(No Model.)

R. W. UHLIG.

LEAD AND CRAYON HOLDER.

No. 265,894. Patented Oct. 10, 1882.

Fig 1.

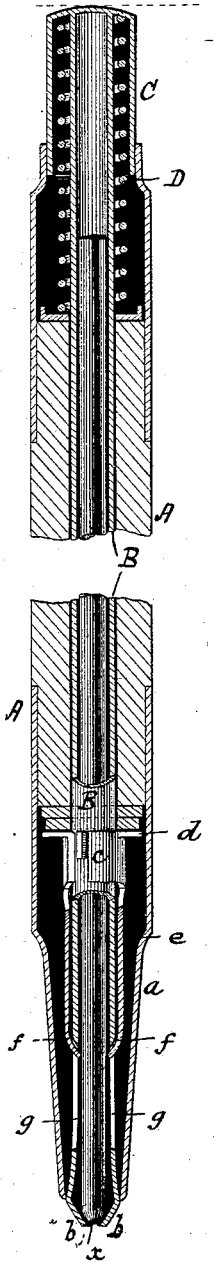


Fig 2.

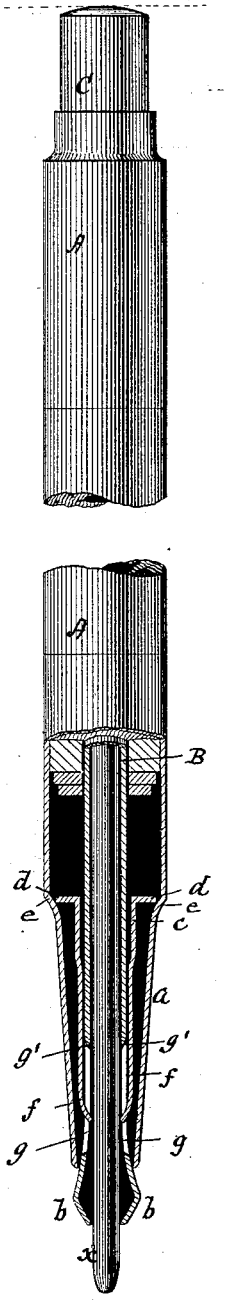
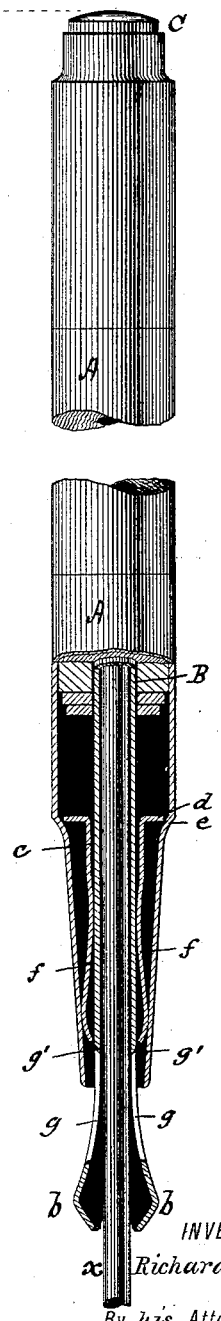


Fig 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD W. UHLIG, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO JOSEPH RECKENDORFER, OF SAME PLACE.

LEAD AND CRAYON HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 265,894, dated October 10, 1882.

Application filed May 27, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD W. UHLIG, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lead and Crayon Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to a stop gage or check, whereby the loose lead of a lead or crayon holder is prevented from dropping beyond a predetermined distance from the sheath or case. This feature is not here broadly claimed by me. My present specification is directed to a convenient and effective form of mechanical instrumentality for accomplishing the result above specified. This instrumentality is one which clasps the lead, and which, as it drops with the lead, brings up against a stop or shoulder on some suitable part of the holder, so as to arrest the fall of the lead when the point of the latter projects a predetermined distance beyond the point or front end of the pencil. A lead clasp or check thus operating is not here broadly claimed. The feature to which this specification is directed is one which permits the clasp to be released from the lead, and opened or expanded whenever desired, so as to leave a free and unobstructed passage for the lead into or out from the lead-tube, thus allowing a lead to be introduced into or withdrawn from the holder without difficulty.

