

(No Model.)

A. T. SNELL.
COMBINED GAGE AND FINGER GUARD.

No. 523,380.

Patented July 24, 1894.

Fig. 1.

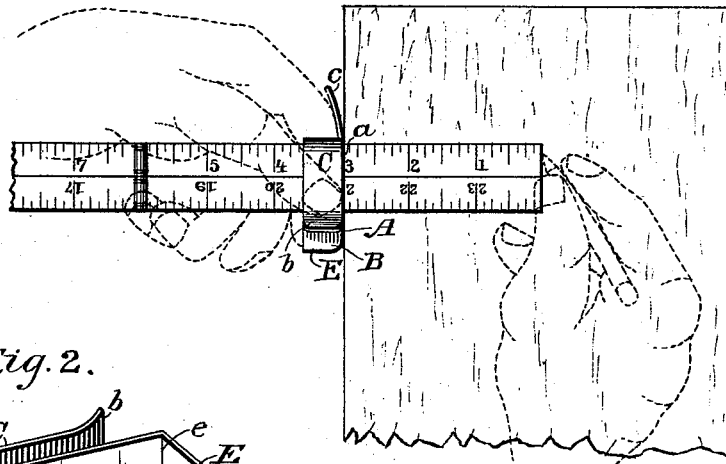


Fig. 2.

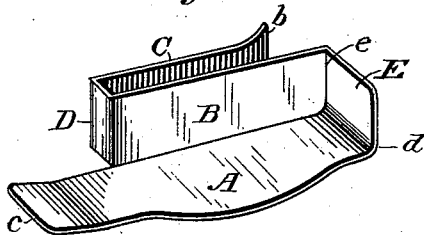


Fig. 3.

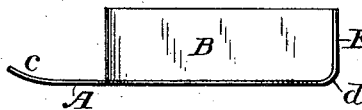


Fig. 4.

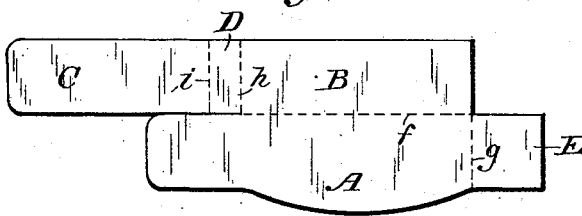


Fig. 5.

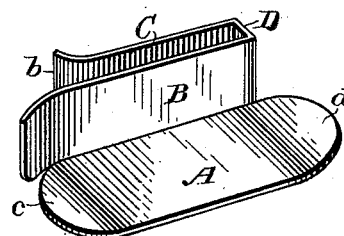


Fig. 6.

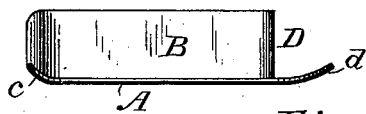


Fig. 7.

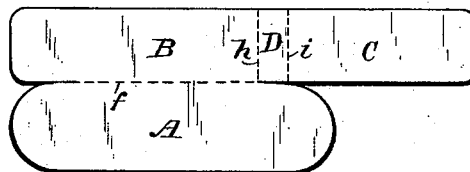
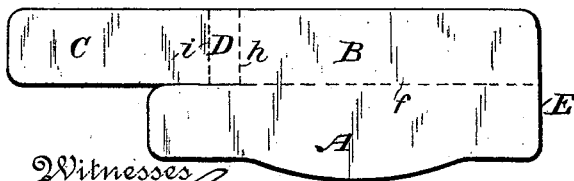


Fig. 8.



Witnesses
Jas. S. Latimer
Parleton & Snell.

Inventor
Arthur T. Snell
by *William H. Brown*
his Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR T. SNELL, OF SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA.

COMBINED GAGE AND FINGER-GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 523,380, dated July 24, 1894.

Application filed August 25, 1893. Serial No. 484,053. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR T. SNELL, of Santa Barbara, in the county of Santa Barbara and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Gage and Finger-Guard, of which the following is a specification.

