

No. 660,883.

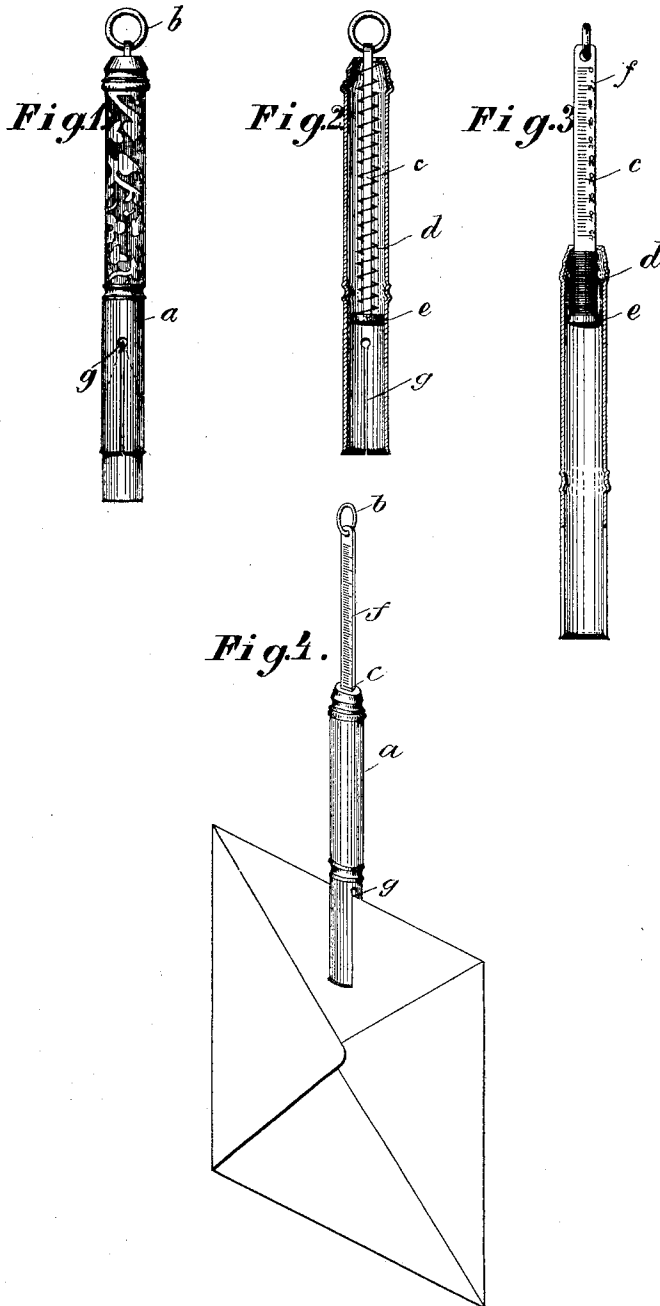
Patented Oct. 30, 1900.

O. BECKMANN.

COMBINED PENCIL HOLDER OR PROTECTOR AND LETTER BALANCE.

(Application filed Jan. 15, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OTTO BECKMANN, OF MANNHEIM, GERMANY.

COMBINED PENCIL HOLDER OR PROTECTOR AND LETTER-BALANCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 660,883, dated October 30, 1900.

Application filed January 15, 1900. Serial No. 1,476. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OTTO BECKMANN, a subject of the Grand Duke of Baden, residing at Mannheim, D 6, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, in the German Empire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Pencil Holder or Protector and Letter-Balance, (for which I have applied for patents in Belgium, dated December 18, 1899, and in Denmark, dated December 14, 1899,) of which the following is a specification.

The inability to quickly weigh letters for the purpose of stamping the same is an inconvenience that is often experienced. Travelers who have often to quickly write their letters in pencil and inclose a number of slips containing orders and other matter are especially inconvenienced in this respect. This invention is designed for the purpose of overcoming this inconvenience by affording means by which everybody is enabled to most easily ascertain the weight of letters before despatching them.

In carrying out this invention I combine a pencil holder or protector with a letter-balance in such a manner that the exterior appearance of the former is not materially altered.

On the accompanying drawings this invention is illustrated, Figure 1 being an elevation; Fig. 2, a vertical section when the letter-balance is not in use; Fig. 3, a vertical section showing the letter-balance when in use; Fig. 4, the combined pencil holder or protector and letter-balance with a letter suspended from the same.

As will be seen from the drawings, the invention comprises the pencil holder or protector *a*, which can be suspended from the watch or other chain by the ring *b*. It is usual to split such pencil holders or protectors

in order to obtain a good grip of the pencil. In the upper part of the holder or protector there is a rod *c*, which is normally kept in the inside of the holder or protector by a spring *d* bearing on the plate *e*, provided at the end of the rod *c*. On the rod *c* a scale *f* is provided, the separate divisions of which represent different weights. When after removing the pencil the holder or protector is suspended by holding the ring *b*, the top of the said holder or protector corresponds exactly to the zero-mark on the scale *f*.

In order to weigh letters or the like, they are pushed into the slot *g*, by which they will be held, whereupon the holder or protector will sink and give the weight of the object in question on the scale *f*.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

A pocket-balance for letters and other mail-matter, comprising solely: a single tube having diametrically-opposite longitudinal slots in its side walls at one end for holding the article to be weighed, a graduated rod in the interior of said tube passing through the end thereof opposite to that having the slots, a ring on the outside end of the graduated rod passing through a hole in the outside end of the said rod, holding all the parts together, and a loose spring likewise within the tube coiled around the graduated rod and bearing at one end on a headpiece or plate on the end of said rod within the tube and at the other end on that end of the tube through which the rod passes, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

OTTO BECKMANN.

Witnesses:

A. NOTTING,
T. L. RAND.