

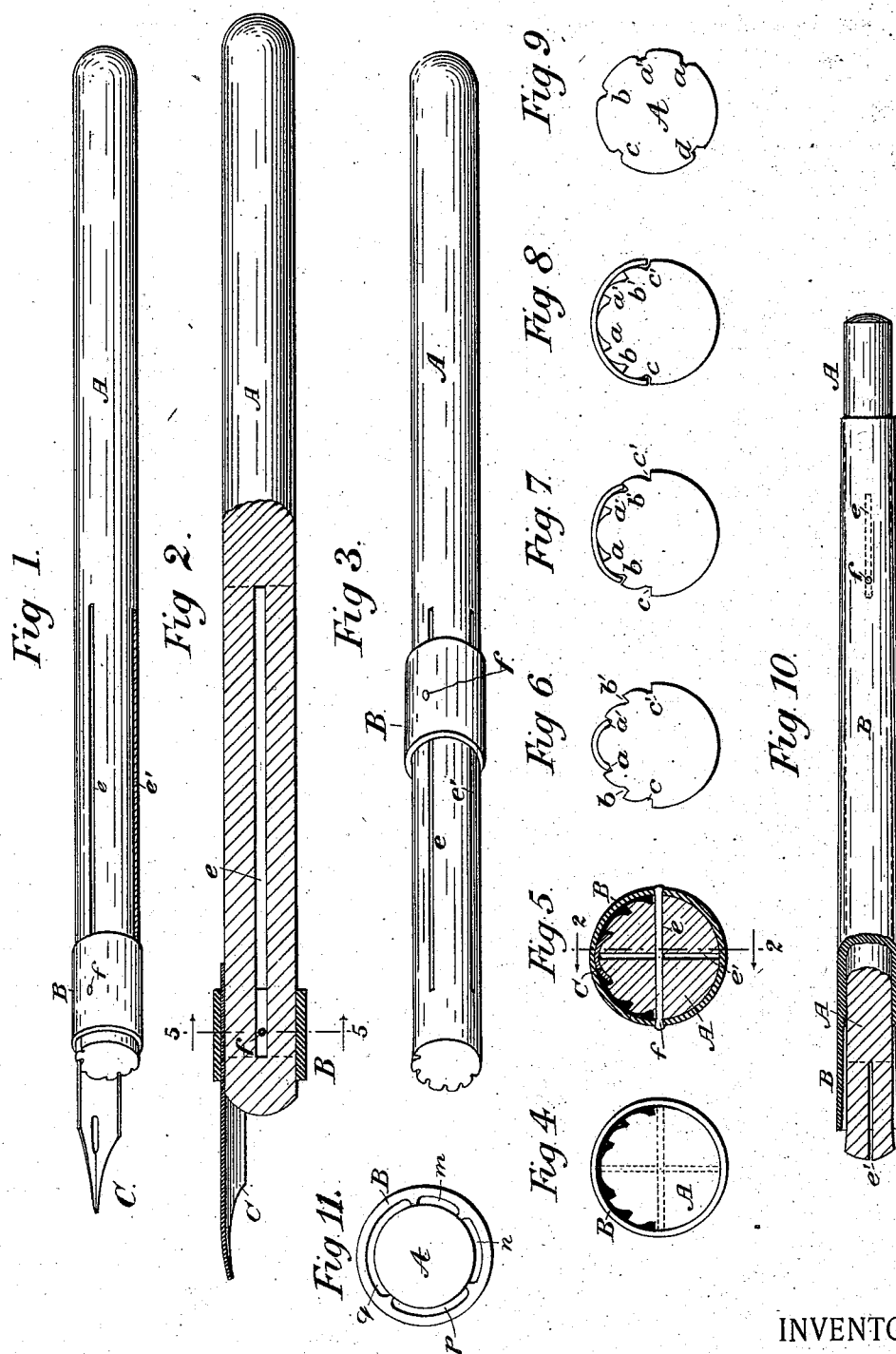
(No Model.)

W. W. STEWART.

PEN HOLDER.

