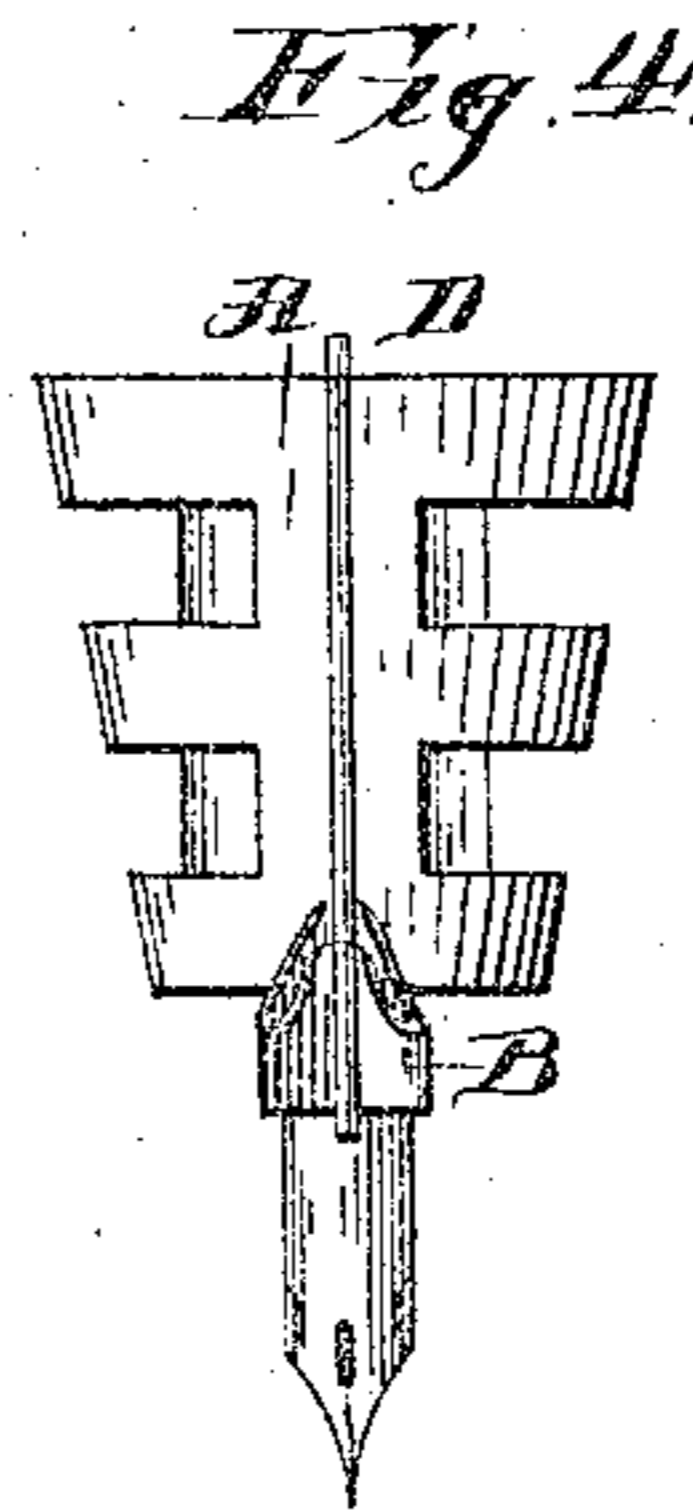
