

RESERVE

# PATENT SPECIFICATION

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## PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

### Improvements in or relating to Pens

I, JOHN PINKNEY GOWLAND, of "The Studio", Mimbridge, Woking, Surrey, a British Subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention relates to pens, and more especially to new and improved forms of nib which are cheap and economical to produce, are easier to repair and more difficult to break than nibs of the conventional type. The invention also relates to a new and improved form of fountain pen, or nib-section therefor, embodying the new form of nib.

In accordance with this invention, nibs are constructed of pressings or stampings of strip material, of from wire or bar material, and are made in one piece which is slit or formed to provide a slit for ink flow to the writing tip, or alternatively are made in two separate halves. The material may be of any suitable cross-section such as rectangular, square, semi-circular, circular or oval, and the nib may have a flexible or rigid tip, and may be adapted for writing with on one side, or on either of opposite sides, of its tip. The nib may be made flat (or more generally stated, the same form on both sides thereof) so as to enable the nib to be written with on either side with equal flexibility or rigidity of the tip, or may be of curved or concave form similar to a conventional nib so that the flexibility of the tip is greater on one side than on the other. With a nib form provided for two-way writing, the nib may be made with a broad point on one side and a fine point on the other.

The nib is constructed preferably at the end remote from the tip, or intermediately if desired, with any suitable form of enlargement or projection intended to serve for retaining the nib in its mounting in a pen or nib-section.

In one preferred form, the nib is made in one flat or curved piece stamped or pressed from metal strip, the nib having the general appearance of a disc portion with a central hole in it and a preferably tapering tongue portion extending radially from the disc, the tongue being split by a slit extending from its tip to the hole

in the disc so that the split tongue portion forms the writing tip of the nib, the disc part providing the anchoring enlargement above mentioned. The slit could, of course, be extended right across the disc part, thus dividing the nib into two halves.

In other words, the described form of nib could be made in two separate similar and complementary flat or curved halves, instead of in one piece. In an alternative method of construction, a somewhat similar form of nib could be made by bending a piece of wire or bar material back on itself to form a loop and so that its end portions lie side by side, corresponding to the tongue portion above mentioned, and so form the writing tip of the nib, and the loop portion forms an annulus the equivalent of the apertured disc portion previously mentioned. In another construction, a nib may comprise two separate similar pieces of material of square, rectangular, circular, oval or like section and each of L or similar shape so that when put together the two halves form a writing point with a slit for ink flow between them and have laterally projecting parts providing the anchoring enlargement previously mentioned. With L-shaped halves as mentioned, the assembled nib would be of T shape, the cross-head of which constitutes the anchoring enlargement.

The material of which the nib is made may be of such thickness, or the section thereof may be so shaped, that within the writing tip a concealed channel of any suitable cross-section providing an ink duct along the slit may be formed in the thickness of the material, or by the shape of its section. With a circular, oval or like section of material, such internal channelling need not be made as the curvature of the section itself will result in open channels (somewhat V-shaped with curved sides) being formed along each side of the writing tip.

The invention also embraces a construction of pen or nib-section for nibs as above described. In this part of the invention a feed member having a longitudinal ink duct therein is formed with a longitudinal recess or channel suitable to receive the nib and in communication

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Price 33p

with the ink duct, and also with a recess suitable for receiving the anchoring enlargement on the head of the nib so that the nib can be assembled in position in the feed member, the nib and feed member being maintained in assembled position by a sheath which encloses the feed member and has an aperture in a closed end thereof through which the writing tip of the nib projects, such aperture being made of size to provide (in the case of a flexible nib) sufficient clearance for the flexing movement of the tip when writing. The ink duct and nib-receiving recesses may be disposed in an outside surface of the feed member, or alternatively they may be arranged internally, the feed member being divided longitudinally into two separable parts so as to expose the internal recesses for insertion of the nib.

