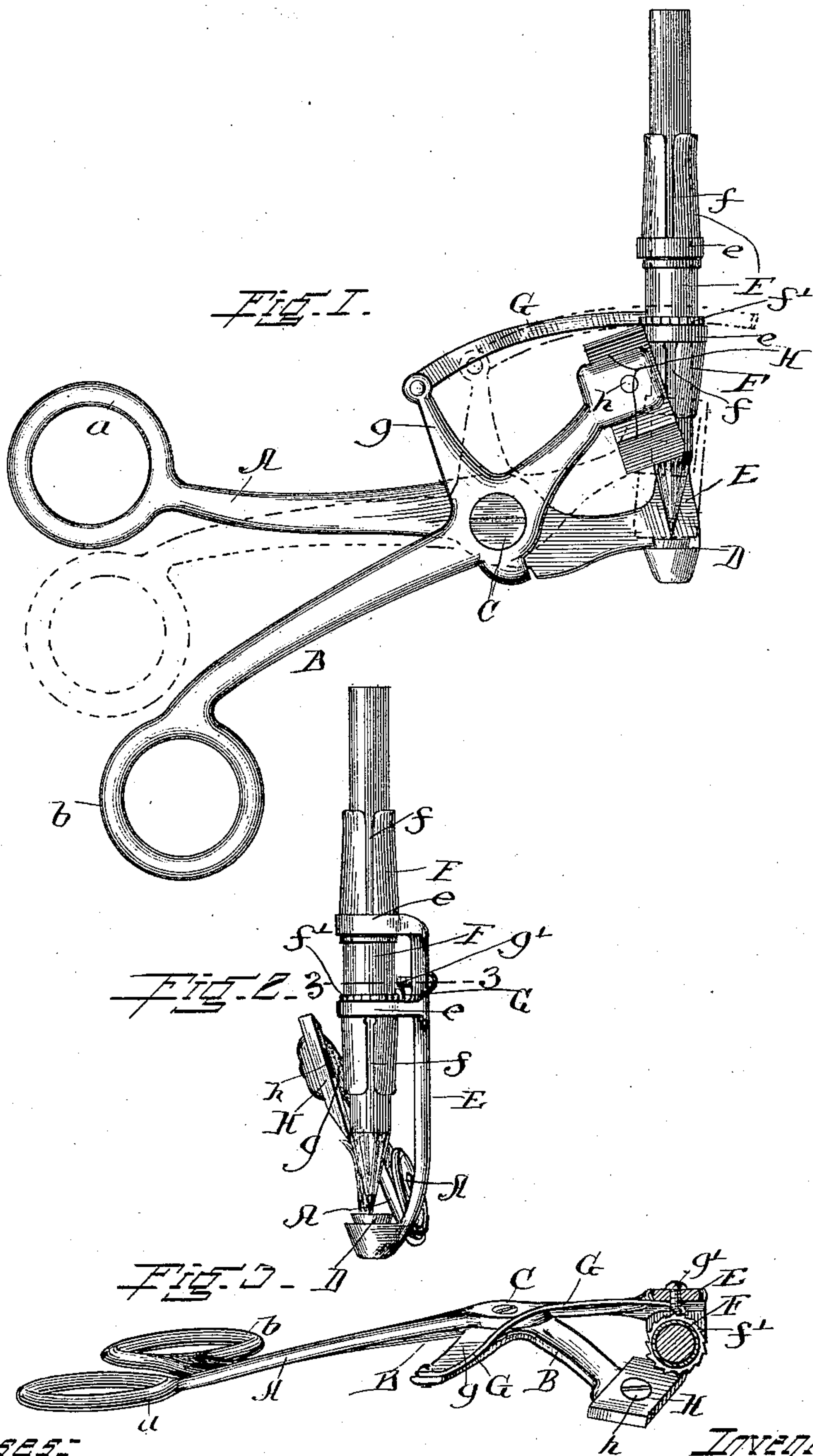


(No Model.)

W. K. CULVER.
PENCIL SHARPENER.

No. 472,161.

Patented Apr. 5, 1892.



Witnesses:

Charles O. Sherway
Gerald Mahony.

Inventor:

By William K. Calver
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM K. CULVER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

PENCIL-SHARPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 472,161, dated April 5, 1892.

Application filed February 9, 1892. Serial No. 420,834. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM K. CULVER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pencil-Sharpeners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a device for sharpening pencils, which is designed to be automatic to such an extent as to insure an even and perfect point without regard to the skill of the operator.

My improvements are illustrated in the drawings by means of three figures, of which Figure 1 is a side view; Fig. 2, an end view, and Fig. 3 a section taken in line 3 3 of Fig. 2.

In general construction, as will be seen in the drawings, my device in its preferred form is modeled after a pair of shears, one of the blades being adapted to hold a removable knife and the other being extended into a suitable holder for the pencil. When the latter is in place, the sharpening is performed by working the device after the manner of a pair of shears. I do not claim this general construction, knowing the same to be old; but my improvements are directed particularly to the holding of the lead-pencil in the best possible way, making the holder therefor self-adjustable to any size of pencil, and providing means for automatically turning the pencil by the cutting motion of the knife. I have also made certain minor improvements, which will be carefully described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

Applying reference-letters to the drawings, A B are respectively the two members of the sharpener, having the handles *a b* and being pivoted at C. The handle A is extended beyond the pivot C and provided with a block D, upon which the pencil may rest, and with an upwardly-extending arm E, having laterally-extending rings or eyes *e*, in which a hol-

low cylindrical rotatable holder F is placed, so as to turn freely, the ends of said holder having slits *f* cut therein to enable the same to be sprung inward. The holder is made of spring metal, the central portion being large enough to accommodate the largest-sized pencils in common use, and the ends being sprung inward sufficiently to grasp firmly the smallest. This, it will readily be seen, makes the holder self-adjustable to all sizes of pencils and causes it to accurately center the same upon the block D. About the holder F are ratchet-teeth *f'*, and a spring G is pivoted upon a projecting arm *g* of the member B, which spring has a hooked point adapted to engage with the ratchet-teeth in its backward movement, and turn the pencil slightly. This spring is held in place by means of a screw *g'*. The member B has also upon its free end a knife H, secured thereto by means of a screw *h*, so that it can be taken off to be sharpened.

Various modifications of these devices are possible, and I do not intend to limit myself to the exact construction shown; but

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. In a pencil-sharpener and in combination with a suitable sharpening device, a rotatable pencil-holder suitably geared to the sharpening device, whereby the operation of the latter automatically rotates the pencil.

2. The combination, with the members A B, one of which is provided with a knife and the other with a rotatably-mounted holder F, bearing the ratchet-teeth *f*, of the spring G, attached to the knife-bearing member and having a hooked end adapted to engage with said ratchet-teeth, substantially as described.

WILLIAM K. CULVER.

Witnesses:

L. M. THOMAS,

CHARLES O. SHERVEY.