

No. 768,323.

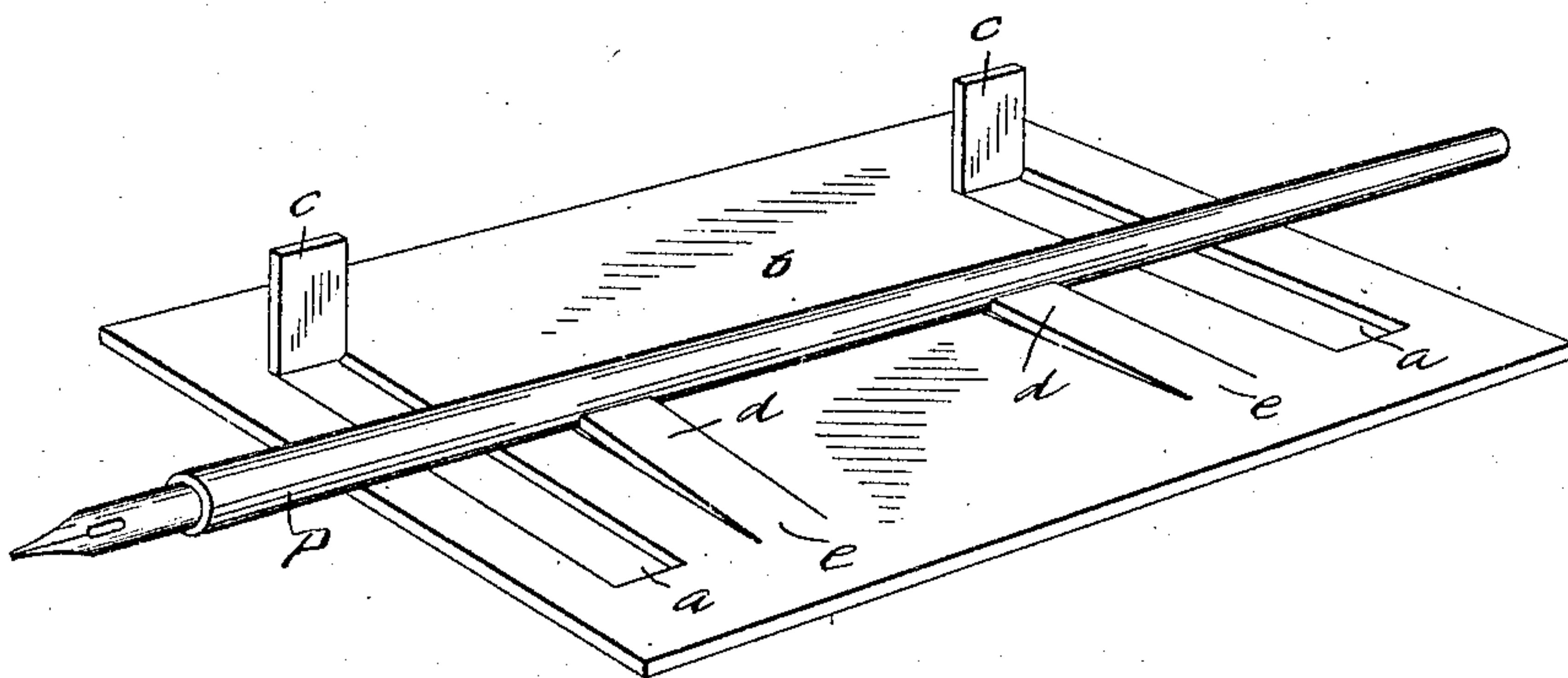
PATENTED AUG. 23, 1904.

D. C. BECKETT.

PEN AND PENCIL TRAY.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 14, 1904.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID C. BECKETT, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

PEN AND PENCIL TRAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 768,323, dated August 23, 1904.

