

*Mordan & Brockedon's Patent for improvements*

*Specification of the Patent granted to SAMPSON MORDAN, of Castle Street East, Finsbury Square, in the County of Middlesex, Engineer, and WILLIAM BROCKEDON, of Devonshire Street, Queen Square, in the same County, Esq., for certain improvements in the construction of Writing Pens and Pen Holders, and in the methods of using them.—Dated September 20, 1831.*

WITH AN ENGRAVING.

To all to whom these presents shall come, &c. &c. *Now know ye*, that in compliance with the said proviso, We, the said Sampson Mordan and William Brockedon, do hereby declare, that the nature of our said invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, are particularly described and ascertained in the drawing hereunto annexed, and in the following description thereof, (that is to say):—

We claim as our invention, and the object of this patent, the use of obliquely slit pens made of quills, metals, or any other fit and proper materials; and also the use of oblique holders for common pens; and whether such pens are made of quills, metals, or other fit and proper materials, and which said pen holders are constructed by us, especially for the purpose of holding the said common pens in an oblique position; and the advantages of which said oblique position of the slits of the pens so made or held, will be to enable the writer to use his pen with greater personal ease and freedom, and that the pens when so held will be much more durable, and chiefly in consequence of the equal wear upon both the nibs, forming the point of the pen, and which nibs from the oblique position in which by our invention they will be presented to paper or other materials to be written upon, are both brought equally to bear upon such paper or other materials.

We propose in the formation of our oblique pens, whether made of quills, metals, or other fit and proper materials, that the slit shall be made or placed in the direction of the usual line or slope of the letters; and also that in our pen holders, the slits of common pens, whether made of quills, metals, or other fit and proper materials, shall be held in a similar oblique position, the pen holders being so formed as to enable the writer to fix in the holder a common pen with the usual slit; but in which holder it will be used with the slit held in an oblique position; and thus we are enabled to correct what we conceive has hitherto been an evil, namely, the faulty direction in which the points of pens have been commonly presented to the paper or other materials employed, so that the nibs which form the point have not hitherto been equally used or acted upon, either in the up or the down stroke in writing.

By our improved modes of forming or holding pens obliquely, the pressure of the pen being equal on both sides of the slit, the nibs are rendered less liable to separate or open on the up stroke of the pen, and thus the spurting of the ink will be considerably diminished, if not altogether avoided; as well as the gathering of filaments from the surface of the paper or other materials written upon, which produces in the ordinary position of pens, the blotting or smearing of the writing. And we hereby claim as our invention, the oblique direction or position purposely given to the slits of all pens, whether made of quills, metals, or other fit and proper materials, and also the obliquity produced in the use of common pens, whether made of quills, metals, or other fit and proper materials, when held in our oblique pen holders.

Having thus described the nature and objects of our said invention, we shall proceed to afford some examples of methods of carrying the same into effect by a reference to

and a description of the several figures contained in the drawing, which, as aforesaid, is annexed to this specification; not, however, meaning or intending thereby to limit ourselves to the use of those forms only, but we hereby claim as our invention all pens with oblique slits, and all pen holders by which common pens may be held in an oblique position, thus including all pens in which, or methods of using them, by which the slit may be held obliquely, or in the line or slope of the letters, whilst writing with them in the usual way.

*Description of the Drawing.* (Plan C.)

Fig. 1 represents an upper view of part of a common quill, made into one of our improved pens, with an oblique slit; fig. 2 being an under view of the same pen; fig. 3 a portable quill pen with an oblique slit; and fig. 4 a section thereof. This oblique portable pen may be either held in any of the usual pen holders, as well as the steel or other elastic metal oblique portable pens, shewn at fig. 5, or, still better, in one we have contrived for the purpose, and which is shewn in an upper view of it in fig. 6, and in a side view in fig. 7; it being different from the common well known pen holders of this kind, in the shells between which the pen is held being placed sufficiently on one side to bring the point of our obliquely nibbed pen in a central line with the handle.

Fig. 8 is an under view of an ordinary portable quill pen, and fig. 9 a steel or other metallic ordinary portable pen. These ordinary portable quill, steel, or other metallic pens, with straight (not oblique) slits, may be held by our holders, in our improved oblique position in various ways.

