

J. HOFFMAN.  
Ruling Attachments for Pen-Holders.

No. 210,256.

Patented Nov. 26, 1878.

Fig. 1.

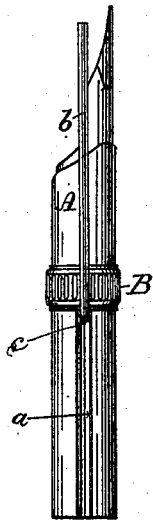


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Witnesses:  
N. Grogan  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH HOFFMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN RULING ATTACHMENTS FOR PEN-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **210,256**, dated November 26, 1878; application filed November 13, 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 Ruling Attachments for Pen-Holders, of which the following is a specification:

The ruling attachment to which my invention relates is a device intended to prevent the edge of a ruler from being smeared with ink.

Such a device has heretofore been attached to pen-holders, and is, broadly considered, not new with me.

The main feature of the device has been a guard-rod arranged parallel with the pen-holder, in a position to be intermediate between the same and the edge of the ruler, and so combined with the said pen-holder that it may be moved down into position when required for use, and then moved back out of the way when no longer required.

In one instance this rod has been arranged to slide in a sheath, and has been provided with a locking device to secure it in its lowest position, and with a retracting-spring to throw it up when it is unlocked. This arrangement, however, is defective, in that it is not only expensive and complicated, but cumbersome as well.

In another instance it has been mounted on a sleeve encircling the pen-holder, and this sleeve has been slotted to engage a guide-pin on the pen-holder; but this arrangement, too, is open to objection. Inasmuch as a considerable range of movement is required for the sleeve, the slot therein must be of a corresponding length, and this necessitates making the sleeve long, encumbering the pen, and involving the use of more metal than is desirable. The securing of the guide-pin to the pen-holder also involves some additional expense.

In still another instance the guide-rod has been swiveled or pivoted to the pen-holder; but this arrangement, too, has its objections, for it becomes necessary to provide some means for locking it in its lowest position to prevent it from swinging out of the way when in use, and this, as well as the riveting neces-

sary to secure it to the pen-holder, involves considerable expense and trouble.

The arrangement which I have devised for the purpose is, I believe, open to none of the objections above referred to.

My attachment consists of a simple narrow fillet or ring, which encircles and is adapted to slide on the pen-holder. To this fillet is attached the guard-rod, and there is provided also on said ring or fillet a projection or tongue adapted to enter and follow a guide-groove formed in and lengthwise of the pen-holder, which groove can be of any length required for the range of movement desired for the attachment.

In the accompanying drawing I have represented the manner in which I prefer to carry my invention into effect.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a pen-holder with ruling attachment combined therewith in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a view of the attachment detached. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the pen-holder.

The pen-holder A, of otherwise ordinary or suitable construction, is provided with a longitudinal groove, *a*, extending from the rear of the pen-holder a proper distance toward the nib end thereof.

The attachment consists of a fillet or ring, B, to which is attached a guard rod or strip, *b*. There is also formed on the fillet a projection or tongue adapted to enter the groove in the pen-holder. This tongue is preferably placed at the rear of the fillet, and is preferably formed by the rear end of the guide-rod *b*, which is bent inwardly, as seen at *c*. The ring is readily slipped on the pen-holder, the tongue *c* entering and following the groove *a*. The tongue-and-groove arrangement assures the rod in its proper position on the pen-holder, while the groove permits the ring to be moved forward or back on the pen-holder, according as the attachment is or is not required for use.

An annular groove opening into the rear end of the longitudinal groove *a* may be formed on the pen-holder, into which the tongue *c* can enter when the ring is retracted, thus permitting the rotation of the attachment on the pen-holder to any convenient position when the

pen is put to its ordinary use; or, in lieu of this arrangement, a space constituting a groove may be formed or left between the rear end of the pen-holder and the pen-handle on which the holder is mounted.

Having now described my invention and the manner in which the same is or may be carried into effect, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The grooved pen-holder, in combination

with the fillet or ring mounted thereon and provided with a guard rod or strip, and a tongue, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of November, 1878.

JOSEPH HOFFMAN.

Witnesses:

J. BRAISTED,  
JOE W. SWAINE.