

(No Model.)

W. H. BOTSFORD.

PENMAN'S ASSISTANT.

No. 305,568.

Patented Sept. 23, 1884.

Fig. 1

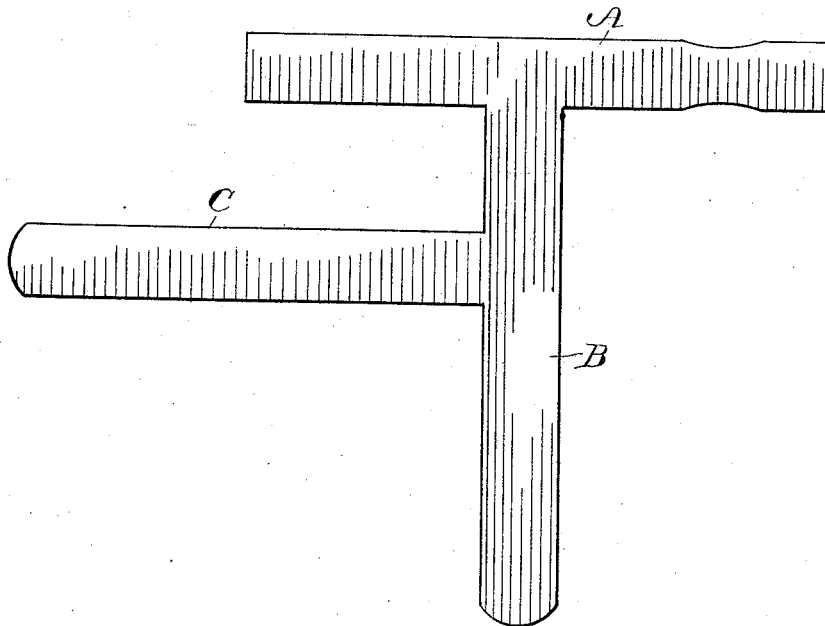
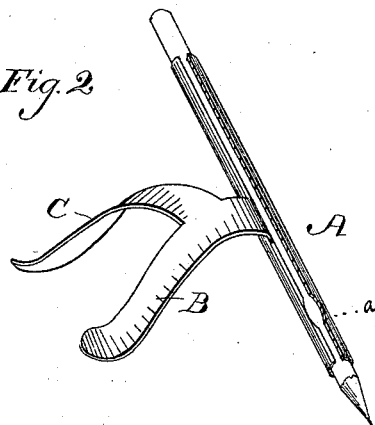


Fig. 2



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIS H. BOTSFORD, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

PENMAN'S ASSISTANT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,568, dated September 23, 1884.

Application filed March 29, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIS H. BOTSFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Penmen's Assistants; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain novel and useful improvements in penmen's assistants; and it has for its object to provide such a device as shall be cheap and simple in its construction, and which will serve to keep the hand and fingers of the penman in their proper position and the pen or pencil at its correct angle relative to the paper; and with these ends in view my invention consists in the details of construction hereinafter fully and in detail described, and then specifically designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may more fully understand its construction and operation, I will proceed to describe the same in detail, referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows a development of my improvement, and Fig. 2 a perspective of the same.

Similar letters denote like parts in both figures of the drawings.

A is a sheath adapted to closely surround an ordinary pen-holder or pencil, and B is a projecting strip attached thereto or formed integral therewith. This projecting strip extends from the sheath at right angles, and is curved downward toward its free end, which is turned up to afford a smooth bearing-surface against the paper. From the strip B and extending from it at right angles is another strip, C, which is also bent downward and has its free end slightly turned, as has the strip B.

The adaptation of my improvement is as follows: When in position within the hand,

the ends of the first and second fingers rest upon the sheath at *a*, the projecting strip B lies against the inner surface of the hand, at right angles to the fingers and under the knuckle-joints, and the projection C closely follows the contour of the partly-closed hand in a line from the base of the second finger backward toward the central line of the wrist. When held in this manner, the ends of the projecting strips B and C rest upon the paper, and, with the pencil-point, form a support as well as guide for the hand, which is relieved from strain by the contact of the strips and pencil-point with the paper. The writer, as will be readily seen, has no further duty to perform than to guide the pencil over the paper as may be desired, the ends of the strips and the pencil-point serving to keep the hand in position, bear the weight of the pencil, and keep it at its proper angle.

My improved penman's assistant may be constructed of any desired material—either of wood, celluloid, or of metal—by striking or casting; but I preferably form it of sheet metal, thus making a light, strong, and durable instrument.

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

1. In a penman's assistant, as described, the sheath adapted to surround and hold the pen or pencil, and having projecting therefrom and formed integral therewith a strip projecting outward and downward in the arc of a circle, as shown, from which in turn depends, also in the arc of a circle and at right angles from the first strip, a second strip, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the sheath A, of the strip B, formed integral therewith, and from which projects outward and downward the strip C, substantially as set forth.

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

WILLIS H. BOTSFORD.

Witnesses:

W. T. HAVILAND,
S. S. WILLIAMSON.