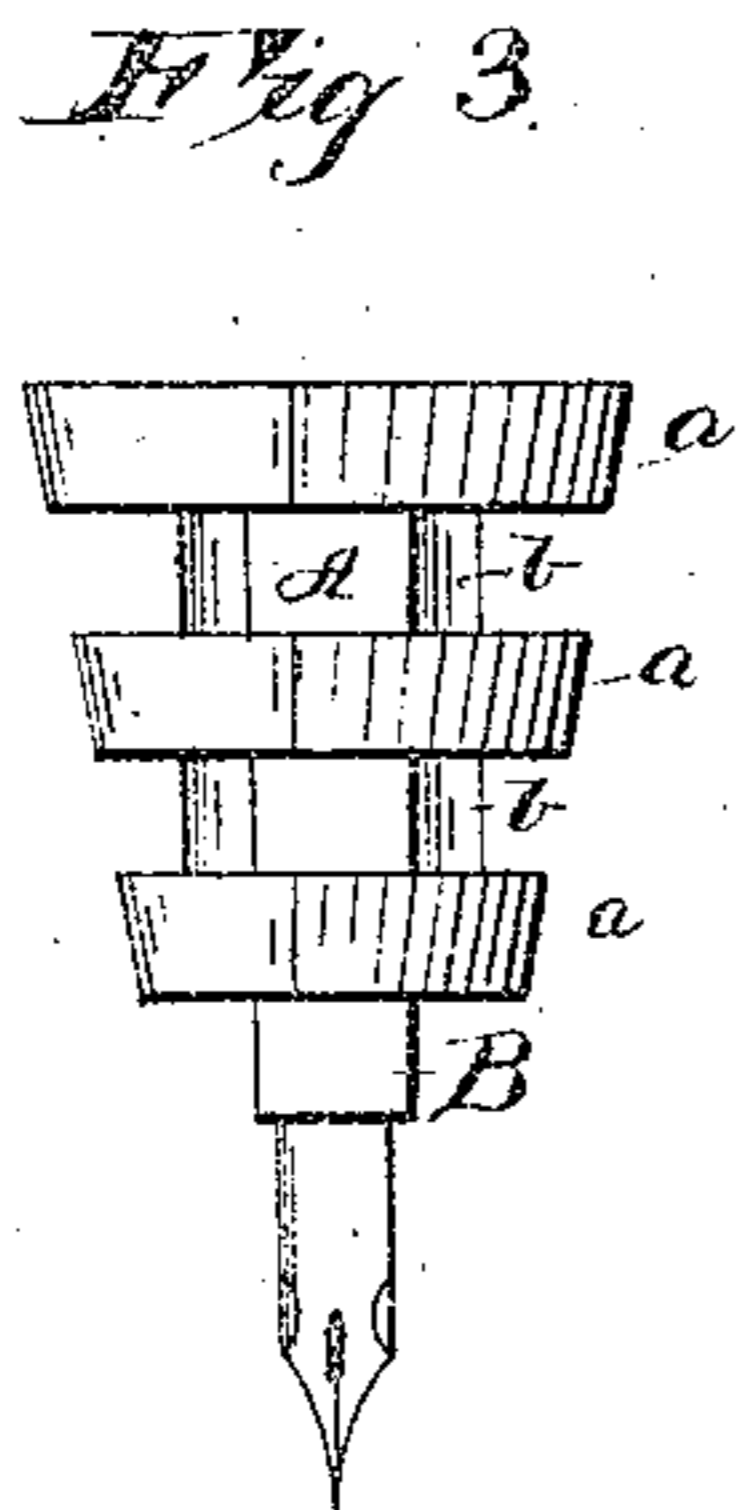
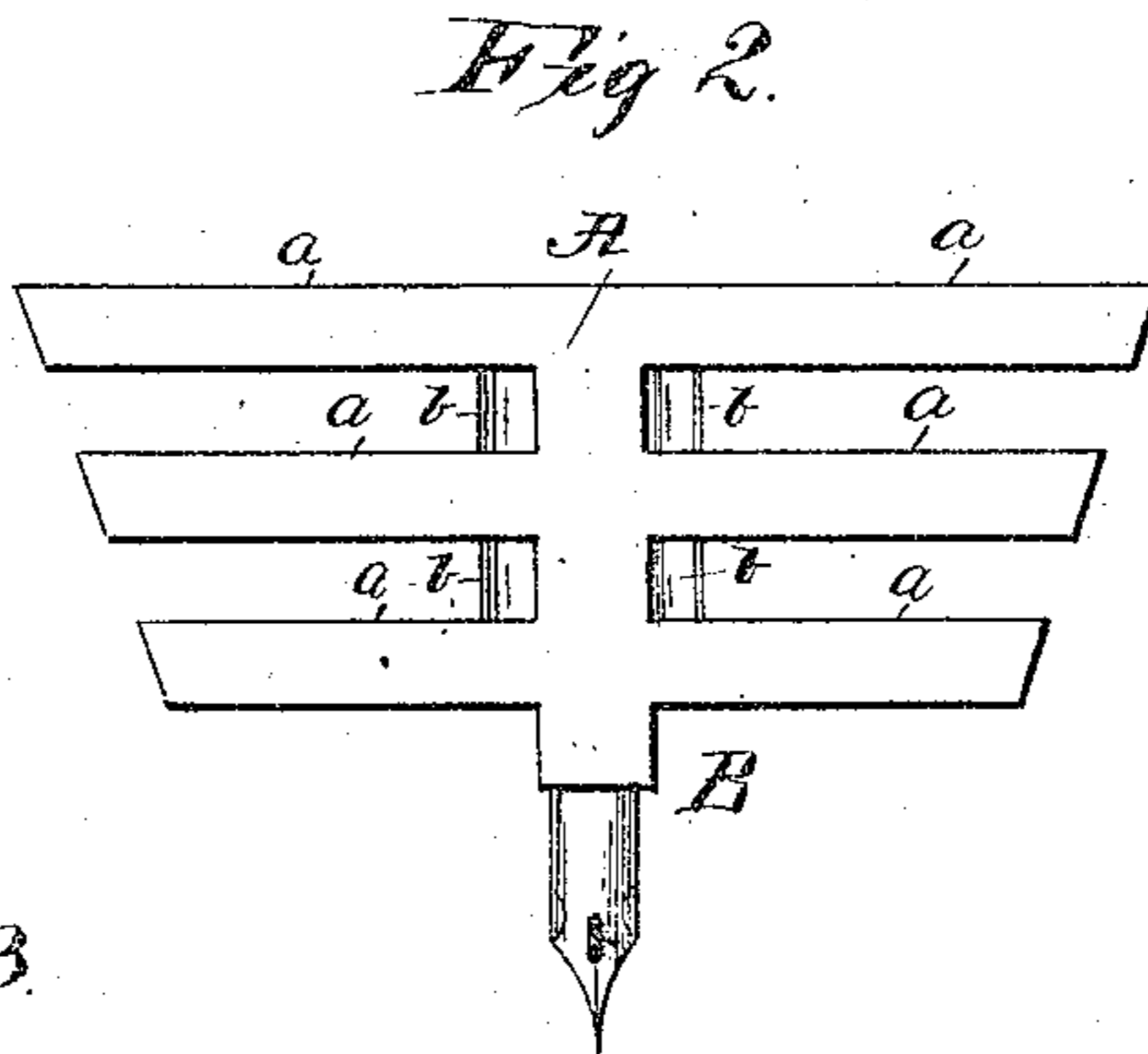
