

No. 812,010.

PATENTED FEB. 6, 1906.

D. J. BRENNAN.
JOINTED RULE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 29, 1905.

Fig. 1.

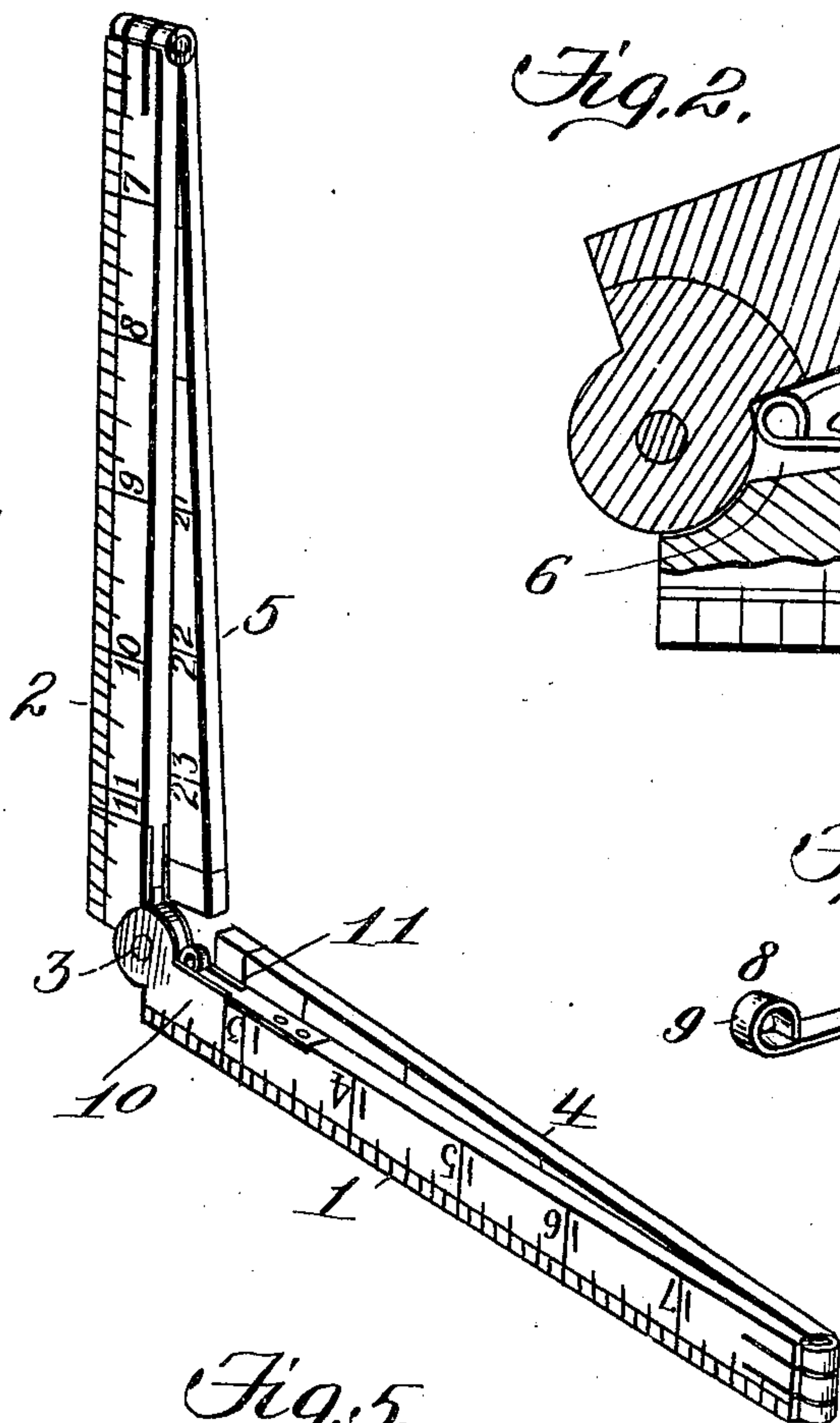


Fig. 2.

