(No Model.)

J. HAMM.

MARKER FOR WEATHER BOARDS, FLOORING, AND JAMBS.

No. 305,920. Patented Sept. 30, 1884.

Fig. 1.

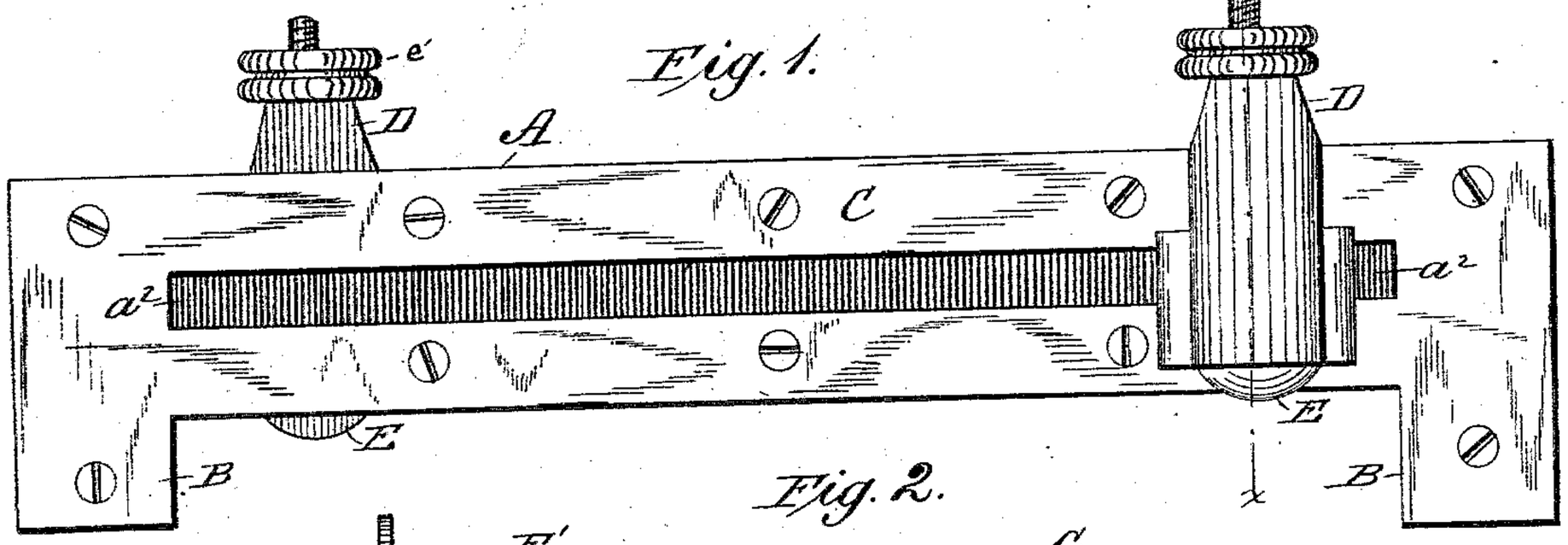


Fig. 2.

