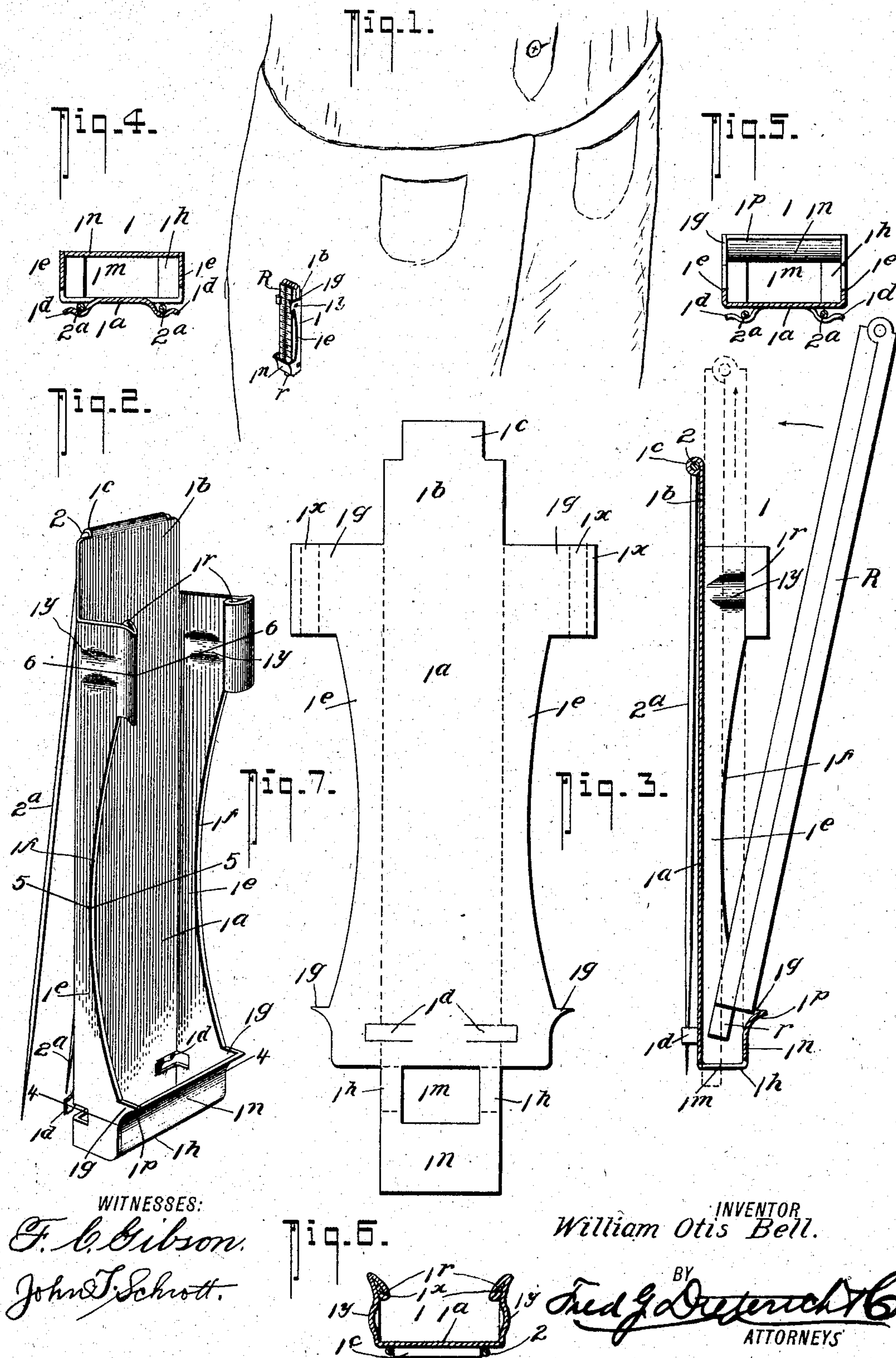


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W. O. BELL.  
RULE HOLDER.

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WITNESSES:

*F. L. Gibson.*  
*John T. Schott.*

INVENTOR  
*William Otis Bell.*

BY  
*Fred G. Dyerich*  
ATTORNEYS



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM OTIS BELL, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

## RULE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 791,864, dated June 6, 1905.

Application filed November 2, 1904. Serial No. 231,151.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM OTIS BELL, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rule-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to pockets or holders for receiving and retaining rules and the like which are adapted to be attached to the clothes of the operator and which are so constructed as to prevent the rule falling out of the holder when the operator is at work.

This invention seeks to provide a device of this character of a very simple and effective construction and which can be easily and cheaply made.

The invention includes certain novel structural arrangement and combination of parts, all of which will be first described in detail and then specifically pointed out in the appended claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, by reference to which it will be seen that—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention as applied for use. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of my invention, on an enlarged scale, the rule being removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical cross-section thereof, showing the rule being inserted in full lines and in its inserted position in dotted lines. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a similar view on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a cross-section on the line 6 6 of Fig. 2. Fig. 7 is a view of the blank from which my holder is formed.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals and letters of reference indicate like parts in all of the figures, it will be seen that the holder 1 consists of a back plate 1<sup>a</sup>, terminating in the upwardly-extending end 1<sup>b</sup>, whose extreme end 1<sup>c</sup> is bent over to form a transverse tubular hinge member to receive the U-shaped securing member 2. This member 2 consists of a pair of integrally-formed pins 2<sup>a</sup> 2<sup>a</sup> and a transverse connecting portion adapted to pass through the tubular member 1<sup>c</sup>. The pins 2<sup>a</sup> 2<sup>a</sup> extend the full length of the plate 1<sup>a</sup> and are ar-

ranged to interlock with the guards 1<sup>d</sup> 1<sup>d</sup>, stamped out of the plate 1<sup>a</sup> near its lower end.