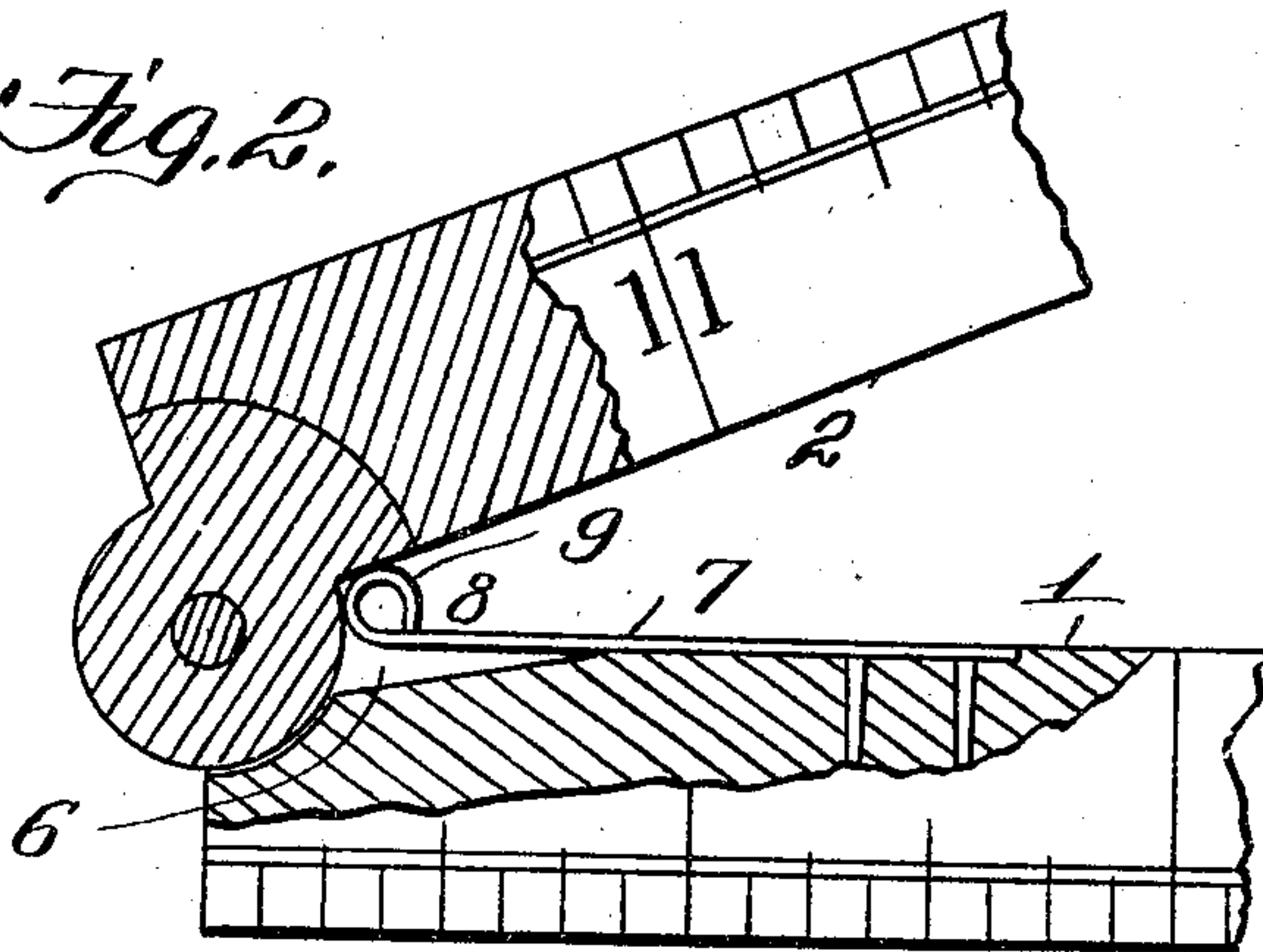


Fig. 3.

