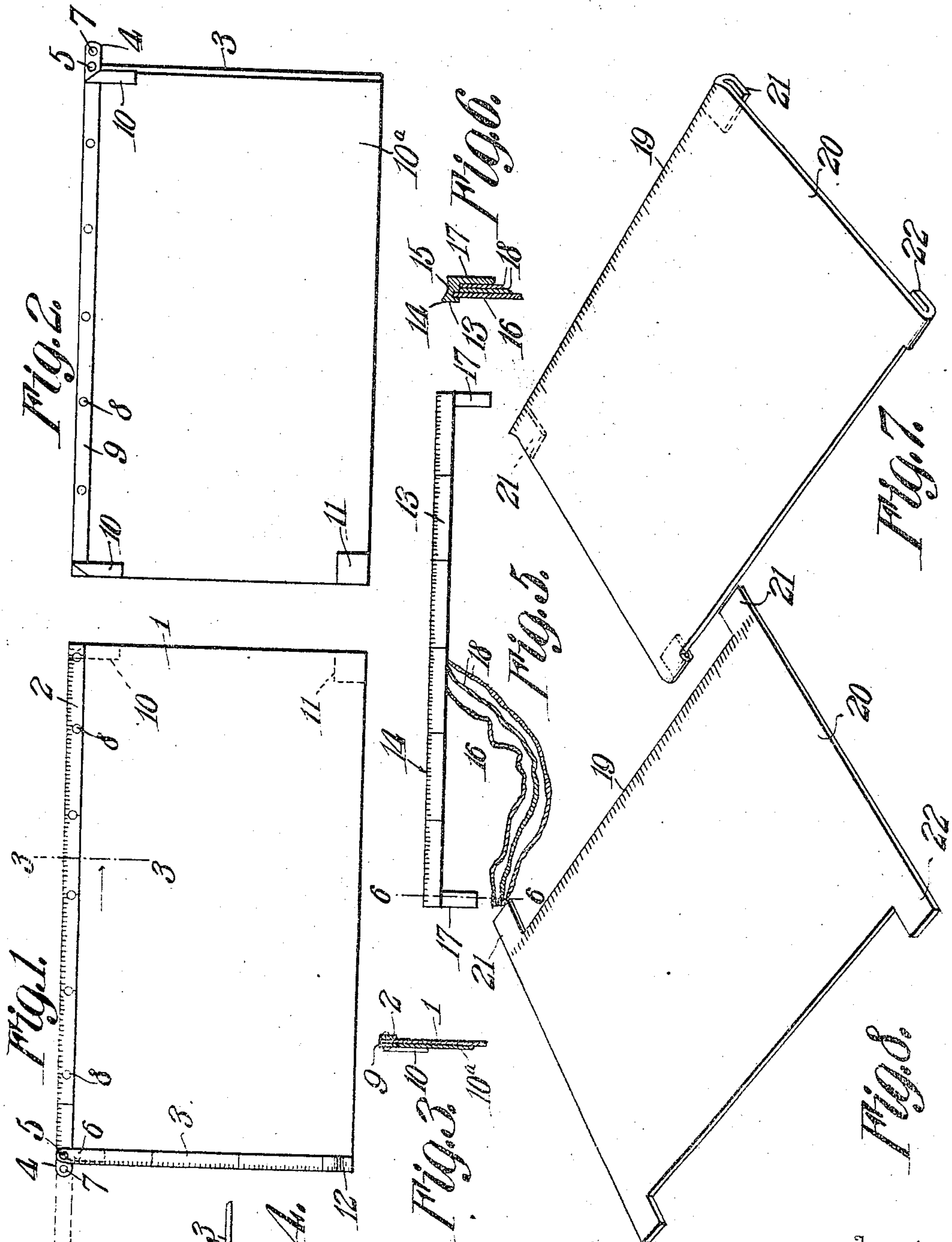


No. 896,312.

PATENTED AUG. 18, 1908.

W. J. MOGRIDGE.  
COMBINED BLOTTER HOLDER AND RULER.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 14, 1908.



Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. MOGRIDGE, OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON.

## COMBINED BLOTTER-HOLDER AND RULER.

No. 896,312.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 18, 1908.

Application filed February 14, 1908. Serial No. 415,897.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. MOGRIDGE, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented a new and useful Combined Blotter-Holder and Ruler, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a combined blotter holder and ruler.

The object of the invention is to provide an article combining the above characteristics, which shall be peculiarly adapted for use by bookkeepers, and in which the blotter shall be so assembled with the ruler as to permit of its ready removal when desired for the purpose of supplying a fresh one, and in which the rule shall be so disposed relatively to the blotter that one will not interfere with the other in use. Furthermore, to provide an article of the above character in which the blotter holder shall constitute a hand rest which will enable a book-keeper to keep the sheets of his ledger, or other entry book, free from soils and smudges.

