

J. W. BEARD.  
GAGE HEAD  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 15, 1908.

928,422.

Patented July 20, 1909.

FIG. 1

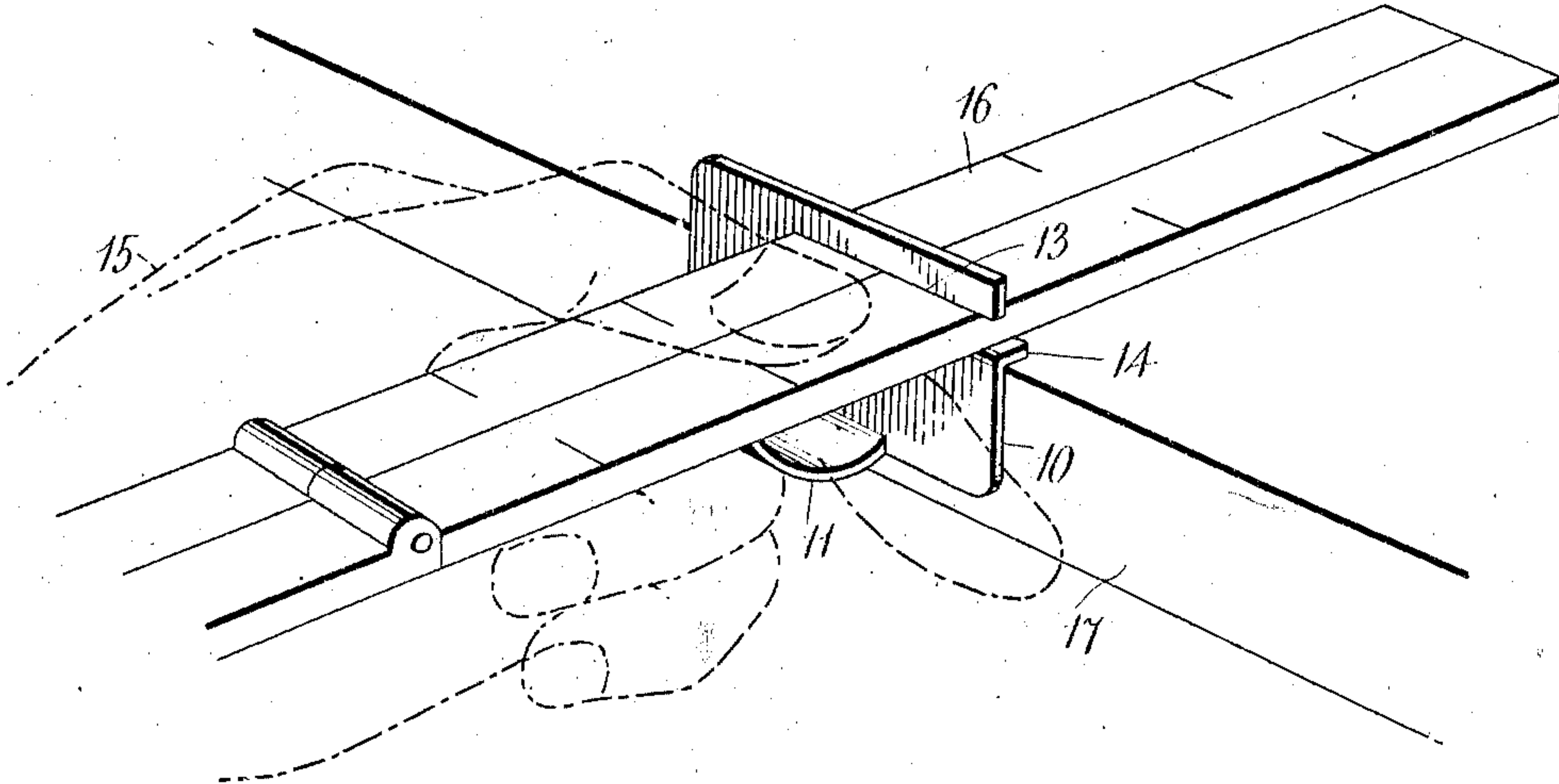


