

No. 751,542.

PATENTED FEB. 9, 1904.

D. McKENZIE.

FINGER GUIDE FOR PENHOLDERS OR THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 22, 1903.

NO MODEL.

FIG. 1

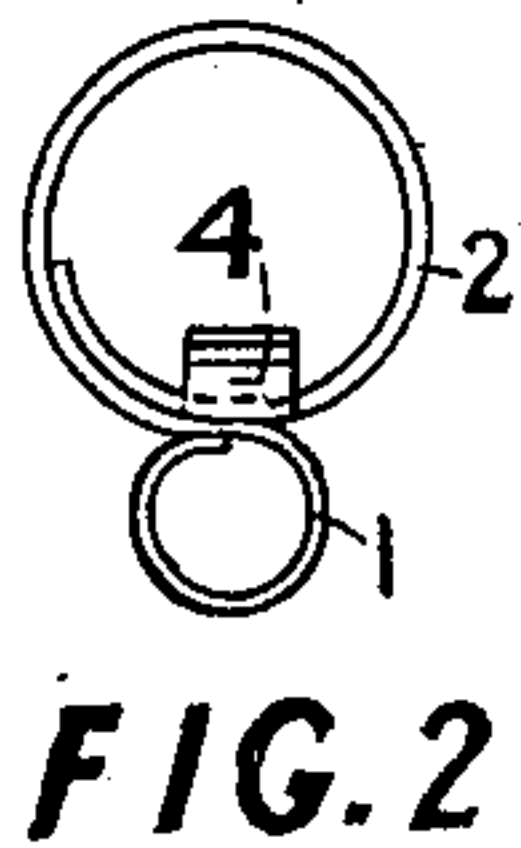
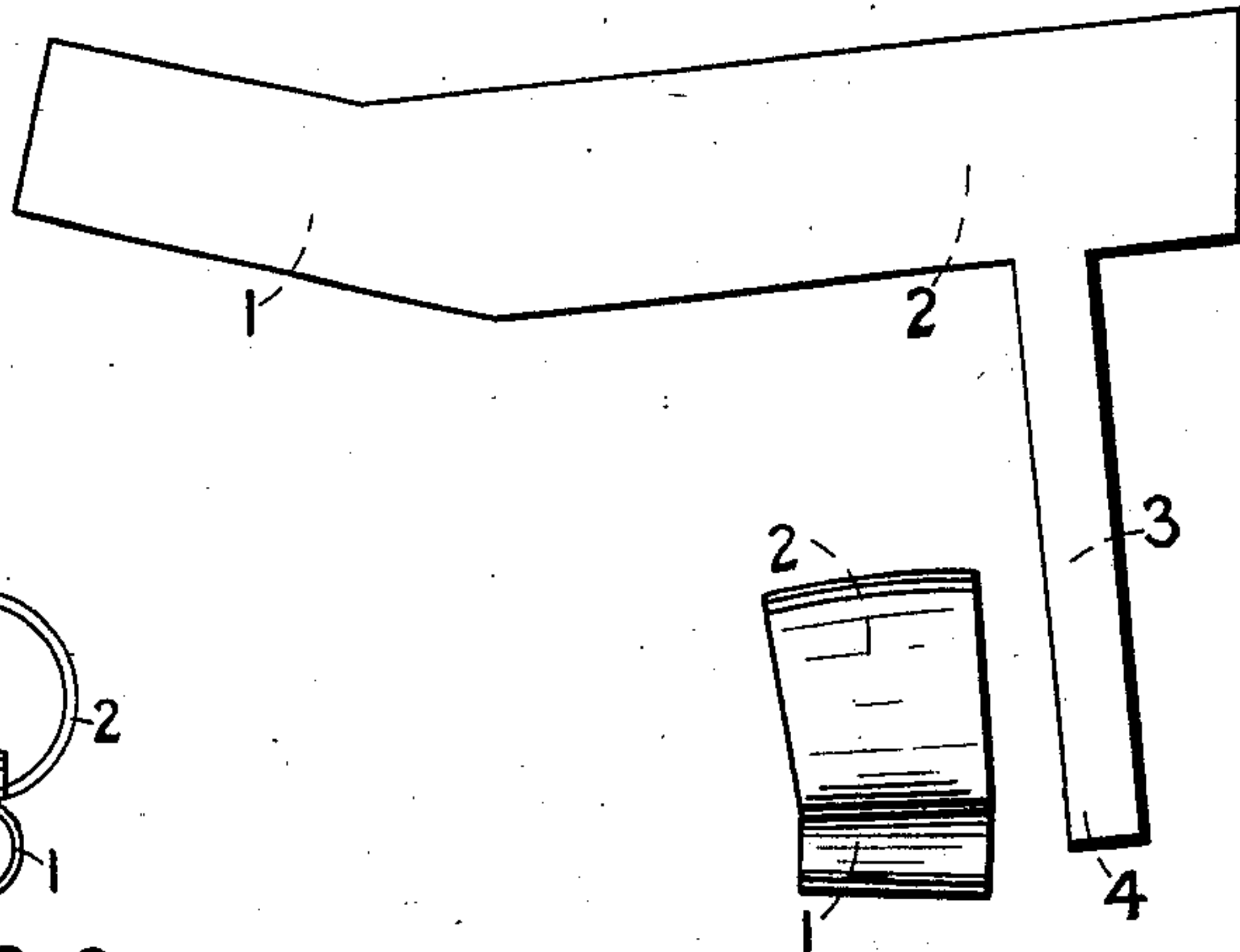