The feed member and sheath may both be of bullet-like shape, and the feed member may be divided axially or parallel thereto into two halves or parts, the ink duct and nib-receiving recesses thereof being arranged axially within the member so as to be half in each half of the feed member or wholly in one part of the feed member. The nib is placed in position between the two halves or parts of the feed member, this assembly being inserted first into the sheath, the butt end of which is open for this purpose, so that the assembly is nested in the sheath with the nib tip projecting through an aperture in the nose of the sheath. The open end of the sheath is closed by a member having an ink duct arranged therein to communicate with the duct in the feed member, the sheath and its closure being secured together by suitable means, preferably by interengaging screw threads on these parts. The closure may form part of, or be a separate element adapted for attachment to, a pen barrel containing the ink reservoir.

Such form of construction, in which the projecting nib tip lies substantially on the centre line of the pen, is especially

suitable to nibs for two-way writing as previously described, since the pen is properly balanced equally when writing with either side of the nib. Such construction may resemble the tip of a conventional stylographic pen in external appearance, but unlike the latter which can write in any orientation in the user's hand owing to the nature of the stylus, the present pen must be held in a particular writing position, like any other nib-using pen. Therefore, and especially if the nib tip protruding from the sheath is of square or such other form that it cannot be readily seen which of the sides of the tip should be used for writing (without a close inspection to see which sides of the point are slit), a coloured spot or other suitable indicator (or two of same if the nib is for two-way writing) may be provided on the sheath to give a ready means of visually identifying which way round the pen should be held.

In a modification of the described pen construction, the feed member is in one piece and has its ink duct and nib-receiving recesses formed in the outside surface of the member, the nib being retained in position between the feed member and the inside surface of the sheath. In this arrangement the nib lies offset with respect to the centre line of the pen. The previously described bullet-like form of the duct and sheath is therefore preferably modified so as to taper towards the offset nib tip. This construction may be employed with nibs for one-way writing, and the asymmetric form of the sheath provides a visual indicator as to which way round the pen should be held.

Although various constructional details have been described herein, it is to be understood that the invention is not to be regarded as limited to these, since various modifications may be made within the scope of the invention.

Dated this 13th day of January, 1944.

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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

### Improvements in or relating to Pens

I, JOHN PINKNEY GOWLAND, of "The Studio", Mimbridge, Woking, Surrey, a British Subject, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

The present invention relates to pens and more especially to new and improved

forms of pen having nibs which are cheap and economical to produce, are easier to repair and more difficult to break than nibs of the conventional type. The invention also relates to new and improved forms of reservoir or fountain pens.

In accordance with this invention, there is provided a pen comprising a plurality of individual elongated nib elements each

having an anchoring enlargement and being assembled side by side within a holder having a seating engaged by said enlargements, so that the nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from the holder and having at least one capillary ink feed slit extending from said tip longitudinally between said elements, the holder comprising two separate parts assembled with the nib between them and held together so that the nib is clamped between them so as to maintain said enlargements and seating in engagement and thereby hold the nib against longitudinal displacement in the holder. The holder may also comprise one or more further parts for holding the said two parts in assembled relation.

In one form of the invention, the pen comprises a plurality of individual elongated nib elements each formed with an anchoring enlargement and assembled side by side within a holder so that the nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from said holder and having at least one capillary ink feed slit extending from said tip longitudinally between said elements, the holder comprising a sheath tapered towards and having an aperture at one end, a tapered feed member inserted from the other end of said sheath and nested therein, said feed member having a longitudinal channel therein in which the nib elements are disposed with the writing tip projecting through said aperture in the tapered end of said sheath and with said enlargements engaging a seating in said feed member, and a closure attached to said other end of said sheath for retaining said feed member in nested engagement with the sheath so as to maintain said nib enlargements and said seating in engagement and thereby hold the nib against longitudinal displacement in the holder.

In another form of the invention, a pen is provided comprising a plurality of individual elongated nib elements assembled side by side within a holder so that the nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from said holder and having at least one capillary ink feed slit extending longitudinally between said elements from said tip to the butt ends of said elements, said butt ends each having an anchoring lug laterally projecting therefrom, the holder comprising a nose member having a longitudinal channel therethrough in which the nib elements are disposed with the writing tip of the nib projecting from one end of said nose member and with the anchoring lugs abutting against a seating at the other end of said nose member, and a

closure attached to said other end of said nose member so as to abut against said lugs and maintain them and said seating in engagement, thereby to hold the nib against longitudinal displacement in the holder.