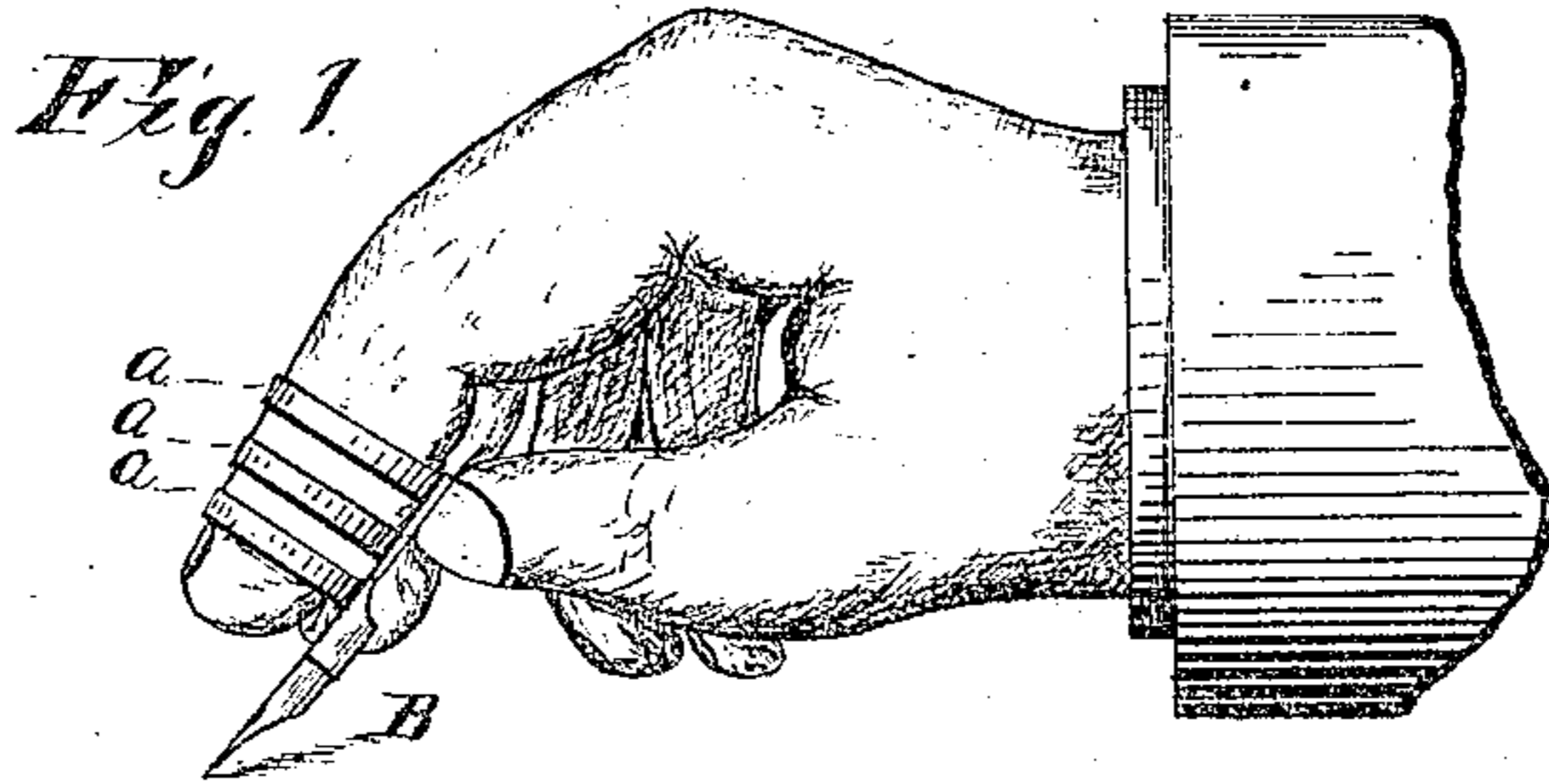