FIG. 3

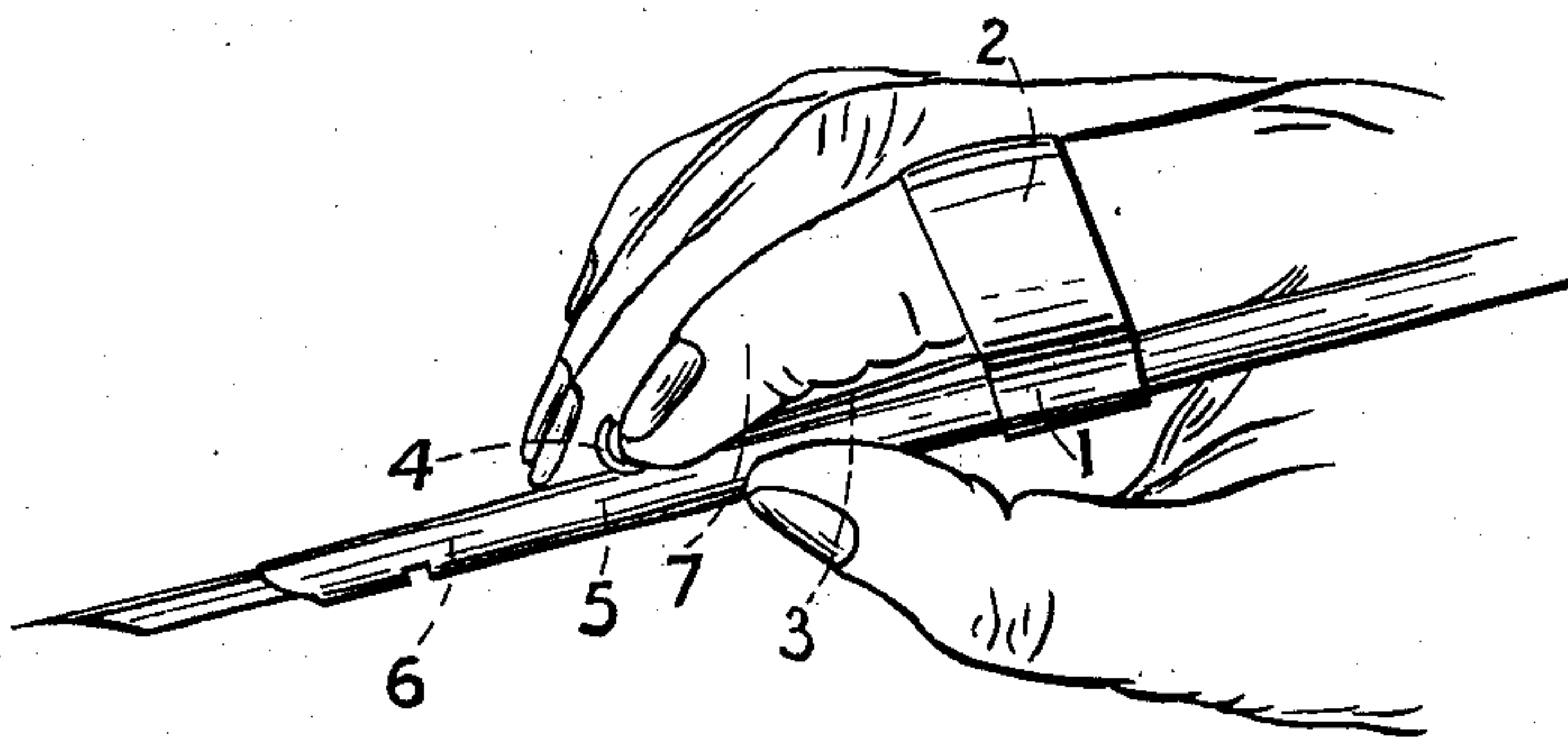


FIG. 4

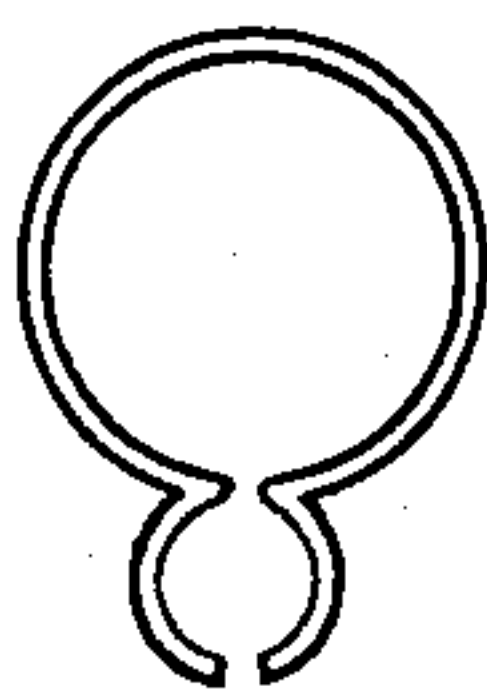


FIG. 5

WITNESSES

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INVENTOR

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ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DONALD McKENZIE, OF DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND.

FINGER-GUIDE FOR PENHOLDERS OR THE LIKE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 751,542, dated February 9, 1904.

Application filed April 22, 1903. Serial No. 153,841. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DONALD McKENZIE, school teacher, of Dunedin, New Zealand, have invented a certain new and useful Finger-Guide for Penholders or the Like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is a device for attachment to penholders and the like for the purpose of guiding or directing and holding in a correct position the forefinger of a person learning to write. It is especially useful for young children who are inclined to bend unduly the forefinger at the middle joint, which leads to a cramped and awkward style of writing. The device keeps this middle joint close to or within a short distance of the penholder or pencil and prevents the forefinger from being moved too near the point of the pen or pencil, and yet it allows the joint to have sufficient freedom of movement to afford ease in writing.

The invention consists of a ring of somewhat larger diameter than the forefinger at the middle joint and preferably broad enough to cover the finger a little on each side of that joint. The ring is shaped like the frustum of a cone to correspond with the shape of the finger. Preferably integral with the ring there is a second small ring or band or clip adapted to fit on a penholder or pencil and secure the finger-ring thereto, and attached, preferably, to the larger ring is a strip with a curved piece at the free end, said strip being adapted to lie along the pen or pencil.

The device is cut or stamped in one piece from a sheet of metal.

In the drawings accompanying this specification, Figure 1 is a plan of a sheet of metal stamped or cut so that when it is rolled together it will form the device. Fig. 2 is an end view illustrating the piece of metal rolled up for use. Fig. 3 is a side view of same. Fig. 4 is a view of the device in use on a penholder. Fig. 5 illustrates the invention in another form.

The piece of metal stamped or cut to form the device consists of a narrow short portion 1, joining another broad and larger portion 2