The nib may be constructed of two or more similar elements of metal strip, wire or rod pressed, stamped, rolled or drawn to a desired section. The cross section of the nib elements may be widely varied and may, for instance, be rectangular, square, semi-circular, circular or oval, and the nib may be adapted for writing on one side or on either of opposite sides of its tip. With the latter form of nib adapted for two-way writing, the nib may be made with a broader tip on one side and a finer tip on the other.

The section of the metal for the nib elements may be chosen so as to provide the nib with one or more ink feed channels of any suitable cross-section extending longitudinally within and/or on the outside of the nib, in addition to the ink feed slit or slits above mentioned. For instance, with two elements of circular, oval or like section placed side by side, the curvature of the section will result in an open channel (somewhat V-shaped with curved sides) being formed along each side of the nib.

In its simplest form the nib comprises two similar elements made of metal wire or rod of square, rectangular, oval or like section, each having its butt end bent out to form a projection serving as the anchoring enlargement, the element so formed being somewhat L-shaped. Various other nib arrangements for different purposes may readily be provided from any desired number of nib elements. Thus, for example, a nib adapted for writing with on any side of its tip, analogously to a conventional stylographic pen, may be constructed with three or more nib elements of segmental section fitted together side by side in a circular or like closed array, to form a nib of circular or round section. With such a nib, there will be a plurality of ink feed slits extending longitudinally of the nib between the elements thereof. Another form of nib, suitable for lettering or decorative writing purposes, may be constructed of several component points placed side by side in a line-abreast array, to produce a wide nib capable of making a broad stroke.

While pens according to the invention may be used by dipping the nib into ink as required, it is intended that they shall principally be charged from a reservoir embodied in the pen, and accordingly the nib holder is preferably provided with an ink reservoir or an ink duct (adapted for

communication with a reservoir), with which the ink feed slit or slits between the elements of the nib directly communicate when the nib is fitted to the holder. A plurality of locations may be provided in the holder at different distances from the end thereof from which the writing tip of the nib projects, so that the extent of protrusion of the nib from the holder may be adjustable, and such adjustable location may be utilised as a means of varying the flexibility of the writing tip of the nib by varying the amount of protrusion of the nib as a whole from the holder.

From another aspect however, this adjustable location may be utilised as a means for varying the width of the nib. Accordingly, another feature of this invention consists in a pen comprising at least three individual elongated nib elements each formed with an anchoring lug and assembled side by side in line within a holder so that the nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from the open end of said holder and having a capillary ink feed slit extending from said tip longitudinally between adjacent elements, the holder comprising two separate parts assembled with the nib between them and detachably held together so as to clamp the nib between them, one of said holder parts having a plurality of locating slots transversely arranged therein at varying distances from the open end of the holder, said slots being adapted selectively to receive said lugs on the nib element for locating said elements in said holder so that the latter are held against longitudinal displacement in the holder, whereby the extent of protrusion of the individual elements from the open end of the holder may be varied according to the selection of the slot in which the lug of each nib element is seated and thereby the effective width of the writing tip of the nib may be varied.

In order that the invention may be more clearly understood and readily put into practice some embodiments thereof will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 depicts one form of nib in two views at right angles to each other.

Fig. 2 similarly depicts another form of nib.

Figs. 3 and 4 show further forms.

Fig. 5 illustrates some of the various nib element sections that may be employed.

Fig. 6 illustrates the application of broad and fine writing tips to a nib.

Figs. 7 to 16 illustrate some constructions of pen embodying the above or modified forms of nib of which

Figs. 7 and 8 are views at right angles to each other, showing one embodiment partly in section.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary sectional view of a modification.

Fig. 10 shows a pen similar to that of Fig. 7 but embodying a different form of nib, Fig. 11 being a fragmentary section on line 11—11 of Fig. 10.

Fig. 12 is a side view partly in section of a further modification.

Fig. 13 is a fragmentary sectional view of a pen nib-section embodying another form of nib, Fig. 14 being an end view of Fig. 13 drawn to a larger scale, and Fig. 15 showing in perspective the form of the nib elements.