FIG. 2

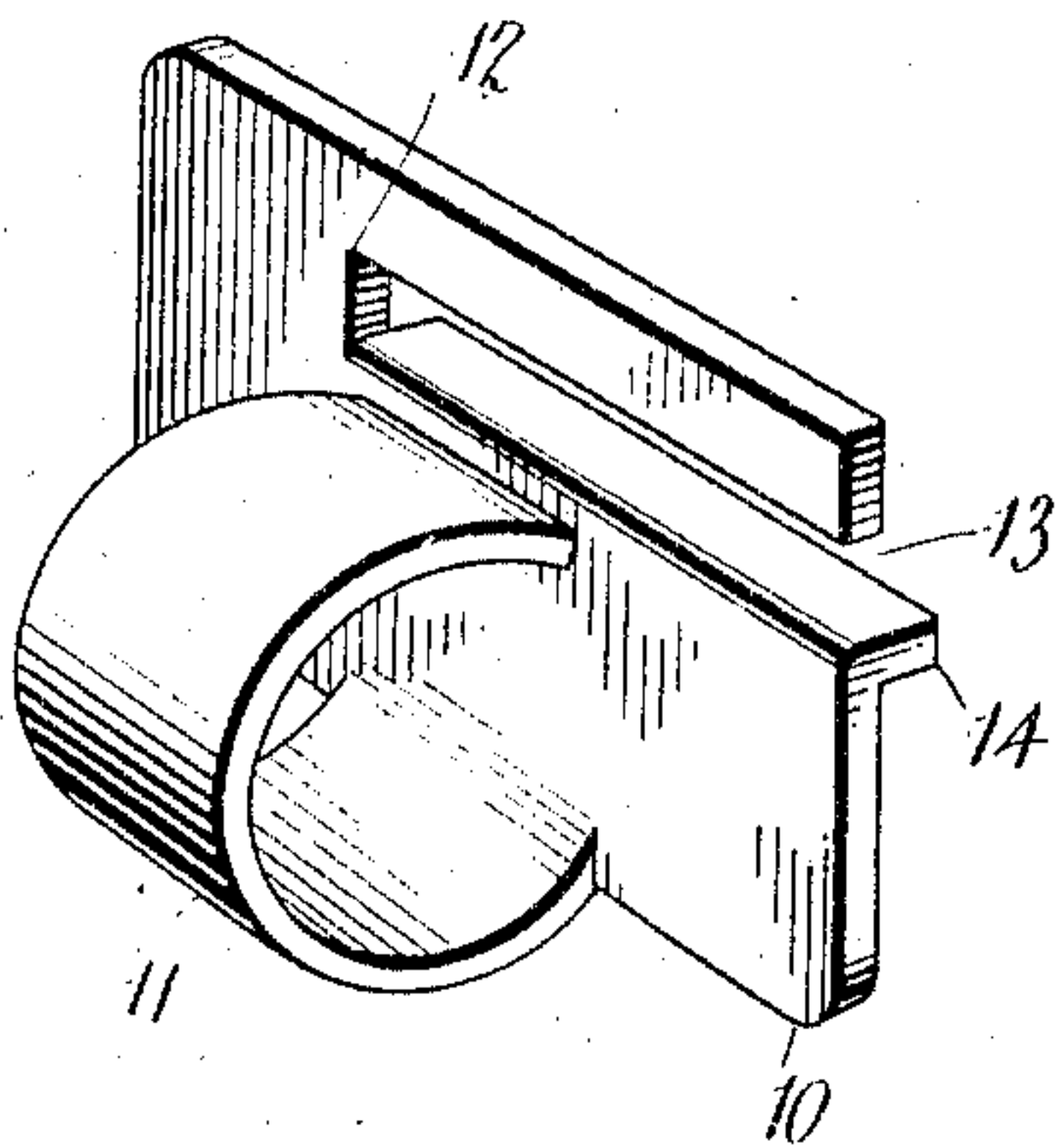
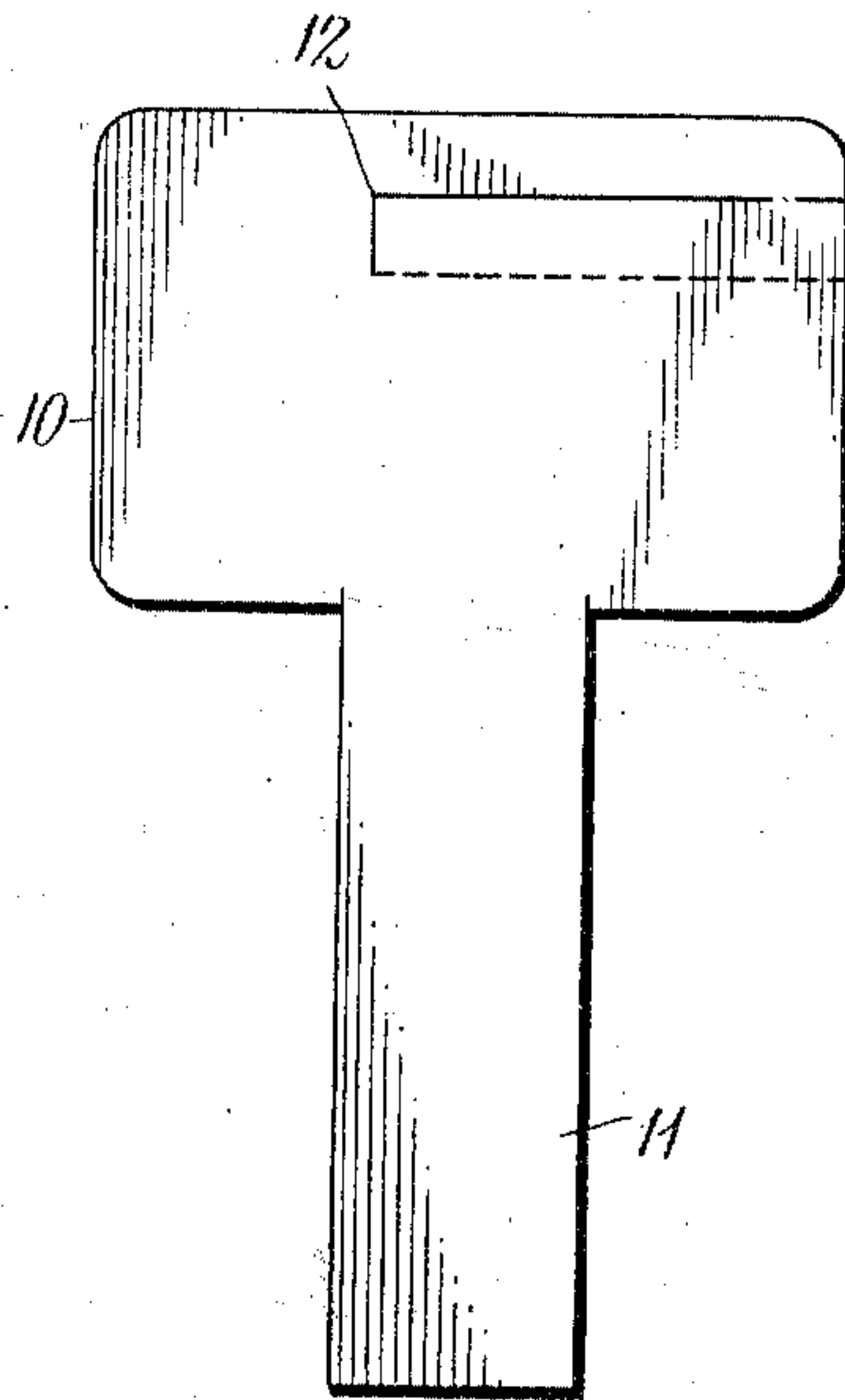