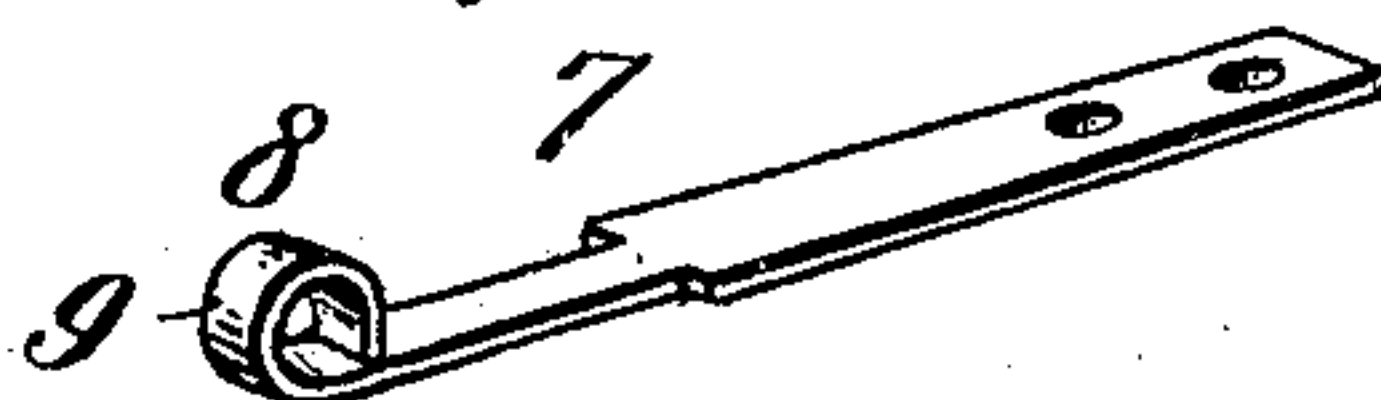


Fig. 5.