No. 381,179.

Patented Apr. 17, 1888.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. STEWART, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## PEN-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,179, dated April 17, 1888.

Application filed April 6, 1887. Serial No. 233,871. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. STEWART, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pen-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to pen-holders or pen-stocks for holding steel or gold pens or pen-nibs. Its object is to render the one holder adaptable to pens of various sizes, constituting thus what may be termed a "compromise holder." To this end my improved holder is constructed with a central bar or handle which I will call the "stock," and with a sleeve or ring thereon, leaving a sufficient space between them at the lower end for the insertion of the pen. The lower end of the stock or of the sleeve is provided with notches or recesses at varying distances apart or of varying sizes for engaging the different sizes of pens for which the holder is designed. The stock is made somewhat elastic, preferably by slitting it longitudinally. The sleeve or ring is preferably made to slide on the stock and is provided with stops engaging the stock, in order to limit its longitudinal movement thereon and prevent its separation therefrom. The sliding sleeve may be very short, thus constituting merely a ring, or it may be made nearly or quite as long as the stock.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is a perspective view of one form of my improved pen-holder, showing a pen in place therein. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal mid-section of the holder and pen. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the holder alone, the sleeve being drawn back and the pen removed. Fig. 4 is an end view of the lower end of the holder on a larger scale. Fig. 5 is a transverse section thereof cut in the plane of the line 5 5 in Fig. 2. Figs. 6, 7, and 8 are diagrams illustrating the lower end of the stock with pens of different sizes fitted thereto. Fig. 9 is an end view of a modified construction of stock. Fig. 10 is a side elevation of a modified construction of the holder. Fig. 11 is an end view of a further modified construction.

Let A designate the pen-stock, B the sliding sleeve thereon, and C a pen or pen-nib to be held therein.

The stock A may be made of wood, hard

rubber, or other suitable material. I prefer to slit it longitudinally, in order to render it somewhat elastic. I have shown it provided with two longitudinal slits, *e* and *e'*, extending through it at right angles to one another, as shown in Fig. 5, and commencing near its lower end and extending thence a greater or less distance upward, as may desired. At its lower end the stock is provided with short notches or indentations for engaging the pen. I prefer to make these as shown in Fig. 4 and in Figs. 6, 7, and 8, where *a a'*, *b b'*, and *c c'* designate the respective notches. These notches extend up from the lower end as far as it may be desired to thrust the pen when it is to be inserted in the holder.

The sleeve B may be made of hard rubber, metal, or other suitable material, and is preferably made a somewhat loose fit with the stock, at least at its lower end, in order to leave space between them for the insertion of the pen C. This space is clearly indicated in Figs. 4 and 5. Above the point where the heel of the pen is to be thrust the sleeve may fit closely around the stock, if desired. The sleeve should be somewhat elastic, in order to yield when the pen is inserted and adapt itself somewhat to different shapes of pens. The sleeve is provided with stops of any suitable kind to limit its longitudinal movement upon the stock and in order to prevent its separation therefrom. I prefer to construct these stops by means of a pin, *f*, which is passed through one of the longitudinal slits, *e* or *e'*, in the stock and has its ends riveted to the sleeve. The sleeve may move in either direction until this pin encounters the end of the slit. Any other suitable construction of stop may be adopted.

In Figs. 1, 2, and 3 the sleeve is shown as being very short, being, in fact, little more than a ring. In such case its length may or may not be sufficient to cover and conceal the heel of the pen when the latter is inserted. In Fig. 10 the sleeve is shown as of nearly the same length as the stock. Some writers may prefer one construction and some the other. The pen is inserted either by crowding it between the lower end of the stock and the sleeve, or by first drawing back the sleeve, then laying the pen against the stock, and then sliding the sleeve down over the pen. It is preferable to

make the extreme lower end of the stock a little larger than it is shortly above this point, or, what amounts to the same thing, to make the notches therein a little deeper above the lower end, in order that the hold upon the pen may be tightened after its insertion by pressing down the sleeve.

