

No. 702,739.

Patented June 17, 1902.

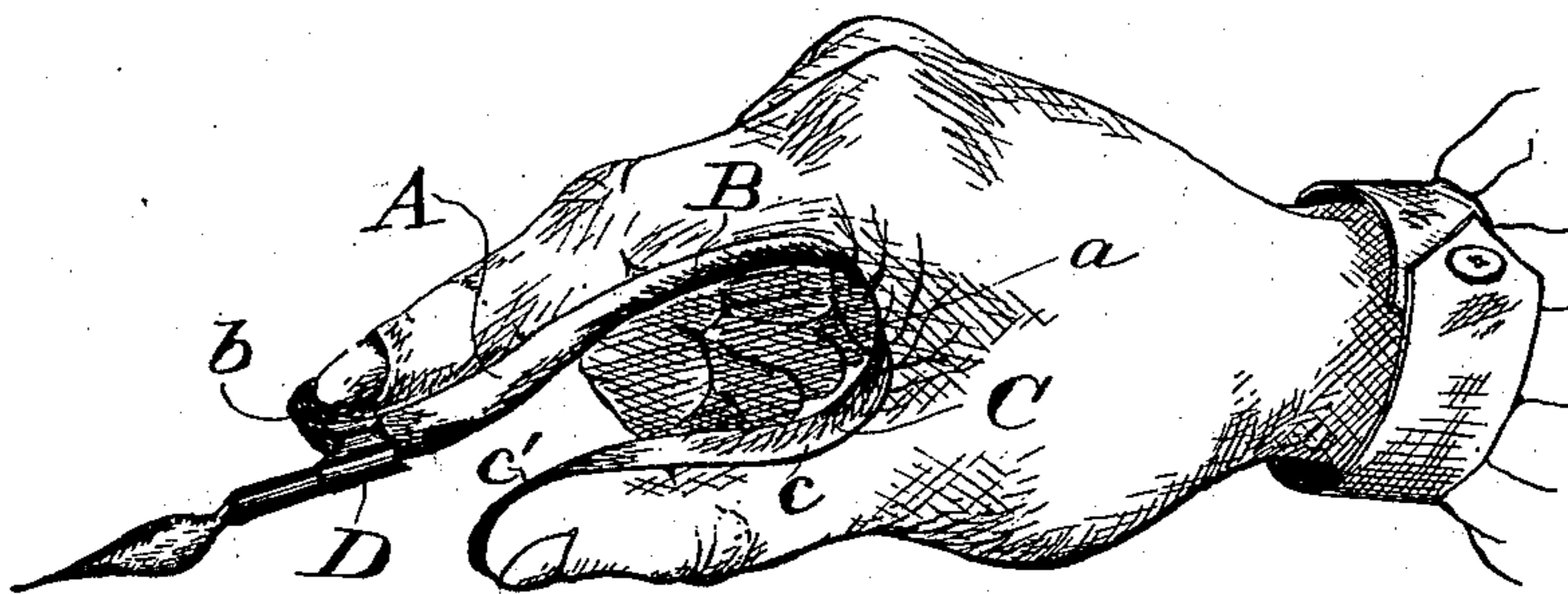
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PENHOLDER.