Fig. 16 is a perspective view of another form of pen, a removable cover part of the pen holder being shown removed.

The nib illustrated in Fig. 1 consists of two separate similar elements 1, 1 of metal wire or rod of generally rectangular (e.g. square) cross-section each of which is bent out at one end at any desired angle (e.g. at right angles, as shown) to form a projection or lug 2 for anchoring the element in a holder. Two such L-shaped elements 1 put together side by side as shown in the left-hand view of Fig. 1 form a nib having a writing tip constituted by the upper extremities of the elements as seen in the Figure, with a slit for ink flow between them which runs the length of the nib from the writing tip to the anchoring lugs 2 at the butt ends of the elements. It will be apparent that the two elements may be placed together, with like effect, in other relative orientations than that shown, in which the lugs 2 extend in opposite directions from the nib.

Fig. 2 shows a somewhat similar nib which differs from that of Fig. 1 in that the L-shaped component elements 3 are made of thin metal strip stampings, formed with anchoring lugs 4 projecting laterally from the points 3 in the plane of the strip.

Figs. 3 and 4 show two further forms of nib assembled from component elements made as thin metal strip stampings. Each half or component 5 of the nib of Fig. 3 has an enlargement 7 formed at its butt end to serve for anchoring the element in a holder. In the nib of Fig. 4 each element 8 has a continuous taper from butt to tip which enables the nib to be located in correspondingly tapered parts of a holder.

Fig. 5 depicts some of the varied cross-sections that may be employed for the nib elements, especially when they are made of wire or rod, as for instance in the nib of Fig. 1. The said sections also illustrate various ways of providing a nib, in addition

tion to the capillary ink feed slits between the nib elements, with one or more longitudinal ink feed channels which may run concealed inside the nib, such as is shown

5 at 11 in sections *a*, *c*, *d*, *e* and *f* and at 12 in section *b*, or which may run as open channels on the outside of the nib, such as is shown at 13 in sections *c* and *d*, at 14 in section *e*, and at 15 in section *f*.

10 Fig. 6 depicts a nib of similar character to that of Fig. 1, but showing how the corners of the nib elements adjacent their tips may be bevelled to form a writing tip for the nib which is narrower on one side

15 of the nib than on the opposite side, so that the nib is adapted to make a fine stroke when written with on the one side and a broader stroke when written with on the other.

20 Since the invention is primarily, though not exclusively concerned with pens of the reservoir or fountain type, there are shown in Figs. 7 to 16 of the drawings some examples of pens of that character having

25 nib-sections or holders for receiving nibs of the kinds described above.

In Figs. 7 and 8 there is shown a reservoir pen having a nib-section which is adapted, for example, to receive a nib 1, 1 of the kind depicted in Fig. 1. The nib-section comprises a feed member divided longitudinally into two parts 16, 17 which are formed on the dividing line with a longitudinal recess or channel to receive the nib, and with a recess at right angles thereto to receive the anchoring lugs 2, 2 at the butt of the nib. These recesses may be arranged in one or other of the parts 16, 17 or partly in each, as

30 desired. By way of example, the longitudinal nib recess is shown as being provided in part 16 and the lug recess in part 17. The nib is placed in position between the two parts of the feed member and this sub-

35 assembly is inserted nib first into the open end of a sheath 18 so as to be nested in the sheath with the nib tip projecting through an aperture in the closed tip of the sheath. The feed member and sheath are shown as

40 being of bullet-like shape which is preferred, although other shapes may be employed. The open end of the sheath is closed by a suitable handle 19 to which the assembled feed member may be

45 attached in any desired manner, for instance as a push fit or by means of inter-engaging screw threads on these parts as illustrated, the inner end of the handle abutting the adjacent ends of the feed

50 member parts 16, 17 and combining with the sheath to hold said parts in nib-clamping position. The pen is shown as having an ink reservoir 20 provided in the nib-section and formed by recessing the part

55 16 of the feed member, the sheath 18

having an opening 21 therein through which the reservoir may be charged from a brush, quill or other convenient filler. The reservoir 20 is in direct communication with the nib butt and the ink feed slit

70 therein. Instead of this form of reservoir, the handle 19 may be constructed as a pen barrel containing an ink reservoir, such as a rubber sac, communicating with the nib butt by way of an ink duct formed between

75 the parts of the feed member.

