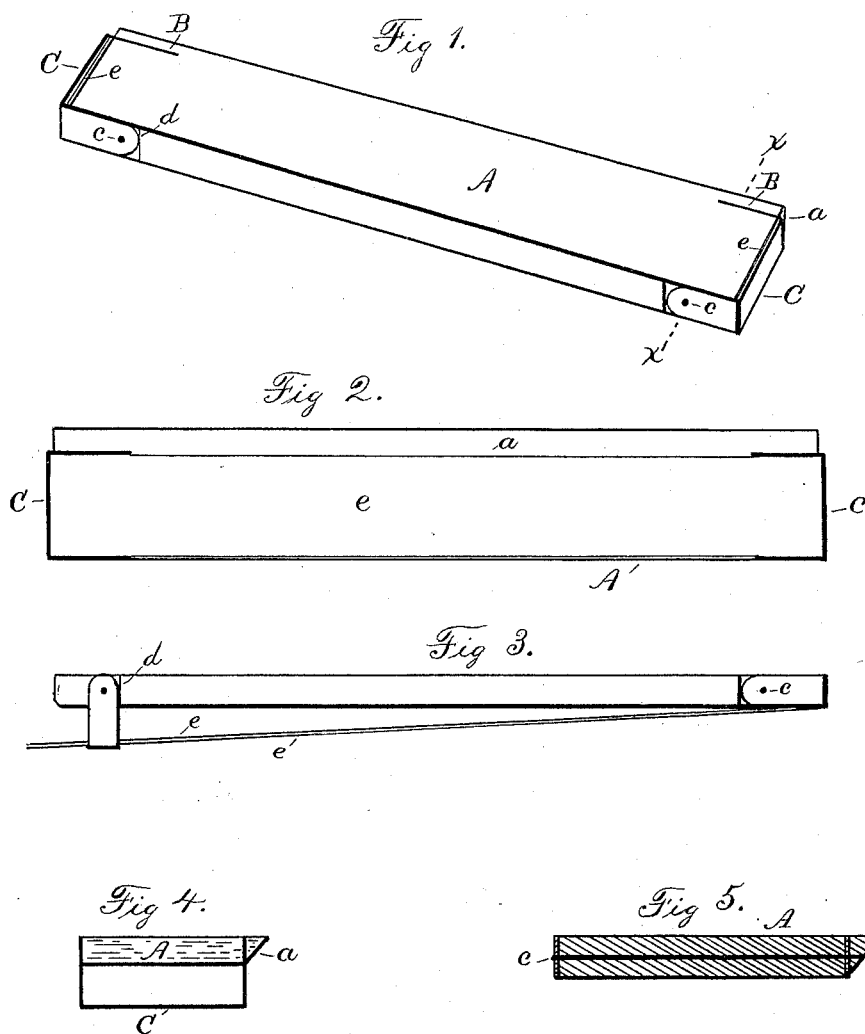


(No Model.)

N. B. WHEELER.
RULER.

No. 421,338.

Patented Feb. 11, 1890.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NELSON B. WHEELER, OF MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT.

RULER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 421,338, dated February 11, 1890.

Application filed December 11, 1889. Serial No. 333,360. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELSON B. WHEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Meriden, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rulers; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon; which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to desk-rulers with or without scales. It has a blotter attachment, and its novelty consists principally in the devices employed for removably securing the blotter to the ruler. A blotting-surface on a ruler is of great value, inasmuch as the ruler may be laid at once upon freshly-drawn lines, which in cross-ruling would otherwise have to be dried or blotted first. This blotting device is also adapted for use as an ordinary desk-blotter. My ruler is very plain and easily made and is comparatively inexpensive.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the various features of the invention, Figure 1 being a perspective view showing the upper side and an end of the invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of its lower side. Fig. 3 represents the back edge with one binder open. Fig. 4 is an end of the ruler with binder open and blotter removed. Fig. 5 is an end section, enlarged, taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 1.

The different parts of the invention are referred to by letters, similar letters denoting corresponding parts in the different views.

The letter A indicates a ruler made of wood or other material and having the beveled ruling-edge *a*. If desired, a scale may be made upon its upper surface.

At either one or both ends of the ruler are cut or sawed the vertical longitudinal slits B, into which one limb of the binder C is loosely fitted, the other limb lying in a recess *d* along the back edge of the ruler. The binder C is made of brass or other preferred metal and is held in place by a transverse pivotal pin *e*, which passes through the ruler

and both limbs of the binder near their ends, as shown in Fig. 3. This pin thus serves to strengthen that portion of the ruler included between the slit and the ruling-edge. About this pin *c* the binder C may be turned up or down, its normal position being in line with the ruler, and having a space between its central portion and the end of the ruler sufficient for one or more thicknesses of sheet blotting-paper.

One or more strips of blotting-paper are cut to fit upon the lower surface of the ruler and to turn up over its ends. These strips *e* are applied to the ruler while the binder C is turned down and are drawn taut and securely held by pushing the binder up over the blotter and the end of the ruler. The lower edge *f* of the end of the ruler is chamfered off to permit the binder to pass smoothly over it, and also to allow the drawing of the blotter-strips tightly, which a sharp edge would prevent. This tightening and fastening device is very effective when applied to only one end of the ruler, the blotting-strips being secured at the other end by any preferred means, and the ease with which the binder is opened permits a ready exchange of fresh blotters for the soiled ones.

Having now described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A ruler having a chamfered end edge, a vertical longitudinal end slit, and an end binder, one of whose limbs is loosely fitted into said slit and whose other limb rests in a recess at the back edge of the ruler, and which, being pivotally secured to the ruler, is adapted to draw tightly and hold in place blotting-strips on the bottom of the ruler, as herein set forth.

2. A ruler A, having the side bevel *a*, end bevel *f*, end slits B, and recess *d*, in combination with blotter *e*, secured to the ruler by binder C, pivotally held by pin *c*, which passes through the ruler, as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

NELSON B. WHEELER.

Witnesses:

CHARLES H. SAWYER,
W. R. TYLER.