Fig. 10 represents a common portable quill pen held in one of our oblique pen holders, an edge view of which is shewn in fig. 11; it consisting of two elastic or springing metal

limbs, united at one end to a metal socket, into which a handle of hard wood, or other fit and suitable material, may be fitted. The front ends or jaws of these limbs are curved, as shewn in fig. 11, so as to receive between them a common portable quill or metal pen, and which said pen, when placed in its proper position in the pen holder, may be held or retained firmly therein, by sliding the double-headed button which moves in a slit made in both limbs near to the said front ends or jaws, so as to close them, and bind the pen fast between them.

In order to hold a common quill pen, with its barrel and stem entire, or the common metal pen in an oblique position, we vary the shape of one of the limbs of the pen holder, so as to make it similar to the opposite one, but curved in the contrary direction, and as shewn in the edge view thereof, in fig. 12. Another pen holder, to retain the ordinary portable quill or metal pens in an oblique position, is shewn in a top view of it in fig. 13, and in an edge view thereof in fig. 14, it being formed of a solid metal stem, having a socket to receive a hard wood or other handle, and of a moveable limb turning upon a hinge or joint at its external end, both parts being properly curved so as to hold the portable pen between them, and as shewn in fig. 13. This moveable limb is retained in its closed position by sliding a metal ring or ferrule over its end, as shewn in figs. 13 and 14; and in order to adjust the best oblique position of the pen, it may be provided with a joint furnished with a tightening screw, as shewn in fig. 15. It may likewise be made to hold the common entire quill pens in an oblique position, by altering the curvature of the moveable limb, in the manner shewn in fig. 16.

Fig. 17 is another pen holder adapted for holding common quill or metal portable pens in an oblique position; and fig. 18 is an under view of the same. Fig. 19 is a short

tabular and tapering plug, fitted into the socket or tube of figs. 17 and 18, and having a projecting stud upon it, which fits into a slit made in the socket or tube of fig. 18, and prevents the plug from turning round in that socket.

A screw is formed upon the stem of the plug, fig. 19, which passes through a hole made to receive it in the end of the socket of figs. 17 and 18, and has a female screw or button fig. 20, with a milled border to be screwed upon it, when the screw is passed through the hole in the socket. A portable pen may then be placed between the plug and the socket as shewn in fig. 17, and upon binding the female screw tight, the pen will be firmly secured in the pen holder. In order to allow more motion end-ways to the adjustment of the pen in the pen holder, the socket of fig. 17 may be made separate, or without a handle as shewn in fig. 21, and be received into an oblique springing socket or clip, with a handle affixed to it, similar to that shewn in the side view of it, fig. 22, and in the end view, fig. 23.

Fig. 24 is a top view, and fig. 25 an edge view of one of our oblique pens made of a flat piece of steel, or other fit and proper material, the nibs A A being elastic to the degree required, and the cheeks B B, forming an exterior addition to the surface of the pen, to hold a greater quantity of ink. The edges C C, as shewn in the separate figures 26 and 27, may be bevelled for the greater convenience of placing them in the pen holder, figs. 24 and 25, which has flattened jaws adapted to receive these pens, but which flattened pen holder we do not claim. Fig. 27 shews one of these pens with only one additional cheek B to it, the left nib being removed to show better the point of the pen in use. Figs. 28 and 29 are side and top views of metal pens formed by giving to such pens as are represented in figs. 26 and 27, a convex or arched upper surface, for the purpose of obtaining a greater degree of stiffness in the parts requiring it. These pens may be used in the common pen holders.

By a reference to our figures, it will be seen that the obliquely slit pens, and those held in our oblique pen holders, are required to be so fixed as that the points of the pens shall be placed for convenient use in the central line or axis of the handles of the pen holders. We do not mean or intend hereby to claim as our invention any of the various parts herein mentioned, or in the drawing annexed, shown and described, which are already known, or have been in use, but only oblique pens; and whether the said obliquity be obtained by holders formed for holding the common or straight slit pens in an oblique position, or by forming the pens themselves with oblique slits.

In witness whereof, &c.