A modification of this character is illustrated by Fig. 9, wherein is shown a nib-section comprising a nose member 22 having a longitudinal channel there-

80 through to receive the nib 1 inserted through the open end of the member 22. The lugs 2 of the nib seat on a shoulder 23 to prevent the nib falling through the

85 member 22. The open end of the latter is closed by screwing thereinto a feed member 24 having an ink duct 25 therein, the member 24 engaging the butt end of the nib to hold it against the shoulder 23 in the nose member 22. The feed member 24

90 is adapted for screwing at its other end into a pen barrel 26 containing an ink reservoir such as a rubber sac 27 which thus communicates with the nib 1 through

95 the ink duct 25. The nose member 22 shows a further feature consisting in the provision of an ink duct therein around the nib 1, formed by moulding or machining

100 a screw thread 28 in the nib-receiving channel so that the ridges of the thread hold the nib, while the spaces between the ridges form an ink duct along the outside of the nib.

Figs. 10 and 11 show a pen similar to that of Figs. 7 and 8, but illustrating the use therein of another form of nib, for instance that of Fig. 3, the nib recesses formed in the feed member parts being modified in shape.

105 Forms of construction such as those of Figs. 7 to 11, in which the projecting nib tip lies substantially on the centre line of the pen, are especially suited to nibs for two-way writing, that is, for writing with

110 upon both sides of the nib, since the pen is properly balanced equally when writing with either side of the nib. As it may not readily be visible which of the sides of the nib tip should be used for writing, with-

115 out a close inspection to see which sides of the nib are slit, a suitable indicator, such as a coloured spot, may be provided

120 on the pen to give a ready means of visually identifying which way round the pen should be held. In the case where the nib is adapted for writing on two sides,

125 the pen may be provided with two such indicators appropriately placed. Fig. 9 illustrates the application of indicator spots, as shown at 29.

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In another modification as shown in Fig. 12 a one-piece feed member 30 may have an outside surface thereof recessed to receive a nib such as nib 1, which is retained in position by being held between the feed member and a sheath 31 in which the feed member carrying the nib nests, as shown. In this arrangement the nib lies offset with respect to the centre line of the pen, and if a bullet-like form of the feed member and sheath is employed, it is preferably modified so as to taper towards the offset nib tip, as shown. This form of construction may be employed advantageously with nibs adapted for writing upon one side only (one-way writing), and the asymmetric form of the sheath 31 provides a visual indicator as to the orientation in which the pen should be held.

Figs. 13 and 14 illustrate a form of pen which may be adapted for writing with in substantially any orientation in the writer's hand. The nib in this case is made up of a sufficient number (at least three) of similar component elements 32 which are assembled side by side in a circular array to form a nib of generally circular or round section, as shown in Fig. 14. By way of example, Fig. 14 shows the nib as being composed of six elements of segmental cross-section and of the form depicted in Fig. 15, each element being made of a piece of metal wire or rod of the appropriate section bent out at one end to provide an anchoring lug 33, and bevelled at the other end to form a writing tip 34. The assembled nib is introduced first into the open end of a nose member 35 and inserted in a longitudinal channel in the nose member so that the tip of the nib protrudes as shown, and the lugs 33 at the butt end of the nib seat on a shoulder 36 formed in the open end of the nose member, the nib being held in place by a feed member 37 screwed into and closing the open end of the nose member and abutting onto the lugs 33 of the nib so as to force them against the shoulder 36. Like the nib-section of Fig. 9, the feed member 37 is shown as having an ink duct 38 therein and being adapted at its other end for screwing into the end (indicated at 39) of a pen barrel containing an ink reservoir.