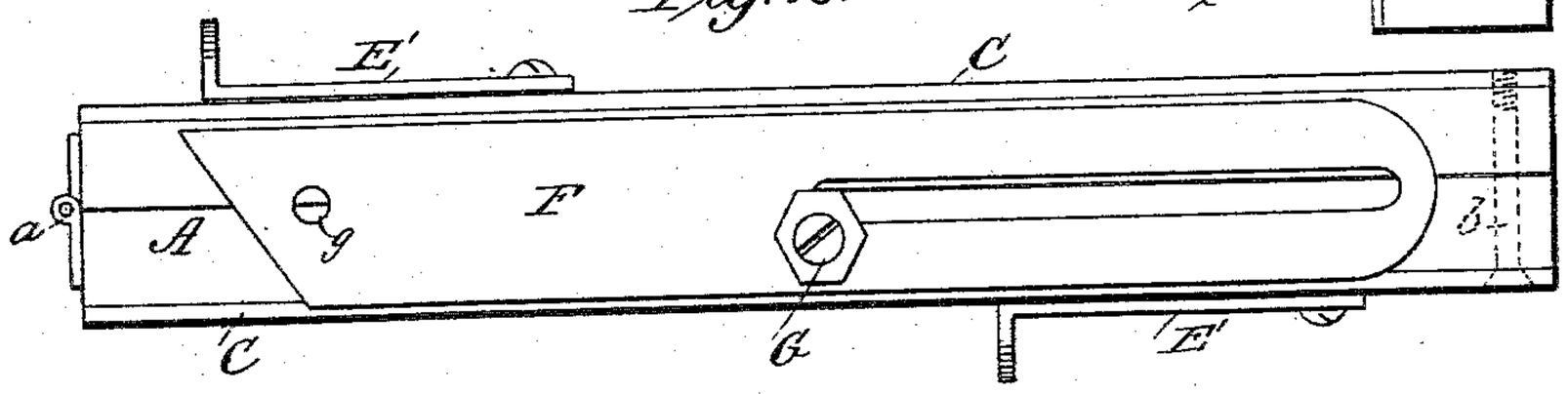


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

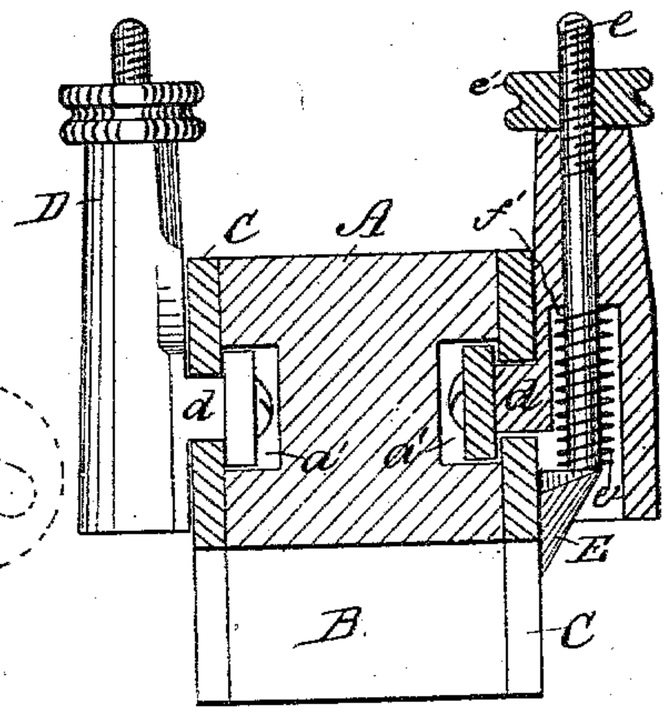
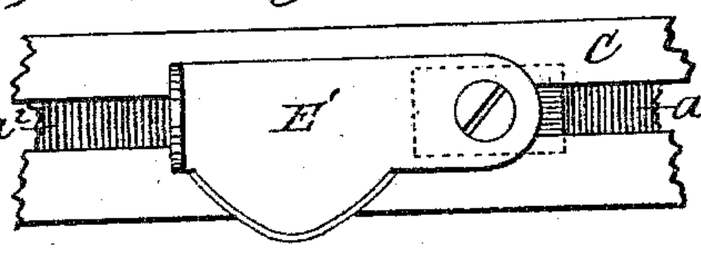


Fig. 5.



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MARKER FOR WEATHER-BOARDS, FLOORING, AND JAMBS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,920, dated September 30, 1884.

Application filed July 9, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HAMM, of Memphis, in the county of Bourbon and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Markers for Weather-Boards, Flooring, and Window-Jambs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention consists of an improved marker for weather-boards, flooring, and door and window jambs, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the same, showing an adjustment. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on line *x x* of Fig. 1, and Fig. 5 is a modification.