One advantage of a holder with a sliding sleeve is that a pen may be pushed in to any desired extent, according to the taste or preference of the writer, and then fastened tightly and securely by sliding the sleeve down over it. Another important advantage is that it provides for the ready and convenient ejection of a pen whenever the latter has become worn out with use and it is desired to replace it with a new one. This is done by holding the sleeve B with one hand and pressing the stock A downward with the other, thus leaving the pen exposed, so that it drops out or may be easily pulled off. No matter how corroded the pen may be or how thoroughly it may be cemented into the holder by accumulated and hardened ink, the pen may thus be easily forced out, and this without danger of breaking it and without handling its slitted end. The holder may be made without a sliding sleeve; but in such case these advantages will be sacrificed. The sleeve may be fixed to the stock, or the two may be made integrally. The particular construction is not essential to my invention, and any known construction may be used.

The notches for engaging the pen at the lower end of the stock are so arranged as to accommodate pens of widely-differing sizes. The notches *a a'* are set far enough apart to receive only the smallest pen for which the holder is intended. The space between them is curved in such manner, as shown, as to readily adapt it to hold such pens. Outside of these are the notches *b b'*, which are placed at such distance apart as to engage pens of medium size, and outside of these notches are notches *c c'*, which are adapted to engage the largest-sized pens.

Fig. 6 shows how a small-sized pen is fitted into the notches *a a'*, Fig. 7 shows how a pen of medium-size is fitted to the notches *b b'*, and Fig. 8 shows a pen of the largest size engaging the notches *c c'*. Pens of sizes intermediate between these three may be set with one edge in one set of notches and the opposite edge in one of the notches of another set—as, for instance, the notches *b* and *a'* or in *c* and *b'*. The slight tilting or rotation of the holder necessitated by this oblique arrangement of the pen is not noticeable.

Fig. 9 shows a modified arrangement of notches, wherein, instead of being arranged in pairs, they are placed at successively wider distances apart. The pen is placed against either side of the stock, its edges entering any two notches that are found to be at the proper distance apart.

The notches may be arranged in various other ways by which the same result will be secured.

Fig. 10 shows a holder which is rendered elastic by slitting only at its lower end where it engages the pen. The slits may cross each other or only one slit may be used. The stock should be slightly enlarged conically at its lower end and should be cylindrical from that point to or nearly to its upper end, and the sleeve should be shaped in the same manner internally, being by preference very slightly tapered externally. The sleeve is limited in its movement by a pin, *f*, playing in a slot, *e*, in the stock.

Figure 11 shows a modification of compromise holder, wherein, instead of forming the stock with notches at varying distances apart, the inner side of the sleeve is formed with recesses of varying sizes, lettered, respectively, *m*, *n*, *p*, and *q*. The recess *m* takes the smallest pen, *n* takes a little larger one, *p* a little larger still, and *q* the largest size.

The heel of the pen may project through the short sleeve or ring B, as seen in Figs. 1 to 3, in which case the pen may be dislodged by pushing on its heel, thus starting it and rendering its removal easy.

I claim as my invention the following-defined novel features and combinations, substantially as hereinbefore specified, namely:

1. A pen-holder constructed with a space for the insertion of the pen, the said space being varied by the notches or recesses, substantially as described, and adapted to receive pens of different sizes.

2. A pen-holder consisting of a central stock and a sleeve inclosing it, with an annular space between them for the insertion of the pen, said space being varied by the notches or recesses, substantially as described, and adapted to receive pens of varying sizes.

3. A pen holder consisting of a central stock and a sleeve inclosing it, with an annular space between them for the insertion of the pen, and notches in said stock at varying distances apart adapted to receive pens of different widths.

4. A pen-holder consisting of a central stock and a sleeve inclosing it, with an annular space between them for the insertion of the pen, and notches *a a'* in said stock, adapted to receive the smallest pen, notches *b b'*, adapted to receive pens of medium size, and notches *c c'*, adapted to receive the largest pens.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM W. STEWART.

Witnesses:

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