Fig. 16 depicts a construction suitable as a lettering pen for signwriting, decorative writing and the like. A suitable nib for such a pen may readily be constituted by a number of separate component elements placed side by side in line in a suitable holder to form a wide nib capable of producing a broad stroke of the kind required for lettering and the like. Such a nib is shown in Fig. 16 as being

constituted of component elements 40 of the same general character as illustrated in Fig. 1, but preferably made of metal strip. The elements 40 are shown of plain rectangular section, but if desired, modified sections such as depicted in Fig. 5 may be used; for instance, an arrangement as shown at *f* in Fig. 5. The nib holder 41 is shown as being of a tray-like form in which the nib elements 40 are laid side by side with their tips projecting from the open end of the holder. The elements 40 are located by their lugs 42 engaging in a transverse slot 43 in the bottom of the holder 41, and a removable cover 44 is adapted to seat and be secured by a screw 45 on to the main body of the nib holder so as to hold the nib assembly in position and close and seal an ink reservoir 46 which is formed by the part of the holder 41 at the rear of the nib assembly. The cover 44 is provided with an opening 47 through which the reservoir 46 may be charged from a brush, quill or other suitable filler, and the nib holder is provided with a suitable handle 48. It will be evident that instead of providing a reservoir in the nib holder, the handle may consist of a pen barrel containing an ink reservoir, such as a rubber sac, communicating with the nib assembly through a suitable ink duct provided (instead of reservoir 46) in the rear part of the nib holder.

By means of the built-up form of nib construction, a pen such as shown in Fig. 16 may readily be constructed having a nib which can be varied in width to provide a range of widths of stroke. This may be achieved in simple manner, as shown in Fig. 16, by providing two locating slots 43 for the lugs 42 at different distances from the open end of the holder 41, the slot 43 nearer the open end of the holder constituting the working location and the rearward slot the storage location. The effective width of the nib may be adjusted as required, by locating in the forward slot the selection of elements 40 giving the required nib width, while relegating to the rearward slot the elements that are not required to be in use. By way of illustration, the drawing shows a nib made up of seven elements, with four of them located in the forward working position and the remaining three relegated to the storage position. It will be evident that with the pen illustrated the nib width can be varied from the combined width of two elements to the combined width of all seven, by stages of one component width, thus providing a wide and useful range of stroke width with one pen. Hitherto, a user of this class of pen has needed to have a set of pens or nibs of different fixed-

width strokes, in order to obtain a range of stroke widths.

Incidentally, the plural location arrangement of Fig. 16 allows adjustment of the flexibility of the nib tip when the full width of the nib is in use, since in this case the nib may be located in either of the slots 43 and its tip will be more flexible when the nib is in the forward location than when in the rearward location, owing to the greater protrusion from the end of the holder. This feature of plural location could be employed in other pen constructions, such as those previously described, for the purpose of obtaining adjustability of nib tip flexibility or stiffness. In this connection, it will be appreciated that the flexibility or stiffness of the nib tip will be controlled to some degree by the amount of clearance (if any) that is provided in the nib holder or nib-section at the aperture in the end thereof through which the nib tip protrudes.

Although various constructional details have been described herein, it is to be understood that the invention is not to be regarded as limited to these, since various modifications may be made within the scope of the invention.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A pen comprising a plurality of individual elongated nib elements each having an anchoring enlargement and being assembled side by side within a holder having a seating engaged by said enlargements, so that the nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from the holder and having at least one capillary ink feed slit extending from said tip longitudinally between said elements, the holder comprising two separate parts assembled with the nib between them and held together so that the nib is clamped between them so as to maintain said enlargements and seating in engagement and thereby hold the nib against longitudinal displacement in the holder.

2. A pen as claimed in claim 1, wherein the holder also comprises one or more further parts for holding the said two parts in assembled relation.

3. A pen comprising a plurality of individual elongated nib elements each formed with an anchoring enlargement and assembled side by side within a holder so that nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from said holder and having at least one capillary ink feed slit extending from said tip longitudinally between said

elements, the holder comprising a sheath tapered towards and having an aperture at one end, a tapered feed member inserted from the other end of said sheath and nested therein, said feed member having a longitudinal channel therein in which the nib elements are disposed with the writing tip projecting through said aperture in the tapered end of the said sheath and with said enlargements engaging a seating in said feed member, and a closure attached to said other end of said sheath for retaining said feed member in nested engagement with the sheath so as to maintain said nib enlargements and said seating in engagement and thereby hold the nib against longitudinal displacement in the holder.

