

Spencer Penholder Patent

HARVEY A. SPENCER, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, AND ROBERT S. CUTTING, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

Letters Patent No! 89,354, dated April 27,1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN PEN-HOLDERS

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, Harvey A. Spencer, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, and Robert S. Cutting, of Providence, in the county of Providence, and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and improved Pen-Holder, for holding and carrying the pen in writing; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which Figure 1 represents the construction of our improved penholder as designed to be used as an inclined penholder.

Figure 2 represents the same adjusted as to form a straight penholder.

Figure 3 is another view of the same,

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Our Invention consists in constructing the holder for holding the pen with a hinge-piece, to swing on a pivot in a slot at the end of the stick, or handle, that the holder may be swung at an angle with the stick to give an inclined position to the pen, or parallel with stick, to form a straight holder, an may be desired.

In the drawling

O is the holder, and

D is the handle, or stick of or penholder.

The holder is made of sheet-metal, bent into cylindrical form as a socket for holding the pen, and the two ends of the sheet are flattened together to form the hinge-piece a.

This hinge is fitted in a slot b, formed in the handle, wherein it is confined by means of the pivot i, on which it swings. and is adjusted to an angle at twelve degrees with the stick; as shown in fig. 1, this being one extreme, and to any approximate angle, as may be best suited to the writer's manner of holding the pen, whether move or less across the fore-finger.

If desired, this inclined penholder may be converted into a straight one as shown in figs, 2 and 3, in which the holder is swung parallel to the stick, and the pen is inserted in the holder on the side next to the stick, as shown.

The form and mode of constructing the hinge a, by flattening together the two ends of the piece of metal which forms the holder, or socket, and the mode of confining the same in a slot at the end of a stick, causes the flattened ends to press against the sides of the slot and tighten the same therein, without the need of any other special means for this purpose, the considerable surface of the spring hinge-piece pressing against the sides of the slot being sufficient to hold the socket in any position to which it may be swung on the pivot with all the firmness that may be required for writing with the pen held in such position.

We are aware that a penholder has been heretofore constructed to hold and adjust the holder at an angle with the stick, or handle, by means of an arc curved metal strip attached to the holder, and sliding through the end of the holder, as seen in William Fife's patent, dated September 28, 1839. Also that a joint and a tightening-screw have been used for giving the proper inclination to the holder, and confining the same thereat, and we would not therefore be understood as claiming either the holding of the pen in the inclined position generally, or the means employed as described in the construction of a penholder for this purpose.

It will be noticed that under our invention the pen can be inserted at any point in the holder, and this is productive of the following advantages:

First, the pen may be made to assume the position shown in fig. 1, (the holder being on the left of the handle,) in which it is adapted for those who use the right hand, and who give their letters the ordinary forward slant or inclination.

Second, the holder and handle may be turned so as to bring the holder on the right of the handle, the position of the pen being shifted to that side of the holder opposite to the one in which it is inserted in fig 1, above referred to, and in this position it is adapted for those who use their left hand, or who write a "back hand."

Third, as herein before intimated, the position of the holder and pen may be changed to that shown in fig. 3 the whole device, in this instance, being to all intents and purposes the same pen, holder and handle.

The advantages resulting from forming the flattened ends of the sheet-metal holder into the hinge-piece a are fully set forth in the preceding portion of this specification, and need not be repeated. We would, however, say in addition, that the pivot upon which the hinge-piece swings, clamps and holds the divided end of the handle tightly against the two faces of the hinge-piece and the frictional contact thus induced is quite sufficient to maintain the holder in any position in which it may be placed.

What we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is

The combination, with the handle, of the penholder, constructed as herein described with the hinge-piece a, pivoted to the handle and moving in a slot formed in the end of the same in the manner and for the purposes shown and set forth.

H. A. SPENCER,

ROBERT S. CUTTING.

Witnesses to H. A. Spencer's signature:

Walter C. Allen,

W.K. Schouten.

Witnesses to R.S. Cutting's signature:

Isaac A. Brownell,

William Brownell.