FIG. 3



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN WALTER BEARD, OF MISSOULA, MONTANA.

## GAGE-HEAD.

No. 928,422.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 20, 1909.

Application filed June 15, 1908. Serial No. 438,608.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN WALTER BEARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Missoula, in the county of Missoula, State of Montana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gage-Heads; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to gages or templets adapted to be used in connection with a measuring instrument such as an ordinary carpenter's rule, and has for one of its objects to guide the rule while being drawn over the work to be scribed, and to not only hold the rule in position, but also to protect the finger of the operator.

Carpenters frequently employ the ordinary folding rule as a gage implement by grasping the rule between the index finger and thumb of the left hand and placing the outer surface of the index finger, between the first and second joints, against the work to be gaged, and then drawing over its surface with the pencil held against the outer end of the rule, the index finger being held opposite the desired graduation, but this action of course produces an unpleasant friction against the bare finger of the operator and frequently results in slivers entering the finger, and other injury being imparted thereto, and the principal object of the present invention is to enable the carpenter to hold the rule in precisely the same position relative to the work to be gaged, while at the same time the finger is protected from abrasion, and a more perfect gage produced.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in a plate having a longitudinal slot open at one end to receive the rule and with a lateral flange to bear over the corner of the work to be gaged, and with a finger encompassing band projecting from the rear face of the plate, the flanged face of the plate adapted to bear against the edge of the work to be gaged.

The invention further consists in certain novel features of construction hereafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claim, and in the drawings illustrating the preferred embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved device with a portion of a carpenter's rule arranged therein. Fig.

2 is a perspective view of the improved device detached and viewed from the side shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank from which the improved device is "bent up".

The improved device comprises a plate 10 of metal of suitable thickness, and preferably of brass, but which may be of steel or other metal if preferred and plated or otherwise protected or ornamented. The plate is preferably pressed from a single piece and initially in the form shown in Fig. 3 with a tongue 11 projecting from one side and an L-shaped cleft 12 longitudinally of the plate near one edge, the cleft releasing a portion of the plate which is bent at right angles to the body thereof leaving an open slot 13 and a lateral flange 14, while the tongue 11 is "bent up" into tubular form to receive the index finger of the hand of the operator, as shown at 15. The slot 13 is designed to receive a carpenter's rule, indicated at 16.

With a device thus constructed the operation is as follows:—The rule 16 is disposed in the slot 13 and the operator places the index finger of his left hand in the socket 11, and the thumb of the left hand upon top of the rule to hold the latter rigidly in position upon the flange 14. The plate is then disposed against the work upon which the gage mark is to be scribed, represented at 17, with the flange 14 resting over the top of the work. The rule is then adjusted until the graduation thereon, which indicates the distance which the scribed line is to be placed from the edge of the work, is opposite the inner face of the plate 10, which will bring the selected graduation exactly opposite the edge of the work, and in the same position which the rule occupies when used in the ordinary manner as a gage, as above described.

The tongue 14 performs two important functions, first as a guard to the work to prevent abrasion by the guard, and second as a support for the gage implement to prevent friction between the gage or rule and the work.

The rule which is usually employed as a gage implement being provided with numerous fine lines or graduations upon both faces and having a varnished surface would be seriously damaged if drawn over the work to be gaged and in contact therewith, but with the improved device the gage implement is held above the work to be gaged by the tongue 14 and thus protected and the fric-



tion confined entirely between the metal slide member and the work.

The scribing implement, which is usually a pencil, is then placed against the outer end of the rule and the plate with the rule held thereon is moved along the work 17 and the pencil or other scribing implement caused to move with the rule and thus produce the required scribed line.

10 The device is very simple in construction, can be manufactured at small expense, and adapted to rules of various thicknesses, and operates satisfactorily for the purposes described.

15 It will be obvious that any implement which will enter the slot 13, may be employed instead of the rule, but generally the rule will be employed as above described, as it is the most convenient implement at hand, and

having the graduations, materially increases 20 the convenience of its use for this purpose.

What is claimed, is:—

An implement of the class described comprising a bearing plate having an open slot near one edge and with a supporting flange 25 projecting laterally from the bottom of the slot, and with a finger socket extending from the opposite side of the plate, said slot adapted to receive a gage implement and said flange adapted to extend between the gage 30 implement and the work being gaged.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN WALTER BEARD.

Witnesses:

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JOEL A. MOSS.