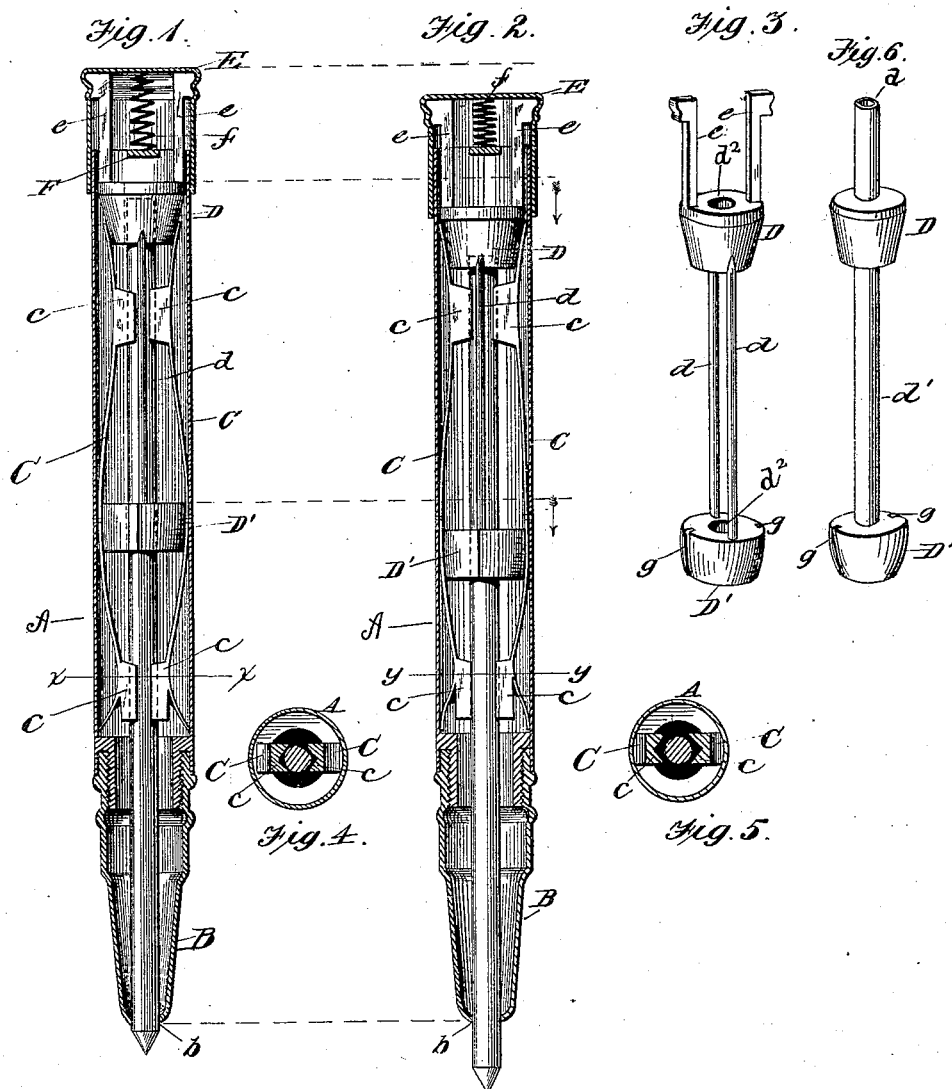


(No Model.)

L. ABRAHAM.
LEAD OR CRAYON HOLDER.

No. 267,314.

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LEAD OR CRAYON HOLDER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS ABRAHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Lead or Crayon Holders, of which the following is a specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a longitudinal section through a pencil-case, showing the interior crayon or lead held in position within clamping-jaws. Fig. 2 is a similar sectional view, showing the clamping-jaws retracted from the crayon or lead. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the clamping-jaw-retracting plungers with their connecting-rods. Figs. 4 and 5 are sectional views on the lines *xx* of Fig. 1 and *yy* of Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a modification of Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts on each figure.

My invention has for its object the provision of means whereby the lead or crayon of pencils may be firmly held in position within a surrounding sheath by clamping-jaws, and in the means whereby said crayon or lead may be released from said clamping-jaws, thereby permitting said lead or crayon to be retracted or advanced.

To the accomplishment of the above-named purpose it consists of curved leaf-springs provided with clamping-jaws arranged to be operated by plungers.

It further consists in the arrangement of said plungers in relation to said springs, and in the manner in which they are operated, all as hereinafter set forth and claimed.

Referring to the drawings, A is a sheath or tubular case, provided at its lower end with a ferrule or nozzle, B, having an opening, *b*, at its lower end.

Secured or attached to the inside surface of the sheath, on each side near the middle thereof, are two curved springs, C C, provided near their ends with clamping-jaws *c*. The ends of said springs are curved outwardly, as shown, and the intermediate parts lying between the

clamping-jaws *c* are also bowed outwardly. The lower end of each spring C bears against the inner surface of the sheath.

D D' represent plungers connected together by rods *d* or tube *d'*, said plungers being provided with central openings, *d*², to admit the passage of the lead or crayon. The plungers D' D are placed between the springs C C, preferably near the center and at one end thereof.

E represents a cap loosely fitted over the upper end of the sheath A, and attached to the upper plunger, D, by rods *e*.

F represents a cross piece or block extending across the upper end of the sheath, upon which rests one end of a spiral spring, *f*, the other end of which bears against the inner surface of the top of the cap E.

The plunger D' is provided with peripheral guiding-grooves *g*, into which takes a pin or stud extending from within the sheath, thus preventing rotation or twisting either of the plungers or cap when the device is operated.

The operation, as shown in the drawings, can be readily understood without further description, it being understood that either form of connecting the plungers—that is to say, either rods *d* or tube *d'*, as shown in Figs. 3 and 6—can be used without departing from the scope of my invention.

What I claim is—

1. In a lead or crayon holder, the combination of the curved leaf-springs C, provided with clamping-jaws *c*, with the plungers D D', the latter having guiding-grooves *g*, connected together and to cap E by rods *d e*, substantially as described.

2. In a pencil-case, the combination of the tubular sheath A, having open-ended ferrule B, and bowed springs C, provided with clamping-jaws *c*, with the plungers D D', rods *d e*, cap E, and spiral spring *f*, substantially as described.

LEWIS ABRAHAM.

Witnesses:

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