Integrally formed with the plate 1<sup>a</sup> are the side portions 1<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>e</sup>, which are cut away, as at 1<sup>f</sup>, to lighten the weight of the holder. The side portions 1<sup>e</sup> are formed with forwardly-projecting portions 1<sup>g</sup> 1<sup>g</sup> for a purpose presently explained.

The plate 1 is formed with a lower extension adapted to be bent over at right angles thereto to form the bottom 1<sup>h</sup> of the holder 1, and the said bottom 1<sup>h</sup> is cut away, as at 1<sup>m</sup>, both to lighten the construction of the holder as well as to permit the hinge *r* of the rule *R* to pass therethrough.

Projected upwardly from the bottom 1<sup>h</sup> and formed integrally therewith is the front portion 1<sup>n</sup>, which terminates in the upwardly curved or flared portion 1<sup>p</sup>, which portion 1<sup>p</sup> coöperates with the forwardly-projecting portions 1<sup>g</sup> 1<sup>g</sup> of the sides 1<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>e</sup>.

The bottom 1<sup>h</sup> and the front portions 1<sup>n</sup> 1<sup>p</sup> are soldered or otherwise secured to the sides 1<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>e</sup> to form a pocket therewith at the lower portion of the holder to receive the lower end of the rule *R*, whose hinge portion *r* projects through the bottom aperture, as shown in Fig. 1 and as heretofore mentioned.

At the upper ends 1<sup>x</sup> 1<sup>x</sup> the sides 1<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>e</sup> are bent over to form spring catch members 1<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>r</sup>, whose extreme portions are outwardly flared to permit of the rule being placed in the holder and snapped into position. The catch members 1<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>r</sup> are formed by bending over the edges of the side portions, as clearly shown in Fig. 6. To give the ends 1<sup>x</sup> 1<sup>x</sup> the required strength, I form the same with transverse ribs 1<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>y</sup>, stamped therein, and after the side portions have been bent to form the catch members 1<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>r</sup> the said bent portions may be soldered to prevent them becoming accidentally displaced or bent out of shape during the operation of the device.

In practice the rule is inserted with its lower end in the pocket at the lower end of the holder (see Fig. 3) and then moved in the direction of the arrow in Fig. 3 and snapped into the position shown in Fig. 1 and in dotted lines in Fig. 3.



In Fig. 7 I have shown the blank from which my improved holder is formed after it has been stamped out and before bending into its final shape.

5 The holder can readily be secured to the garment of the operator by the pins 2<sup>a</sup> 2<sup>a</sup> and held in such position as long as the pins have their ends engaging with the guard or lock members 1<sup>a</sup> 1<sup>a</sup> hereinbefore referred to.

10 To remove the rule from the holder, it is only necessary to pull the same out in the direction of the dotted arrow in Fig. 3.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, 15 it is thought the complete operation, construction, and many advantages of my invention will be readily understood by those skilled in the art to which it appertains, and I desire to say that slight changes in the arrangement, 20 design, and construction of parts may be made without departing from the scope of the invention or the appended claims.

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

25 1. A rule-holder comprising an elongated back plate and side plates, an apertured bottom and a short upwardly-extending front plate to form a pocket at the lower end of the back plate, said upwardly-extending front plate 30 having its upper edge outwardly flared, said side plates having their upper ends formed into catch members, and means for securing the holder to a garment.

35 2. A rule-holder formed of a sheet-metal blank and comprising a back plate having its upper edge turned over to form a pin-receiving member, a pin passed therethrough, said back plate having an extension bent at right

angles thereto to form a bottom, and an upwardly-projecting portion projecting from the 40 bottom to form a front portion, said front portion having its upper edge outwardly flared, side members, said side members, said back plate and said bottom and front portions 45 forming a pocket at the lower end of the holder to receive one end of the rule, said side members having their upper portions formed into catch portions, and said side members being cut away between the catch portions and the 50 pocket substantially as shown and described.

3. A rule-holder formed of a sheet-metal blank and comprising a back plate having its upper edge turned over to form a pin-receiving member, a pin passed therethrough, said 55 back plate having an extension bent at right angles thereto to form a bottom, and an upwardly-projecting portion projecting from the bottom to form a front portion, said front 60 portion having its upper edge outwardly flared, side members, said side members, said back plate and said bottom and front portions forming a pocket at the lower end of the holder to receive one end of the rule, said side mem- 65 bers having their upper portions formed into catch portions and said side members being cut away between the catch portions and the pocket, and guard members stamped from the blank to receive the pin ends, said catch por- 70 tions being provided with ribs, and said bottom being cut away to permit the hinge of the rule to project therethrough, substantially as shown and for the purposes specified.

WILLIAM OTIS BELL.

Witnesses:

CARRIE A. TAYLOR,  
W. E. SAWTELLE.