Application filed January 14, 1904. Serial No. 188,963. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID C. BECKETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pen and Pencil Trays, of which I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improved form of tray for holding pencils or penholders, and has for its object to provide such a form of tray as shall be simple and cheap in construction and at the same time serve as an effective receptacle for retaining the pencil or pen within a certain space and permit its easy withdrawal therefrom.

The figure of the accompanying drawing represents a perspective view of my tray with the penholder resting thereon.

The tray may be made of any thin material, preferably of sheet metal, with the various raised portions punched out for the purpose to be described. The slots *a a* are punched out from the base *b* of the tray, and the strip portions *c c* are bent upward at right angles to the base *b* for the purpose of forming back-stops, and it will of course be obvious that these back-stops *c* may be cut off for any suitable height or may be originally made of this height by punching out the slots *a* of the corresponding length, so that when the back-stops *c* are bent upward they will be of the desired height. Between the slots *a a* are cut out two strips *d d*, which remain joined to the base *b* at their forward ends *e e*, but are bent slightly upward, so that their rearward ends project to a slight extent above the surface of the base *b*, and these rearward ends of the strips *d* should be at such distance from the back-stops *c* as to afford ample room for the penholder (or pencil) *P* to rest between these two sets of retaining projections. It will thus be apparent that when the penholder *P* is hurriedly thrown upon the tray in the direction of the back-stops *c* it will strike these back-stops and will rebound, but will then meet the raised ends of the strips *d* and can simply oscillate between these two sets of projections until it comes to rest, and the strips *d* being raised only a slight extent

above the surface of the base *b* and being inclined from the level of their forward ends *e* will not present any projections or obstructions in the path of the penholder when it is thrown forward onto the tray. Furthermore, since these rearward ends of the strips *d* project upward only to this slight extent the penholder can easily be withdrawn from the tray by merely drawing it forward, whereupon it readily rolls over the projecting ends of the strips *d*, and in order the more to facilitate this withdrawal of the penholder it is desirable to have the base *b* (from which the strips *d* are cut) of such thin material that the strips *d* will be of such springy nature as readily to yield to pressure, whereby although they project upward enough to stop the penholder on the rebound, as above described, they will nevertheless easily be depressed to the level of the base *b* when the penholder is drawn forward over them in withdrawing the same from the tray.

It will be apparent that the back-stops *c* and the strips *d* may be replaced by single pieces, if desired, although the use of the two narrow strips *d* makes them more easily depressible, as above described, and it will also be understood that the back-stops *c* might as conveniently be separately attached to any suitable base and the spring-strips *d* also attached separately in the positions as above indicated, although the economy and simplicity of punching the entire tray from a single piece of metal will be at once obvious.

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

1. As a new article of manufacture, a pencil or penholder tray comprising a base, a projection formed thereon to serve as a back-stop, and a projection formed thereon in juxtaposition to said back-stop but inclined from the level of the base at its forward end and raised slightly above the base at its rearward end, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a pencil or penholder tray comprising a base, a projection formed thereon to serve as a back-stop, and a projection formed thereon in juxtaposition to said back-stop but inclined from the

level of the base at its forward end and raised slightly above the base at its rearward end, said latter projection being constructed of spring material to permit of its easy depression
5 to the level of the base, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a pencil or penholder tray punched from a single sheet of metal, comprising a base, a strip portion or portions punched therefrom and bent
10 upwardly from said base to form a back-stop, and a strip portion or portions also punched from the base but with the forward end thereof remaining attached to said base and the
15 body portion inclined slightly from the level of the base with the free end raised slightly above the base and in juxtaposition to the aforesaid back-stop, substantially as and for the purpose described.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a pencil or penholder tray punched from a single
20 sheet of metal, comprising a base, a strip portion or portions punched therefrom and bent upwardly from said base to form a back-stop, and a spring-depressible strip portion or portions
25 also punched from the base but with the forward end thereof remaining attached to said base and the body portion inclined slightly from the level of the base with the free end raised slightly above the base and in juxtapo-
30 sition to the aforesaid back-stop, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

DAVID C. BECKETT.

Witnesses:

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