A further object of the invention is to adapt the ruler for plotting straight lines of greater length than the holder, thus to extend the range of usefulness of the device.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, of a combined blotter holder and ruler, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a plan view of one form of the invention. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an edge view of a portion of the device. Fig. 5 is a plan view, partly in section, of a modified form of the invention. Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a further modified form of the invention. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the blank from which the device shown in Fig. 7 is constructed.

Referring to the drawings, and to Figs. 1, 2 and 3 thereof, 1 designates the blotter holder, which is, by preference, constructed

of a light, transparent and waterproof substance, preferably of celluloid, although any other material suited to the purpose may be employed. Disposed along one edge of the holder is a ruler consisting of two sections 2 and 3, the first-named section being somewhat greater in length than the holder to provide an extension 4, and the last-named section being of a length equal to the width of the holder. The section 3 is connected with the section 2 by a pivot 5, and formed in the section 3 adjacent to the pivot or rivet 5 is a teat 6, formed by stamping or punching inward the stock of the section, and this teat is adapted to interlock with an orifice 7 in the extension 4 in order to hold the section 3 in alinement with the section 2 for ruling lines of extended length.

The section 2 of the ruler is secured to the holder by a series of rivets 8 that pass through the holder, and through a metallic strip 9, preferably of approximately the same width as the ruler, the heads of the rivets being upset, so as to lie flush with the ruler and strip. The strip 9 is of greater length than the holder in order that its ends may be bent at right angles to its length to provide blotter holding clips 10, the frictional contact between which and the blotter 10<sup>a</sup> will serve to hold the latter in position relatively to the holder. As a further means for holding the blotter in position, one corner of the holder opposite the side carrying the ruler may be provided with a clip 11 formed by a tongue or extension on the holder, and preferably integral therewith, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

As will be apparent, owing to the combined thicknesses of the holder, blotter, and binding strip 9, the extension 3 of the ruler, when straightened out, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1, will have its free end held some distance above the sheet of the rule, and, in order to cause the contact between the extension or section 3 and the sheet to be rigid in character, the outer terminal of such section is down-curved, as shown at 12. In the use of this form of the invention, the blotters are slipped in between the clips 10 and 11 and the holder, and will be retained thereby in the proper position for use, and for ready removal when desired. When the article is used merely as a blotter or hand rest, the sectional ruler will occupy the position shown in full lines in Fig. 1, and will therefore be out of the way. As shown,



both sections of the ruler may be suitably graduated, into inches and fractions thereof, in the same manner as in an ordinary rule.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the ruler 13 is constructed from any suitable material that will be light and non-frangible, preferably of celluloid, and has its forward edge 14 projecting outward a sufficient distance to permit the ruling of sheets without danger of blurring. The ruler is provided with a longitudinally disposed groove 15 in which is secured in any suitable manner a celluloid hand rest 16, and at each end the rule is provided with an arm 17, the two arms extending at right angles to its length, and constituting, in conjunction with the hand rest 16, clips for retaining the blotters 18 in position.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 7 and 8, the ruler 19 is integral with the blotter holder or hand rest 20, which latter is preferably made of celluloid and is provided at each end of the rule with an underturned tongue 21, the two forming clips for retaining the blotter in position relatively to the holder. One or both corners of the holder opposite the clips 21 may be provided with similar clips 22 to operate additionally in clamping the blotter or blotters in place.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that the feature common to all of the different forms shown is the provision of the blotter retaining clips adjacent to the ruler, or at the ends thereof.

The improvements herein defined, while simple in character, will be found thoroughly

efficient in use for the purposes designed and will coact in the production of a highly useful article to be employed by bookkeepers, or the like.

I claim:—

1. An article of the class described comprising a hand rest, a jointed ruler, and blotter clamping elements disposed at the terminals of one joint of the rule.

2. An article of the class described comprising a hand rest, a jointed ruler, and blotter clamping elements disposed at the terminals of one joint of the rule and at a corner of the rest.

3. An article of the class described comprising a hand rest, a jointed ruler carried thereby, and underturned blotter clamping members disposed at the terminals of one joint of the rule and at the corners of the rest.

4. An article of the class described comprising a hand rest, a jointed ruler carried thereby, and underturned blotter clamping members disposed at the terminal of one joint of the ruler and at the corners of the rest, means on said ruler to hold the joints in rectilinear relation, said means being arranged to permit the second joint to be turned at right angles to and lie over said hand rest.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM J. MOGRIDGE.

Witnesses:

THOS. MEDROW,  
R. M. SKIDMORE.