(No Model.)

S. J. MERRICK.  
PEN OR PENCIL HOLDER.

No. 361,535.

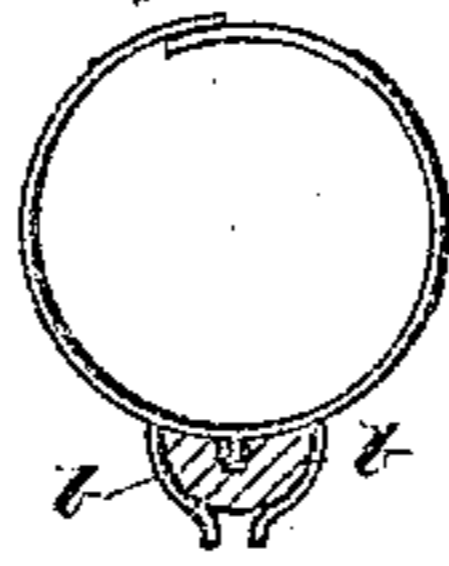
Patented Apr. 19, 1887.



Witnesses:  
J. Henry Stuart.

W. L. Boyden.

*Fig. 8.*



Inventor.

Sarah T. Merrick

By Chas. E. Barber  
Her attorney in fact

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SARAH J. MERRICK, OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

## PEN OR PENCIL HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 361,535, dated April 19, 1887.

Application filed June 25, 1886. Serial No. 206,219. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SARAH J. MERRICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Antonio, in the county of Bexar and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pen or Pencil Holders, of which the following is so full, clear, and exact a description as will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same.