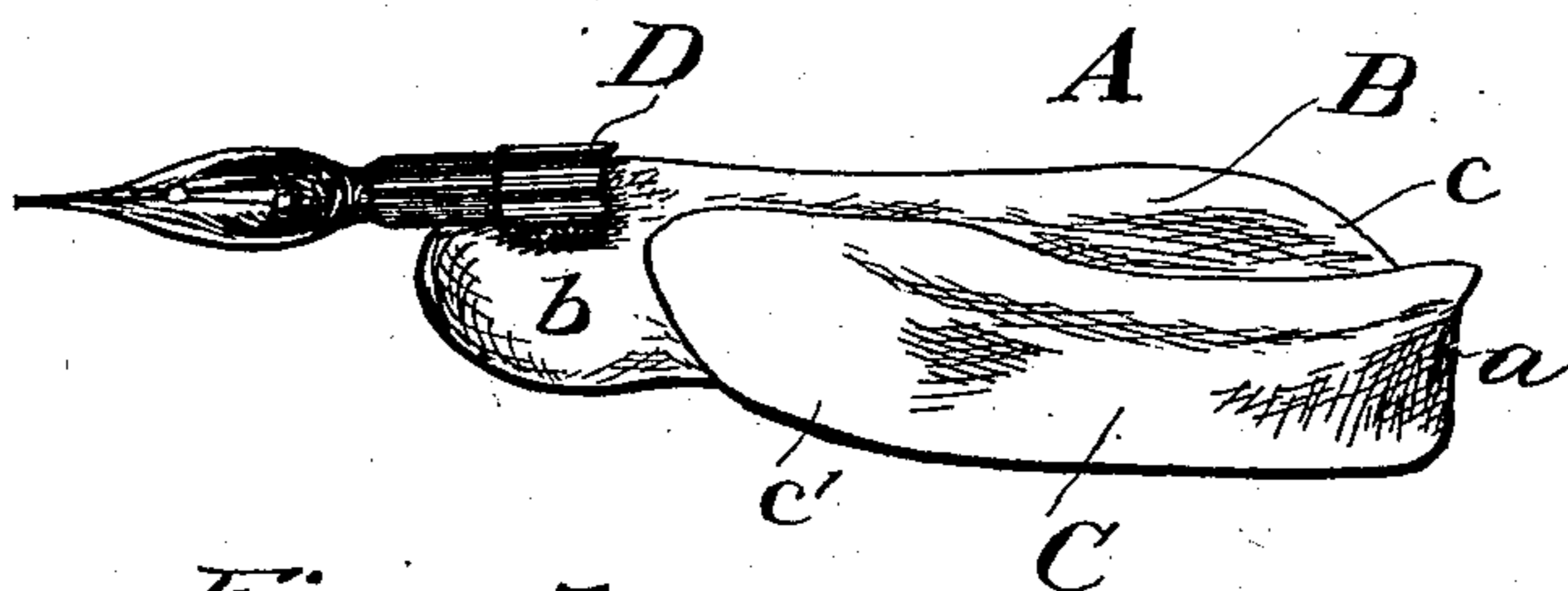
(Application filed Apr. 17, 1902.)

(No Model.)

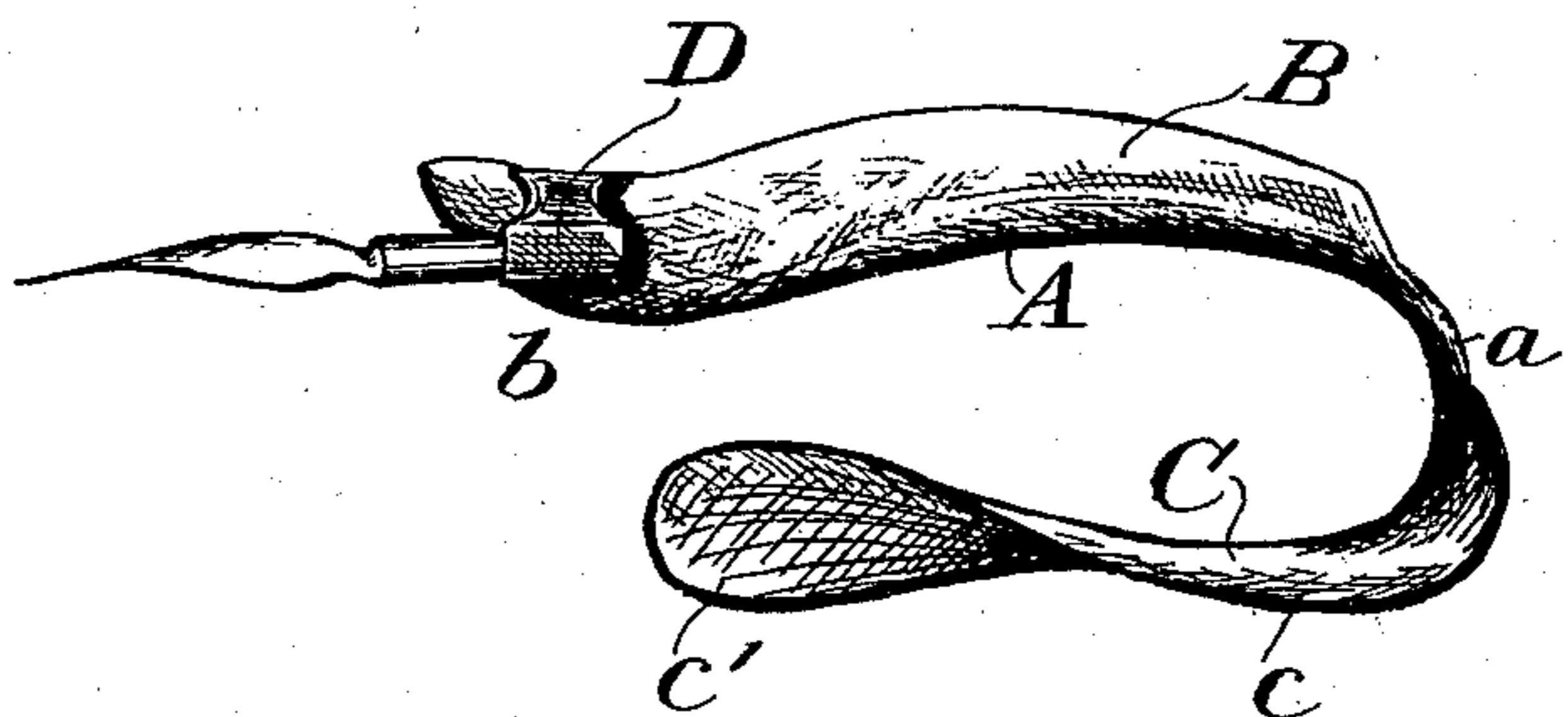
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PENHOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,739, dated June 17, 1902.