4. A pen as claimed in claim 3, wherein said feed member is divided longitudinally into two parts, with said channel and said seating formed on the line of division between said parts, so that the said parts are assembled with the nib elements between them and are held in assembled relation by said sheath in conjunction with its said closure.

5. A pen as claimed in claim 3, wherein said feed member has said channel in the outside surface thereof so that the nib elements are held between the assembled feed member and sheath.

6. A pen comprising a plurality of individual elongated nib elements assembled side by side within a holder so that the nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from said holder and having at least one capillary ink feed slit extending longitudinally between said elements from said tip to the butt ends of said elements, said butt ends each having an anchoring lug laterally projecting therefrom, the holder comprising a nose member having a longitudinal channel therethrough in which the nib elements are disposed with the writing tip of the nib projecting from one end of said nose member and with the anchoring lugs abutting against a seating at the other end of said nose member, and a closure attached to said other end of said nose member so as to abut against said lugs and maintain them and said seating in engagement, thereby to hold the nib against longitudinal displacement in the holder.

7. A pen as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the nib elements are arranged in the holder in line abreast.

8. A pen as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the nib elements are three or more in number and are arranged in the holder in a circular or like closed array.

9. A pen as claimed in any of claims 1

to 7, wherein the nib tip is formed of different widths on opposite sides thereof so as to provide a broader writing tip on the one side and a finer writing tip on the other.

5 10. A pen as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the nib elements have a cross-section providing the nib with one or more ink feed channels extending longitudinally within and/or on the outside of the nib, in addition to the ink feed slit or slits between such elements.

11. A pen as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the holder is provided with an ink reservoir or ink duct which communicates directly with the butt end of the nib.

12. A pen as claimed in any of claims 3 to 6, wherein the wall of said channel in the holder has a ridged or like formation, such as by providing it with a screw thread, whereby the nib is engaged by the ridges and the spaces between the ridges provide an ink duct extending along the outside of the nib.

13. A pen as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 12, wherein the holder is provided externally with one (or more than one) coloured spot or like visual indicator to indicate the orientation (or each of a number of orientations) in which the pen is intended to be held for writing.

14. A pen as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the holder is provided with means for locating the nib at a plurality of positions longitudinally of the holder, whereby the extent to which the tip of the nib projects from the holder is made adjustable.

15. A pen comprising at least three individual elongated nib elements each formed with an anchoring lug and assembled side by side in line within a holder so that the nib elements together form a nib having at one end thereof a writing tip projecting from the open end of said holder and having a capillary ink feed slit extending from said tip longitudinally between adjacent elements, the holder comprising two separate parts assembled with the nib between them and detachably held together so as to clamp the nib between them, one of said holder parts having a plurality of locating slots transversely arranged therein at varying distances from the open end of the holder,

said slots being adapted selectively to receive said lugs on the nib elements for locating said elements in said holder so that the latter are held against longitudinal displacement in the holder, whereby the extent of protrusion of the individual elements from the open end of the holder may be varied according to the selection of the slot in which the lug of each nib element is seated and thereby the effective width of the writing tip of the nib may be varied.

16. A pen as claimed in claim 15, wherein said holder contains an ink reservoir or ink duct which is in direct communication with the butt ends of the nib elements in any longitudinally adjusted position thereof in the holder.

17. A pen as claimed in claim 15, wherein the holder comprises a tray-like part open at one end and having said transverse slots provided in the bottom thereof, the assembly of nib elements being arranged longitudinally in said part with the writing tip ends thereof projecting from the open end of said part and with the anchoring lug of each nib element seated in one of said slots, said part having a space constituting an ink reservoir therein rearwardly of the rearmost slot, and a cover part fitting on to said tray-like part to close the reservoir and hold the nib element assembly in position, the cover part having an aperture therein through which the reservoir may be charged with ink.

18. A modification of the pen claimed in claim 17, wherein in the place of the reservoir, said tray-like part is formed or provided with an ink duct which communicates at the rear of said part with an ink reservoir contained within a handle or barrel attached at the rear of the holder.

19. Pens constructed in accordance with any of the embodiments hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

20. A pen having a nib adjustable in width, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to Fig. 16 of the accompanying drawings.

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