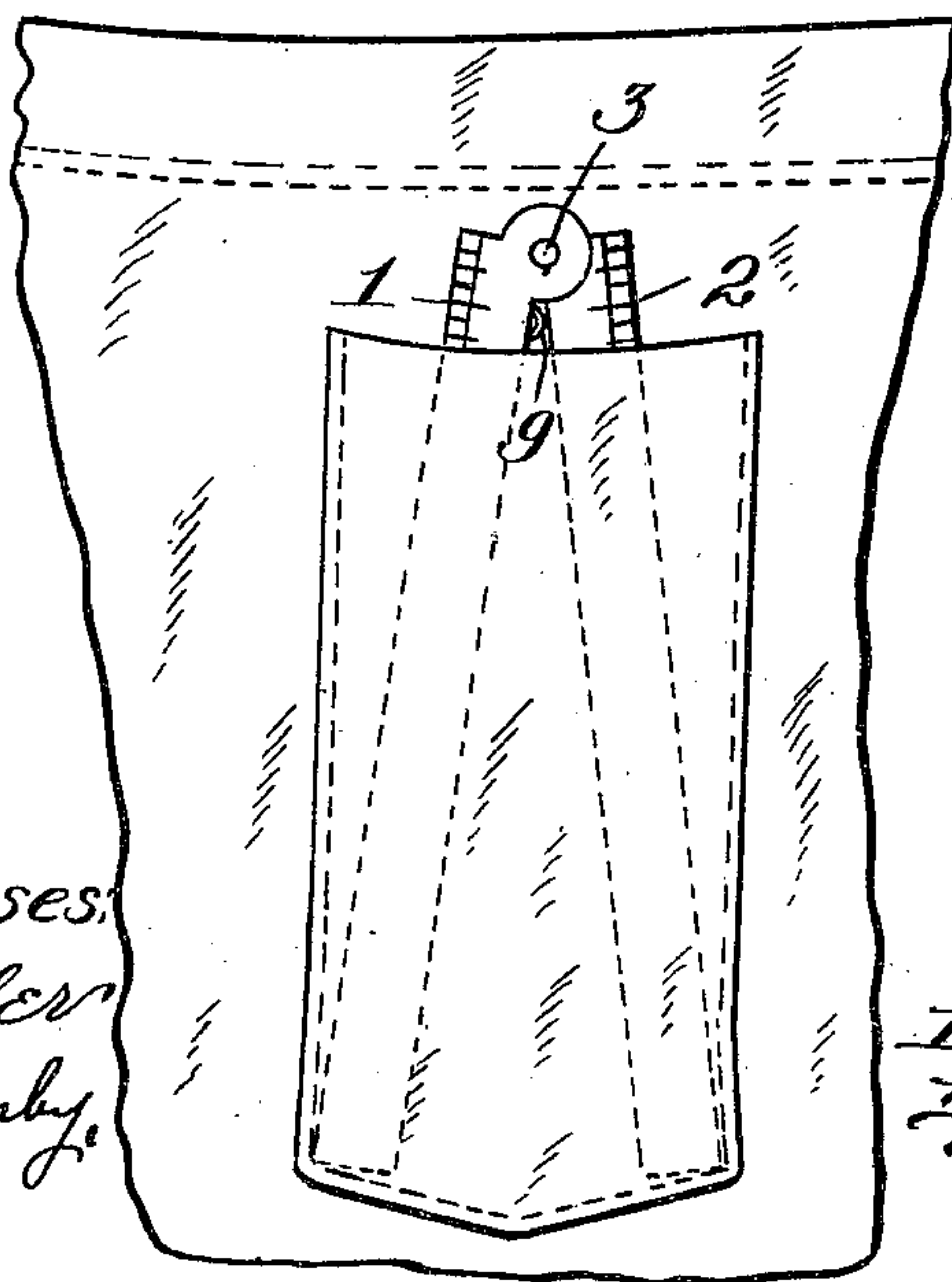
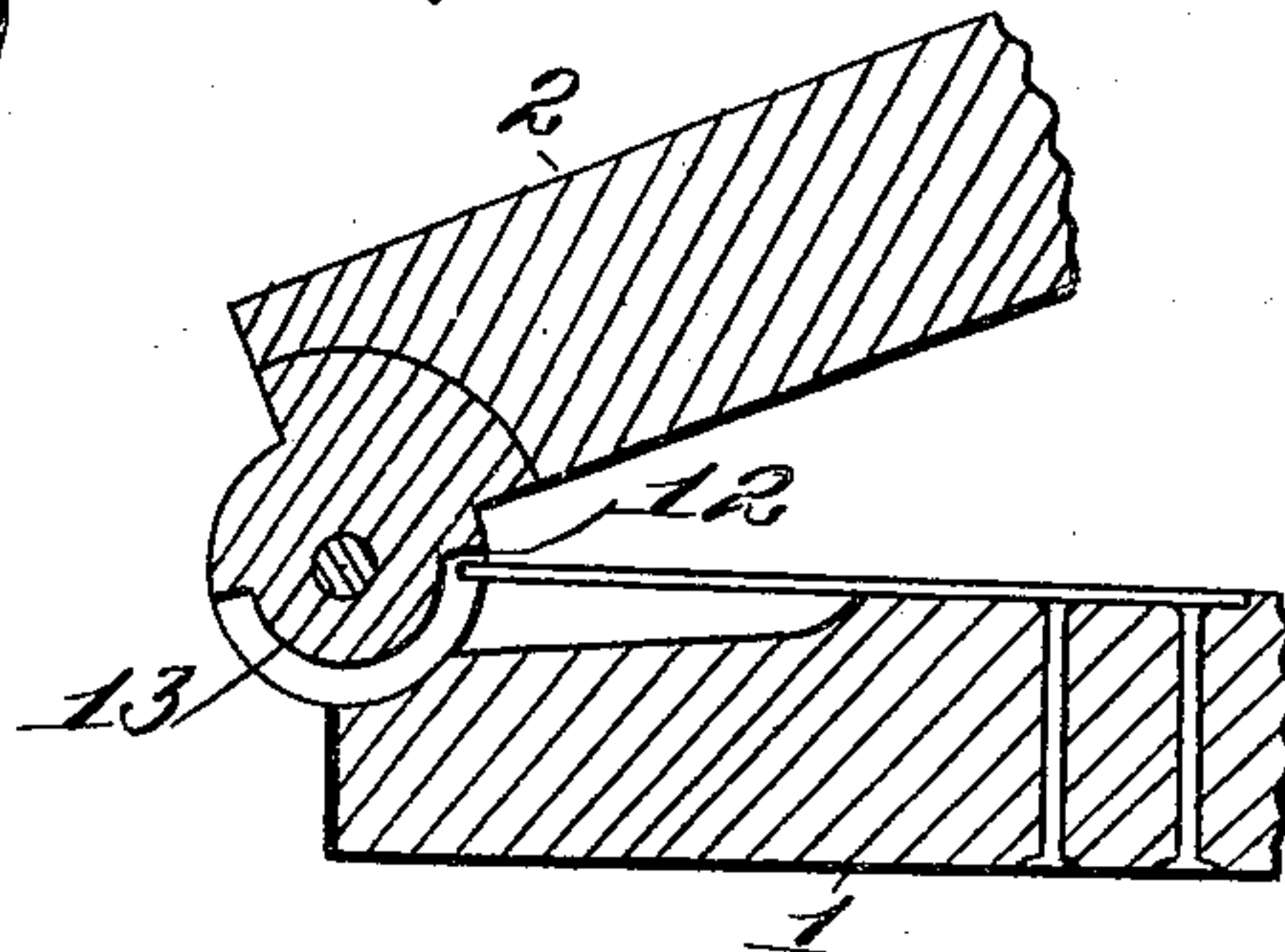


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
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DENNIS J. BRENNAN, OF SHENANDOAH, PENNSYLVANIA.

JOINTED RULE.

No. 812,010.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 6, 1906.