A indicates a rule formed of two strips of wood, connected together at one end by a hinge, *a*, and at the opposite end by a transverse screw, *b*. Each of said strips is provided with a short rectangular arm, B, at each end, and with a longitudinal groove, *a'*, in its outer side. To each side of the rule thus formed is secured a metal plate, C, having a slot, a^2, narrower than the groove *a'* and registering therewith. At each side of the rule is a standard, D, having a shouldered projection, *d*, which is fitted in and behind the slotted plate C and adapted to slide therein. The shouldered projection *d* is formed by a square plate secured to a lug on the standard D by means of screws, as shown in Fig. 4. The advantage of this construction is that by tightening up said screws any desired degree of friction will be produced between the standard and slotted plate C, to prevent the standard from moving more freely than is required. The standard is tubular in form, and it carries a cutter, E, the shank of which is arranged in the standard, and is provided with a thread, *e*, and thumb-nut *e'* at its upper end, and a spiral spring, e^2, near its lower end, which is compressed between the shoulder *f* of the cutter and a shoulder, *f'*, in the standard when the nut is screwed up. Unscrewing the nut will allow the spring to force the cutter E downward to throw the edge thereof below the bottom of the rule to any desired degree. The edge of the cutter E is set off at one side of the plane of its shank to allow the said edge to be arranged in contact with the plate C, which serves as a guard to prevent the shank from turning in the standard. The edge of the cutter is beveled from the rule on its outer side, and is curved from end to end.

In use the rule is to be placed across a board or other piece of material, and one of the standards is to be moved by hand from one end of the rule to the other, causing the cutter E to be partially embedded in the board, so as to leave a mark thereon by which the saw in squaring or beveling off the end of the board is to be guided.

In weather-boarding a house between two windows, the weather-board is to be supported on two nails at the edges of the window-casings, and the marker is then to be placed across the weather-board at the right hand. The right-hand cutter is then to be moved upward, marking the board where it is to be sawed off to fit against the adjacent casing, and the marker is then to be moved to the left hand at the opposite casing, and the left-hand cutter is to be used in marking that end of the board.

By having two cutters arranged on opposite sides of the rule the marker needs only to be shifted from one end of a board to another without the need of reversing it end for end in applying it to the two ends of a board, as would be required if there were only one cutter; and owing to the fact that weather-boarding is frequently made thinner at one edge than at the other, it is important that the marker shall not need to be reversed end for end, since, to adapt the marker to such boarding, one of the arms B would be made shorter than the other, as shown in the drawings.

The rule as above described is adapted for marking weather-boards. When it is to be used for marking off floor-boards, the screw *b* is to be withdrawn, and the two hinged strips forming the rule are to be opened on the hinge *a* to a rectangular position, as shown in Fig. 3. A slotted gage-plate, F, is attached to the upper surface of one of the strips by a screw and nut, G, and has a perforation, *g*, by which it is to be secured to the other strip when said

strips are opened. The device is thus rigidly secured in the form of a square, and is to be used in this form in marking flooring.

To adapt the device for marking door and window jambs, the said strips are to be opened to an angle of about forty-five degrees, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 3.

To get the bevel for making window-jambs, take a steel square and place it across the board and square off the end with any suitable marker. Then apply my marker to get the angle of the bevel, and mark for the saw.

Instead of using the cutters E above described, any suitable cutter may be used.

In Fig. 5 I have shown a cutter which may be used to advantage, being simple and inexpensive in construction. This cutter E′ consists of a blade pivoted at one end to a slide, and having its other end bent outward to form a handle. The cutting-edge is located between the ends of the blade and forms a projection thereon.

What I claim is—

1. The cutter E, having the plane of its edge set off at one side of the plane of its shank, in combination with the slotted plate C, tubular standard D, spring e^2, and nut e', substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination of the rule A, formed of two strips hinged together at one end, the gage-plate for holding said strips at any desired angle with each other, the same being made movable to bring it into alignment with the rule, when desired, and the cutters adapted to slide in the outer sides of said strips, substantially as shown and described.

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Witnesses:
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