

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LE ROY JONES CHERRINGTON, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS.

SELF-CLOSING INKSTAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 418,165, dated December 31, 1889.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LE ROY JONES CHERRINGTON, of Lowell, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Self-Closing Inkstands, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in providing an inkstand with a housing or boxing around its dipping-orifice, and in hanging loosely in an inclined position within said housing a swinging cover, which swings inward and ahead of an inwardly-approaching pen and closes by a gravity-weight; also, in providing a supplemental hinged jaw or flap set in front of said inclined cover, combining therewith and the aforesaid housing to form a complete covering to the dipping-orifice; also, in connecting said cover and jaw so that they will open simultaneously by pressure on said inclined cover, or by pressure on a specially-devised finger pressure-lever attached to the said cover or jaw.

The construction and operation of my invention are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on middle section from front to back, the rod R and crank C being introduced in broken lines to show the connection between cover E and jaw J when open and shut.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in both figures as follows:

A is the ink-vessel.

B is the housing around the dipping-orifice.

E is the inclined swinging cover; W, its gravity closing-weight.

J is the jaw which tips forward and down by the crank C, the latter moving in connection with the weight W through the connecting-rod R, which is pivoted at each end to the crank C and weight W, respectively.

P, P are pivots at each end of the top of cover E and upon which it swings. To one of these pivots is attached the finger pressure-lever D.

H p is the hinge-pin upon which the jaw J swings, to one end of which pin the crank C is secured.

Q is a pen.

F', F², and T are the fingers and thumb

which would most naturally be used in operating my invention, and their connection with the drawings readily show its *modus operandi*.

The parts shown in broken lines and a figure 2 added to their letter of designation indicate the position of said parts when the inkstand-cover is open.

The operation of my invention is fully described as follows: In the direction that a pen-point would naturally move in its passage into the dipping-orifice the finger F² is in a convenient position to touch and press upon the lever D, while the forefinger F' and the thumb T are holding the pen. The downward movement of the lever D, which is secured to the pivot P, causes the cover E to swing on the pivots P P downward and backward in the housing B. This movement raises the gravity closing-weight W, which latter, being connected to the jaw-crank C by the connecting-rod R, causes the jaw J to swing on the hinge-pin H p outward and downward, thus giving more room for the insertion and withdrawal of the pen. On pressure being removed from the lever D, as the pen is being taken out the gravity closing-weight W falls, and the cover E is thereby moved forward and upward to its closing position. At the same time the jaw J swings upward and toward the foot of the cover E by the same power of the weight W, thus closing the dipping-orifice. The lever D may be secured to the hinge-pin H p with the same operative effect as if secured to pivot P.

The advantages of my invention are obvious in the ease with which the cover can be opened by a perfectly natural movement of the hand and pen and simultaneous pressure of the free finger as the pen goes toward and into the dipping-orifice; also, in the great space afforded for the insertion and withdrawal of the pen without interference with the cover; also, in the dipping-orifice being always covered, excepting when the pen is dipped, thus excluding dust and preventing evaporation of the ink.

I claim—

1. In an inkstand or bottle, a gravity closing-cover E, hung at a line above its horizontal center and swinging in a housing B above the level of the ink, said cover when closed

- having its upper surface as an inclined plane slanting upward and backward from the front, its lower swinging part when opening swinging backward and downward away from the point of an entering pen by pressure upon a finger pressure-lever D, substantially as and for the purpose or purposes specified.
2. In an inkstand or bottle, the combination of the housing B with the jaw J, the latter hinged below its middle horizontal line, and its upper part swinging when opening forward and downward, and closed by a gravity-weight in connection therewith.
3. In an inkstand or bottle, the combination of the housing B with the gravity closing-cover E, operating in connection with the jaw J by a gravity closing-weight W, substantially as described, and for the purpose or purposes specified.
4. In an inkstand or bottle, the cover E and jaw J, said cover and jaw connected together by the rod R and crank C, in combination with the housing B, and operating by pressure upon said cover, substantially as described, and for the purpose or purposes specified.
5. In an inkstand or bottle, the cover E, weight W, jaw J, rod R, and crank C, in combination with the housing B, and operated by a finger pressure-lever D, substantially as described, and for the purpose or purposes specified.
6. A self-closing cover consisting of two parts E and J, set so as to open from each other in the way described by a connecting-rod R and crank C, combined with a housing B to complete the inclosure, substantially as shown and specified.

LE ROY JONES CHERRINGTON.

Witnesses:

GEORGE W. COBURN,
FRANK COBURN.