J. HOFFMAN.
Pen-Holder.

No. 204,041. Patented May 21, 1878.

Fig. 1.

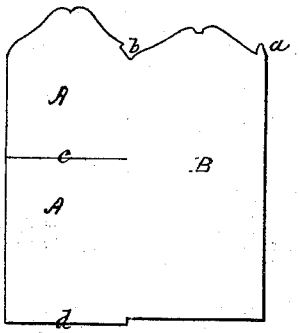
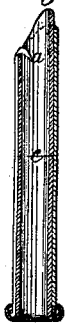


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH HOFFMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO JOSEPH RECKENDORFER, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN PEN-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,041**, dated May 21, 1878; application filed May 14, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH HOFFMAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pen-Holders, of which the following is a specification:

My invention has reference to a pen-holder of the kind shown and described in Letters Patent No. 154,801, dated September 8, 1874, and No. 200,061, dated February 5, 1878—that is to say, a pen-holder formed of a single piece of sheet metal, coiled into pen-holder form, with outer barrel and inner nib. It is desirable in this kind of article that the walls of the pen-holder should be of double thickness throughout; but it has been found that when the pen-holder is so made the inner fold of the coil, which constitutes the nib-piece, will not always yield with that freedom which will permit the pen to be inserted readily and without effort.

To remedy this is one of the objects I have in view, and I attain the desired end by forming in the blank a slit, which extends transversely from the edge of the nib part toward the opposite edge. This slit may be formed at any convenient point between the top and bottom edges of the blank, and it may be of any proper length. Good results can be obtained by making its length not to exceed the width of the inner fold that constitutes the nib-piece.

This arrangement renders it practicable to bind together the folds of the coil at the lower end of the pen-holder more tightly and securely than heretofore; for there is no reason why, with the construction above described, the lower ends of the folds may not be lapped and bound immovably together. To this end I make that part of the blank that forms the inner fold of the coil a little longer than that part which forms the outer fold, so that, when the blank is coiled into pen-holder form, the lower end, by swaging or other convenient means, may be rolled outwardly over and upon itself, making that end of the pen-holder to terminate in an annular bead, which strengthens it, prevents it absolutely from spreading, and gives it a smooth and round finish, which facilitates the entering of the pen-handle. This method of finishing the lower or handle end of the pen-holder is advantageous in some respect even when the blank is not slitted; but I prefer to employ it in conjunction with a slit-blank, for reason above given.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a plan of a pen-holder blank made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the blank coiled up into pen-holder form with the longer end still unswaged. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the completed pen-holder. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal central section of the pen-holder shown in Fig. 3.

Of the blank shown in Fig. 1, A is the inner fold of the coil, constituting the nib-piece. B is the outer fold. The blank at its top is formed with a tongue, *a*, and a notch, *b*, as and for the purposes described in Letters Patent No. 200,061, above named.

The slit hereinbefore referred to is indicated at *c*. It will be noted that it permits the upper part of the nib-piece A to yield freely and entirely independently of the lower part. This slit may be of any suitable length, and can be formed, indeed, by cutting out a thin slice of the metal. It may also be of any suitable shape, extending straight across, or in a diagonal direction, or in a curved or zigzag path.

The lower part of the nib-piece is prolonged beyond the outer fold B, as indicated at *d*, so that when the blank is coiled up into pen-holder form, as shown in Fig. 2, the part *d* will project beyond the edge of the outer fold B. By means of dies, or swaging, or other convenient means, this projecting part is rolled over outwardly upon the outer fold, the ends of the two folds thus uniting in a bead, which gives a smooth and rounded finish to the end of the pen-holder, into which the pen-handle is entered, and unites permanently and tightly the folds of the coil at this end.

The construction just described may be varied by forming the extension or lapping piece on the outer fold, and then bending this part inwardly to overlap the inner fold. A tongue, for instance, can be formed on the handle end of the outer fold to engage a notch in the inner fold, in the same way as the notch and tongue are used at the nib end.

The pen-holder can be made of any suitable metal, such as, for instance, brass or sheet-iron.

Having described my improvements, what

I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:

1. A pen-holder formed of a single piece of sheet metal, coiled into a scroll or volute, with the inner fold or nib-piece slit transversely, so as to allow the upper part of said fold or nib-piece to yield to the insertion of the pen independently of the lower part, as set forth.

2. A pen-holder formed of a single piece of sheet metal, coiled into a scroll or volute, having one of its folds at the handle end provided with an extension, which is bent and lapped upon the other fold or folds, as set forth.

3. A pen-holder formed of a single piece of sheet metal, coiled into a scroll or volute, having the inner fold prolonged at the handle end beyond the outer fold, and swaged or outwardly bent upon the outer fold in bead form, as set forth.

4. A pen-holder made from a blank of sheet metal, formed with a slit and a projecting lip or flange at the handle end, as shown in Fig. 1, and as herein described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of May, 1878.

JOSEPH HOFFMAN.

Witnesses:
O. S. BRAISTED,
JOE W. SWAINE.