Application filed April 17, 1902. Serial No. 103,256. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT L. McNIECE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, Cook county, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Penholders, of which the following is a specification.

The ordinary penholder is stiff and unyielding and apt to cause writer's paralysis. Moreover, it furnishes no guide or assistance to the proper position of the hand in writing, which therefore must be laboriously acquired. My invention is intended to remove these defects or deficiencies; and it consists, in general terms, of an ovular handle conforming to the oval formed between the thumb and first finger when in proper position for writing, so as to sit in between them, cupped for their reception and to maintain its position without lateral slip, elastic to permit flexions, and provided at the end of the finger branch with a socket for the reception of a pen, all as will be hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a holder embodying my invention, showing it as grasped in a hand ready for use. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view, and Fig. 3 is a second side elevation showing it as it appears when detached from the hand.

A is the holder, formed, preferably, of steel and tempered so as to be elastic at the point *a*, where the flexion between the thumb and forefinger takes place. From this point *a* there are two curved outsetting branches—a finger branch B and a thumb branch C—which may also be elastic and which conform in outline to the respective members between which they are to be grasped, the curve at point *a* conforming to the natural bend at the base of thumb and forefinger when in the position shown and resting against said base. From the base curve at *a* the branch B extends out to the tip of the first finger and is cupped its whole length, or practically so, to receive said finger and prevent sidewise slip, being quite deeply cupped at the end to re-

ceive the tip of the finger, since at this point the socket D for the pen is located. Preferably this socket is secured to the cup *b* in such way as to project a little to the outer side of the finger-tip; but its location will depend upon individual cases or preferences. The branch C also extends outward from the base curve to or nearly to the tip of the thumb and is likewise cupped to fit the thumb, but need not have the terminal cup. In fact, I have found that the purpose, so far as relates to the prevention of slide slip, may be accomplished by describing it on a slight spiral, as shown, the side *c*, which comes on the outside of the thumb, rising in a sort of flange to prevent inward slip and the terminal *c'* being twisted oppositely upward to embrace the inner side of said thumb.

Having now described my invention and the best manner at present known to me in which it may be carried out, I declare that what I desire to claim and secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A penholder comprising an ovular handle conforming to the oval between the thumb and first finger when in proper position for writing, so as to sit in between them; cupped for their reception and to maintain its position without lateral slip; elastic to permit flexions, and provided at the end of the finger branch with a socket for the reception of a pen.

2. The improved penholder having a curved elastic base conforming to the bend of the base of thumb and forefinger when in proper position for writing, a thumb branch extending out from the lower end of the curve and cupped and spirally twisted for the reception of the thumb, a longitudinally-cupped finger branch terminating in a deep cup for the finger-tip, and a socket for the pen projecting from said terminal cup.

ROBERT L. McNIECE.

Witnesses:

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