The present improved gage and finger-guard is designed for the use of mechanics and carpenters when using a ruler or square in marking a line at a desired distance from the edge of a board. In order that the line may be exactly parallel with the edge of the board and at the desired distance, a gage is necessary, and in case the board is rough it is desirable to furnish a guard for the fingers or thumb to prevent injury from splinters as the hand holding the ruler or square is moved along the edge of the board. Heretofore combined gages and finger-guards have been used for accomplishing these purposes, and the object of the present invention is to improve such prior gages and guards by an improved construction which enables the gage and guard to be maintained in position on the ruler or square, and which enables the gage and guard to be grasped by the hand simultaneously with the ruler or square so that the combined gage and guard together with the ruler or square are grasped in exactly the same way as the ruler or square would be grasped if the gage and guard were not used.

The present improved gage and guard is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1, is a view showing the manner of using it. Fig. 2, is a perspective view of the gage and guard. Fig. 3, is a side view. Fig. 4, is a view of the sheet metal blank from which the gage and guard is made. Fig. 5, is a perspective view of a modification. Fig. 6, is a side view thereof. Fig. 7, is a view of the sheet metal blank from which the same is made. Fig. 8, is a modified form of blank. The preferred form of the combined gage and guard is shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3.

A, is the guard plate which slides along in contact with the edge of the board.

B, is a finger plate which extends longitudi-

nally along one edge of the guard plate A, and at right-angles thereto.

C, is a spring clasp or thumb plate substantially parallel with the finger plate B, and at a distance therefrom substantially equal to the thickness of an ordinary ruler or square.

One edge *a* of the thumb-plate C, is in line with the guard-plate A, and serves as the indicator or gage edge for determining the distance from the end of the ruler at which the combined gage and guard should be placed, thereby determining the distance from the edge of the board at which the line should be drawn.

D, is a bridge connecting the finger-plate B, and the spring clasp or thumb-plate C, at right-angles to both, and which comes in contact with a straight edge of the ruler or square when in use and prevents any tilting of the combined gage and guard upon the ruler or square, thereby maintaining the position of the gage edge *a* of the plate C perpendicular to a straight edge of the ruler or square.

E, is a push-plate at one end of the guard-plate A, extending across said plate A at substantially right-angles both to said plate A and to the finger-plate B.

In using the combined gage and guard, the ruler or square is inserted in the space between the finger-plate B and the spring clasp or thumb-plate C, until the bridge D seats squarely on the straight edge of the ruler or square. The combined gage and guard is then properly positioned or located on the ruler or square by means of the gage edge *a*. The combined gage and guard is then grasped simultaneously with the ruler or square by the thumb and forefinger of the left hand (the right hand using a pencil as shown in Fig. 1), the thumb resting upon the spring clasp or thumb-plate C, and the ball of the forefinger upon the finger-plate B, with the side of the forefinger pressed against the guard-plate A and its end against the push-plate E. The spring clasp or thumb-plate C being free at one end enables the combined gage and guard to be firmly clamped to the ruler or square. The ruler or square with the gage and guard is moved along as the pencil mark

is drawn by the right hand, the movement being facilitated by the forefinger pushing against the push-plate E.

The free end *b* of the thumb-plate C is curved outwardly away from the finger-plate B, to facilitate placing the gage and guard upon the ruler or square.

The free end *c* of the guard-plate A, and the end *d* where it is united with the push-plate E, are both curved inwardly, that is away from the edge of the board when in use, in order that the ends of the plate A need not catch upon any splinters in the board.

The joint *e* between the push-plate E and the thumb-plate B, is preferably made a close joint, as by solder, so as to increase the rigidity of the combined gage and guard.

The length of the thumb-plate C and of the finger-plate B is preferably greater than the width of an ordinary carpenter's ruler, so as to increase the clamping action thereof upon the ruler.

The entire combined gage and guard is made out of a single blank of sheet metal which is stamped out into the shape shown in Fig. 4. In this figure the full lines indicate incisions and the dotted lines the places at which the blank is bent in forming the combined gage and guard. The finger-plate B is bent up from the plate A along the line *f*, the push-plate E is bent up along the line *g*, the bridge D is bent out along the line *h*, and the thumb-plate C is bent back along the line *i*.