The preferred embodiment of my invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, which I shall now proceed to describe.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal central section of the holder with the parts in the position which they assume when the lead is entirely within the holder. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of the same with the parts in the position they assume when the jaws have been pushed forward far enough to release the lead and allow it to drop. Fig. 3 is a like view, with the lead-tube pushed far enough forward to cause the clasp or check-ring to expand and quit the lead.

In this embodiment of my invention the holder is one resembling the ordinary "automatic" pencil now in the market.

A is the sheath, terminating in the usual tip or nozzle. B is the longitudinally-movable lead-tube, having lead-grasping jaws *b*, and secured at its rear end to the pressure-cap C, and D is the retracting spring. This type of pencil is well known and requires no further explanation.

Within the tip *a*, and loosely surrounding the lead-tube, is the lead clasp or check *c*, which is provided with a laterally-projecting flange, *d*, or its equivalent, which, by bringing up against a shoulder or stop, *e*, on the inside of the tip, prevents movement beyond that point by the check-ring; and also with spring-fingers *f*, which extend through longitudinal slots *g* in opposite sides of the lead-tube, and lightly clasp between them the lead *x* therein. These constitute the mechanical features of my contrivance.

The operation is as follows: When the lead is withdrawn inside the pencil the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 1, the clasp being in the rear part of the tip, and the jaws *b* being closed to prevent the lead from dropping out. By pushing forward the lead-tube far enough to permit the jaws to expand sufficiently for the lead to pass, the lead, carrying with it the clasp, drops down and out from the pencil until the flange *d* of the clasp brings up against the shoulder *e* of the tip and stops the lead at the time its point projects the proper distance out from the pencil, as indicated in Fig. 2. If pressure be now removed from the pressure-cap, the retracting-spring will cause the jaws *b* to close on the lead, and the pencil then is ready for use. If, on the other hand, it be desired to expand the clasp so as to remove it from the lead, the lead-tube is pushed far enough forward (and it has sufficient range of movement for this) to bring the inclines *g'* at the rear ends of the slots *g* under and in contact with the spring-fingers *f*, which latter, as indicated in Fig. 3, are lifted from the lead. The lead-passage is, under these conditions, as open and unobstructed as that of the ordinary automatic, and a lead can be introduced into or withdrawn entirely from the holder without impediment.

It is manifest that various forms of lifters other than *g'* may be employed, this being determined by the circumstances of the case, the particular kind of lead clamping or grasping contrivance employed, and the kind of mechanism employed to operate that device for the

purpose of causing it to release its hold on the lead. In this connection I remark that while I have shown my invention as applied to the regular automatic pencil it is also applicable to the many varieties of the same that have from time to time been patented, and the form and arrangement of what I have termed the "check-ring" or "clasp" may be varied considerably without departure from my invention, the main feature of which is the combination, with the clasp, of a lifting or expanding contrivance operated from the exterior of the pencil to cause the clasp to release the lead, and to leave the lead tube or passage unobstructed whenever desired.

I therefore claim as new and of my invention—

1. The lead clasp or check movable with the lead, in combination with the lifting or expanding contrivance, substantially as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

2. The lead clasp or check, consisting of a ring loosely encircling the lead-tube, and provided with a stop lip or flange, and with spring-fingers which clasp between them the lead through the slotted lead-tube, in combination with the lead-tube, longitudinally movable and provided with lifting-surfaces, and the case or sheath provided with a stop or shoulder to co-operate with the flange on the check-ring, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 26th day of May, 1882.

RICHARD W. UHLIG.

Witnesses:
LEOPOLD ANSBACHER,
SAMUEL KRAUS.