at an obtuse angle, so that when coiled up, as shown in Fig. 2, the broader and larger portion will form the larger ring to receive the finger and the narrower and shorter portion will form the small ring to receive and grip the penholder or pencil. The large ring 2 lies at an angle with the small ring or clip 1 when in place, so as to hold the finger in a proper position. By reason of the coiled formation of the rings they are adjustable in size, so as to fit, respectively, the finger and the penholder or pencil by squeezing them in or opening them out. There is also a strip 3 preferably formed integral with portions 1 and 2 and at about right angles to the latter, terminating in a hook or curved portion 4, which assumes the position shown in Fig. 2 at 4 when rolled together, as illustrated in Fig. 2. The small ring 1 of the device is slipped on the pencil or penholder 5, so that the curved end 4 of the piece 3 is slightly behind the barrel 6, that holds the pen. The spring in the ring 1 causes it to grip the penholder or pencil firmly.

The forefinger 7 is thrust through the ring 2 until the point of that finger abuts against the curved end 4 of the strip 3, and the pen is then used in the ordinary way. The piece 3 is made adjustable in length to suit the size of the finger of the person using the device.

The invention may be used without the strip 3. A modification is shown in Fig. 5.

Fig. 5 represents a guide in which the small ring is made up of sections, forming extensions of the sides of the large ring.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A finger-guide for penholders and the like consisting of a large ring adapted to be placed round the middle joint of the forefinger, a smaller ring attached to said large ring and adapted to be placed round a penholder and the like and a strip provided with a curved end attached to said large ring substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A blank for forming a finger-guide for pens, &c., comprising a strip having a main por-

tion adapted to form the finger-grip, a second
portion adapted to form the grip for the pen-
holder and being set at an obtuse angle to the
main portion and a third portion adapted to
5 form the holder for the finger-tip, the last-
mentioned portion being set at right angles to
said main portion, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
hand in presence of two witnesses.

DONALD McKENZIE.

Witnesses:

A. J. PARK,
J. R. PARK.