The construction shown in the accompanying drawings, and described hereinbelow, simply discloses a preferred form of carrying out my invention.

It is quite apparent that several of the details of construction may be varied at will without departing from the general spirit of my invention.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hand and of my device, showing the latter in position for writing. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the blank from which the holder is made in this instance. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of my improved holder when the blank has been bent to form a socket for the finger. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of my device, showing the pen-holder and pencil-holder secured to the device. Fig. 5 is a side view, partly in perspective, showing a pencil in dotted lines secured to the holder. Fig. 6 is an outline view of my device, showing it used as a pencil-holder alone. Fig. 7 is a longitudinal section of my improved holder, showing little screws which hold the pencil or pen holder in position through the medium of the clips on the under side of the holder. Fig. 8 is a cross-section of my device, taken on the line X X of Fig. 5.

The central portion or body of the holder proper is designated by the letter A. This body is provided with the clamps *a a* and the clips *b b*, which in this instance are each struck from the side portions of the blank proper. The lower portion of the blank is provided with a pen-holder, B, which may be formed integral with the blank A, as shown in Fig. 2, or which may be secured by solder or in any other suitable manner to the under side of the holder, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

By the construction shown in Fig. 5 it will be observed that the outer clamps, *a a*, are

bent to form a circular opening or socket, which accommodates the finger, while the clips *b b* are bent in an opposite direction to hold the pencil in place in the holder. In this instance the elasticity of the metal holds the pencil with sufficient rigidity to keep it in place by friction alone. In some instances it may be found desirable to provide a more positive fastener for the pencil, in which case I use two set-screws, *d d*, which pass through perforations of the clips and body portion A of the implement, as shown in Fig. 7.

When it is found desirable, a small tube, D, such as shown in Fig. 4, may be provided, which is adapted to receive and accommodate small leads, such as are used in an ordinary telescoping pencil.

By the use of a device of this character many of the serious objections to the ordinary pen-holder may be entirely avoided, among which may be mentioned cramp and that which is known as "writers' paralysis." In addition to this the use of this device will save many tedious hours to the child who is learning to write, as by its use no time will be wasted in teaching the child how to hold his pen or pencil.

I have had much experience as principal of a school, and have found that it is with great difficulty children are taught to hold the pen properly unless they have some device to guide them. I have also been greatly troubled with cramp for many years and have been compelled to use my left hand on account of this misfortune. Since inventing this device, however, I have used it constantly and find that I have nearly recovered my old freedom in writing; and I consider the device invaluable in view of these experimental tests and profitable results. It will be observed that the holder can be slipped on the forefinger, and the use of the thumb to hold the pen in place may be entirely dispensed with. The pen is always in proper position and its points are always at a proper angle. Aside from these advantages the soiling of the fingers is entirely obviated, and the holder can be worn with little or no inconvenience, and it will not be necessary to remove it to handle papers, books, &c., around an office or school-room.

The object of my invention is to provide a pen and pencil holder which will be light,

cheap, and inexpensive, and one which may be readily and easily attached to the finger without any instruction.

Another object of my invention is to construct a device which shall obviate and avoid the serious difficulties which are experienced by people who do a large amount of writing.

Another object of my invention is to construct a holder which will enable scholars to quickly and easily learn how to hold the pen and pencil when writing.

Having now described the objects, uses, and construction of my device, what I wish to secure by Letters Patent, and therefore claim, is---

15 1. In a pen and pencil holder, the combination, with the body A, having clamps and clips bent from said body portion in opposite directions, as shown, to form finger and pencil

receptacles *a b*, of the pen-holder B, formed integral with the body portion, as shown and described. 20

2. The combination, with the body A, having on its front portion a series of circular openings, *a*, to receive the finger of the human hand, the rear portion of said body provided with a pencil-holder, of the pen-holder B, secured to the lower circular opening, as shown and described. 25

In testimony that I claim the above I hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses. 30

SARAH J. MERRICK.

Witnesses:

E. M. PRESTON,  
JAMES P. EARLE.