Application filed September 29, 1905. Serial No. 280,612.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DENNIS J. BRENNAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Shenandoah, in the county of Schuylkill and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Jointed Rules, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a certain new and useful improvement in a carpenter's jointed rule, and has for its object to provide a rule which when inserted in the pocket will tend to frictionally engage the sides of the pocket with a yielding pressure, so as to prevent the rule from accidentally falling from the pocket when the position of the latter is inverted or substantially inverted, which occurs frequently in putting on and removing the overalls and by reasons of certain positions which the workman has frequently to assume in the ordinary course of his work.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood, I have illustrated the same in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an inner edge view of a jointed rule which has been partially opened. Fig. 2 is a side view in broken sectional elevation. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the preferred form of spring employed. Fig. 4 is a side view, in broken sectional elevation, illustrating a modified construction; and Fig. 5 shows the application of a rule provided with my improvement on a pocket to illustrate the manner in which the rule is prevented from falling from the pocket.

Referring now to the drawings, it will be seen that my invention is shown applied to an ordinary carpenter's rule comprising four sections, two of which, 1 2, are united at their ends by a rule-joint 3 and the other two, 4 5, being hinged at their inner ends to the outer ends of the sections 1 and 2, as usual. My invention is applied at the rule-joint 3 and consists, essentially, in forming in the inner edge of one of the sections—say 1—adjacent to the rule-joint a recess 6 and in securing on the said inner edge beyond said recess one end of a leaf-spring 7, the inner free end portion 8 of which is located above said recess and is of less width than the remaining portion of the spring, as shown, to enable it to enter said recess in the operation of the device. The inner end of said leaf-spring is bent over or curled upon itself to provide a projection 9, which, as shown, extends a considerable distance beyond the inner edge of the rule. It will be clearly seen that should

the sections 1, 2 be brought together, the inner face of the section 2 will engage the projection 9 and force the outer end portion 8 of the spring into the recess 6. The tendency of the spring 7 will therefore be to normally press the sections 1 2 apart. If now the rule be pressed together and inserted in the rule-pocket with the free ends of the sections 1 and 2 downward, it will be evident that as soon as pressure is released from said sections they will open out under influence of the spring and engage the sides of the pocket at the bottom thereof, as clearly indicated in Fig. 5, and thus the rule will be prevented from falling from the pocket under any ordinary circumstances. The spring 7 is let into the wood of section 1 so as to lie flush with the inner edge thereof to present a smooth surface and permit the sections 1 2 to be folded together as usual. As indicated in the drawings, the recess 6 is provided by cutting away the wood from between the side plates 10 and 11, forming opposite side members of the rule-joint, and thus the reduced portion 8 of the spring will work in the space between the side plates.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a modification in which the free reduced end portion of the spring is straight or flat, and a projection 12 is provided by cutting away a portion of the perimeter of the circular head 13, which is pivotally mounted between the side plates 10 11, the projection 12 having thus a portion of the said head lying in advance or beyond the inner edge of the section 2. When the sections 1 and 2 are brought together, the projection 12 will engage the free ends of the spring 7 and press the same into the recess 6, so that the said spring will tend to press the sections 1 and 2 apart when released, as in the previous instance.

It will be seen that my invention is very simple and presents no obstruction to the ordinary use of the rule. In fact, the presence of my improvement on a rule is scarcely noticeable except when it is attempted to fold the parts of the rule together. Especially is this true with reference to the construction shown in Fig. 4. I prefer the construction shown in Fig. 1, however, as in this case the spring may be applied to the ordinary rule without having to take it apart, while in the case of the construction of Fig. 4 I have found it necessary to unjoint the rule in order to successfully apply this construction. For the reasons of simplicity and economy,

therefore, I prefer the construction of Fig. 1. In both constructions, however, the spring presents a smooth surface and reduces the wear and tear on the parts coming in contact 5 to the minimum. Should dirt accumulate under the spring, the free end of the latter can be lifted by the use of any pointed article and the dirt cleaned out.

Having thus fully described my invention, 10 what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A jointed rule having a spring interposed between two of its jointed sections tending normally when the rule is closed to 15 press said sections apart.

2. A jointed rule having a spring carried by one of two jointed sections and tending normally when the rule is closed to press said sections apart.

20 3. A jointed rule having one of two jointed sections provided with a recess, a spring secured on the inner edge of said section and having a free end portion working in said re-

cess, and a projection having its outer edge lying between said spring and the inner edge 25 of the other section when the rule is closed and being carried by the other of said sections, whereby when said sections are closed the spring will be depressed.

4. A jointed rule having one of two jointed 30 sections provided with a recess, a spring secured to the inner edge of said section and having a free end portion working in said recess and provided with a projection extending beyond the inner edge of said section 35 whereby when said sections are folded together the spring will be depressed by contact of the second section with said projection.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set 40 my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DENNIS J. BRENNAN.

Witnesses:

P. H. BURKE,

WM. J. BRENNAN.