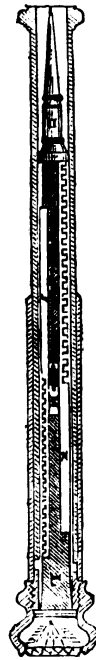


LONGMORE'S PATENT ELONGATING EVER-POINTED PENCIL.

Fig. 2.



Fig. 1.



From the time that the ever-pointed pencil was first launched into the world by its inventor, Hawkins, it has been a subject for the exercise of great ingenuity by its various manufacturers. Mordan, Riddle, and others, have each contributed to its improvement and its useful adaptations. The latest and most popular improvement in the ever-pointed pencil is that patented by Mr. Josiah Longmore, a description of which from his enrolled specification we subjoin. Mr. Longmore's patent embodies other important improvements, but they relate to the "motion

part" of the pencil case, and would hardly be understood or appreciated except by manufacturers of the article. The most prominent peculiarity of the patented improvements consists in the *elongating* action of the case, by means of which the writing point is protruded. The act of extending or contracting the case propels or withdraws the writing point, so that a *three-inch* pencil for the pocket becomes a *five-inch* pencil for writing with. In addition to the convenience afforded by this arrangement, the objectionable external sliding ring is done away with; neither is there any slit to weaken the case, admit dirt, or cause derangement. The mechanism by which this is effected will be understood by reference to the accompanying engravings; fig. 1 being a section of the pencil case shut for the pocket, while fig. 2 is an external view of the same elongated for writing.

The patentee says—"My second improvement in pencil cases consists in a contrivance for projecting the pencil motion out of the case, and at the same time elongating the case itself. H, fig. 1, is the pencil motion to which a semi-cylindrical metal rack J is soldered, or otherwise attached. K is another similar rack attached to the reserve tube L. M is a small pinion turning freely on a pin which passes through, and is secured to the external case of the pencil. The external case, which may be of gold, silver, or other metal, is made in two parts, an upper tube N, and a lower one O. The upper case N is connected with the reserve tube L and its rack K, by a pin (not shown in the figure) which passes under a projecting rim and forms a swivel joint, upon which the upper tube N is free to turn. On drawing the upper and lower cases asunder, the rack K gives motion to the pinion M, which, taking into the rack J, depresses it, and causes the pencil point to which it is attached to be projected beyond the case; the case itself being at the same time lengthened to the extent which the one case moves upon the other. In order to prevent the pencil from being protracted too far, the last tooth in each of the racks J and K is left much broader than the others; when these teeth arrive at the pinion, therefore, they cannot pass, and, consequently, the farther progress of the pencil is prevented." B.