The modification shown in Figs. 5, and 6, differs from the preferred construction in the omission of the push-plate E, and in being left-handed, that is, it is used in the same way as the preferred construction when the ruler and the combined gage and guard are held in the right hand and the pencil is held in the left hand. This modified construction can, however, be held in the left hand when the right is using the pencil, by placing the bridge D below the ruler instead of above as shown in Fig. 1. The blank from which the modified construction is made is shown in Fig. 7, and the manner of bending up the tool therefrom is just the same as with the blank shown in Fig. 4. The push-plate E, can be and preferably is formed without any joint *e* between it and the finger-plate B, by forming the blank of the shape shown in Fig. 8, wherein the plate portion B extends to the right as far as does the guard-plate A. With a blank so constructed the plate E can be stamped up so as to be integral with the plate B as well as with the plate A.

I claim as my invention—

1. A combined gage and guard composed of the guard-plate, the finger-plate at a right-angle to said guard-plate, and the thumb-plate parallel with said finger-plate, said finger-plate and thumb-plate being yieldingly connected and spaced so as to embrace between them a ruler on the opposite sides thereof, substantially as set forth.

2. A combined gage and guard composed of

the guard-plate adapted to bear against the work, the finger-plate at a right-angle to said guard-plate, and the thumb-plate parallel with and on the outside of said finger-plate, said finger and thumb plates being spaced so as to embrace between them a ruler on opposite sides thereof, and said thumb-plate having one edge in the plane of said guard-plate whereby said edge serves as a gage, substantially as set forth.

3. A combined gage and guard, composed of the guard-plate, the finger-plate at right-angles to the guard-plate, the elastic thumb-plate parallel with said finger-plate, said finger and thumb plates being arranged to grasp a ruler between them, and the bridge between the finger-plate and thumb-plate connecting the same, substantially as set forth.

4. A combined gage and guard, composed of the guard-plate, the finger-plate at right-angles to the guard-plate, the elastic thumb-plate parallel with said finger-plate, said finger and thumb plates being arranged to grasp a ruler between them, and the push-plate at one end of the guard-plate, substantially as set forth.

5. A combined gage and guard, composed of the guard-plate, the finger-plate at right-angles thereto, the elastic thumb-plate parallel with said finger-plate, said finger and thumb plates being arranged to grasp a ruler between them, the bridge between the finger-plate and thumb-plate connecting the same, and the push-plate at one end of the guard-plate and at the end of the finger-plate opposite to said bridge, said push-plate being substantially perpendicular both to the guard-plate and to the finger-plate, substantially as set forth.

6. A combined gage and guard formed of a single piece of sheet metal, composed of a guard-plate A having an inwardly-turned end *c*, a finger-plate B extending longitudinally of said guard-plate A and at right-angles thereto, a thumb-plate C at a distance from said finger-plate and substantially parallel therewith, the free end *b* of said thumb-plate C being bent away from said finger-plate B, a bridge D connecting said thumb-plate and finger-plate and at substantially right-angles to both, and a push-plate E at one end of said guard-plate, there being an inwardly-curved union between said push-plate E and guard-plate A, and a close joint *e* between said push-plate E and said finger-plate B, substantially as set forth.

7. The sheet-metal blank having parts A, B, C, and D, said parts B, C, D, being in line with each other and parallel with said part A, said parts being adapted to be bent along the lines *f*, *h*, and *i*, said lines *h* and *i* being parallel with each other and perpendicular to the line *f*, substantially as set forth.

8. The sheet-metal blank having the parts A, B, C, D, and E, said parts A, E, being in line with each other, said parts B, C, D, being in line with each other and parallel to the

parts A, E, and said several parts being adapted to be bent along the lines *f*, *g*, *h*, and *i*, said lines *h* and *i* being parallel with each other and lying on one side of and perpendicular to the line *f*, and said line *g* being on the opposite side of said line *f* and perpendicular thereto, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR T. SNELL.

Witnesses:

GEO. A. CULBERTSON,
R. D. SMITH.