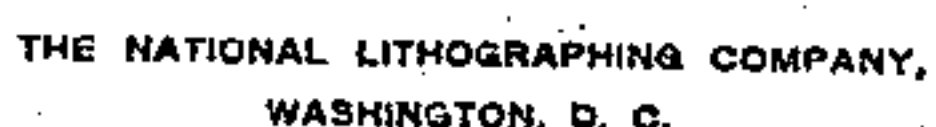


F. HOLT.
PLUMB RULE.

Patented May 8, 1894.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK HOLT, OF SOUTH PITTSBURG, TENNESSEE.

PLUMB-RULE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 519,576, dated May 8, 1894.

Application filed July 6, 1893. Serial No. 479,701. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK HOLT, of South Pittsburg, in the county of Marion and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and Improved Plumb-Rule, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved plumb rule, which is simple and durable in construction, more especially designed for the use of masons and bricklayers, and arranged to enable the operator to quickly and accurately lay the stones or bricks in proper positions.

The invention consists in the particular construction of a rule having two graduated blades arranged at right angles with their edges parallel to one another and adapted to fit on and to be secured to the corner of a wall.

The invention also consists of certain parts and details, and combinations of the same, as will be hereinafter described and then pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improvement. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view of the same as applied, and on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a base plate for the rule to rest on. Fig. 6, is a perspective view of a modified form of the same; and Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the improvement converted into a square.

The improved plumb rule is provided with a rule A, preferably made in two parts B and B', composed of the blades B³, B⁴, and B⁵, B⁶ respectively, the blades of each set being arranged at right angles to each other, as illustrated in the drawings. The parts B and B' are united by bolts C extending through the blades B⁵ and B⁶, and an offset B² formed integral with the lower ends of the blades B³ and B⁴, it being understood that the said offset B² is right angular similar to the blades. Thus, when the two parts B and B' are united as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, the blade B⁵ is in alignment with the blade B³, and the blade

B⁶ is in alignment with its corresponding blade B⁴. In the blades B³, B⁴, B⁵ and B⁶, are formed apertures B⁷ through which nails can be driven into the wall to fasten the rule to the corner of the wall, so as to hold the rule in proper position; that is, when its upper part extends above the last course of stones or bricks laid. The ends of the blades B³, B⁴ and B⁵, B⁶, are united with each other, so as to form at the corner of the united blades, a vertically extending slot B⁸ as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 1. The outer faces of the angularly arranged blades of the rule A are provided with graduations representing linear measurements, so that the operator is enabled to lay the bricks or stones according to the measurement on the rule, and not the rule on the bricks or stones, as now generally practiced. The bolts C for uniting the parts B and B' of the rule A are preferably provided with wing nuts C' as illustrated in Fig. 1, the said wing nuts screwing up against the outer faces of the offset B². The heads of the said bolts are preferably countersunk on the inside of the blades B⁵ and B⁶, as indicated in Fig. 2, so that the corresponding blades B³, B⁵, and B⁴, B⁶, represent an unbroken surface throughout their length at their inner faces.

In order to fasten the rule in a plumb position on the corner of the building, I provide a double spirit level D made angular and formed on its two members with downwardly extending hooks D' adapted to engage the upper edges of the blades B³ and B⁴, so as to securely hold the spirit level in place on the upper end of the rule A.

It will be seen that when the spirit level D is applied and the rule is put in position on the corner, the bubbles of the level readily indicate the true position of the rule, and in case the latter is not entirely plumb, it can be readily put in such a position, the bubbles then indicating at the proper zero mark, as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 3. If desired an ordinary plumb bob may be used to test the proper position of the rule, when put in place.

In order to stretch a line along the sides of the building, to enable the operators between two corners, for instance, to properly lay the bricks, I provide each rule A on the two ad-

5 adjacent corners with a slide E made in the
 form of an angular blade fitted onto the outer
 surfaces of faces of the rule A, as indicated
 in Fig. 1, the said slide being provided with
 10 apertures E' through one of which passes the
 rope or cord F stretched from one slide to the
 other, and passing through the slot B⁸ to
 the the inside of the rule, the inner end of
 the cord or rope being formed with a knot to
 15 prevent it from passing through the slot B⁸.
 By this arrangement, the slides E on the
 rules A on two adjacent corners of a build-
 ing, can be moved up or down on the rules
 according to the graduation, so as to stretch
 20 the line F along the side wall to indicate the
 heights of the bricks for the next courses.
 By this arrangement cords may be stretched
 from one corner rule A to two corner rules
 of similar construction and located at the two
 25 next adjacent corners, so that two walls of
 the building have proper cords to guide the
 middle men in laying the stones or bricks
 properly, and in accordance with the bricks
 laid by the corner men at the three corners.
 30 When starting a wall the rule A is sup-
 ported on a base plate G or H formed on one
 or two adjacent sides with flanges G', as
 plainly indicated in Figs. 5 and 6, so that the
 lowermost edges of the rule A fit snugly
 35 against the said flange or flanges, to support
 the rule in a vertical position until a sufficient
 number of courses of bricks have been laid to
 allow the workman to fasten the rule to the
 wall by nails driven through the apertures
 40 B⁷, as above described.

The base plate shown in Fig. 5 is more es-
 pecially designed for use in a corner of a wall,
 while the other plate is adapted for use along
 a wall; it being, however, understood that the
 45 flanges are turned to and rest against the lower
 or base portion of the wall.

When it is desired to use the rule as a regu-
 lar square, then the two parts B and B' are
 set at angles to each other, and fastened in
 50 place by one of the bolts C, as indicated in
 Fig. 7.

It will be seen that the rule can be readily
 arranged at the corner of a building and sup-
 ported in place to plumb two sides at once,
 55 and it also enables an operator to lay the

bricks according to the measurement indi-
 cated on the members of the rule, as above
 described.

Having thus fully described my invention,
 I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters 55
 Patent—

1. A plumb rule provided with two blades
 arranged at right angles to each other and with
 their edges parallel to one another, the said
 blades being connected at their ends and 60
 spaced intermediately thereof, so as to form
 a slot between the blades, substantially as de-
 scribed.

2. A plumb rule comprising two blades ar-
 ranged at right angles to each other and with 65
 their edges parallel to one another, and an
 angular double spirit level adapted to be se-
 cured to the upper ends of the blades, sub-
 stantially as described.

3. A plumb rule comprising a rule having 70
 two graduated blades arranged at right angles
 to each other, and a base plate formed with
 right angular flanges adapted to engage the
 blades of the said rule to support the same in
 proper position, substantially as shown and 75
 described.

4. A plumb rule comprising a rule having
 two graduated blades arranged at right angles
 to each other, and a slide fitted on the said
 blades at their outer faces and adapted to 80
 carry a rope or cord, substantially as shown
 and described.

5. A graduated rule made of two parts,
 each having two blades arranged at right an- 85
 gles to each other and with their edges par-
 allel to one another, and means, substantially
 as described, for fastening the said two parts
 together, either in an extended or right angu-
 lar position, as and for the purpose set forth.

6. A plumb rule provided with a rule made 90
 in two parts, each having two graduated
 blades arranged at right angles to each other,
 and means, substantially as described, for
 fastening the said two parts together, either
 in an extended or right angular position, sub- 95
 stantially as shown and described.

FRANK HOLT.

Witnesses:

A. L. PITTS,

W. B. GARRETT.