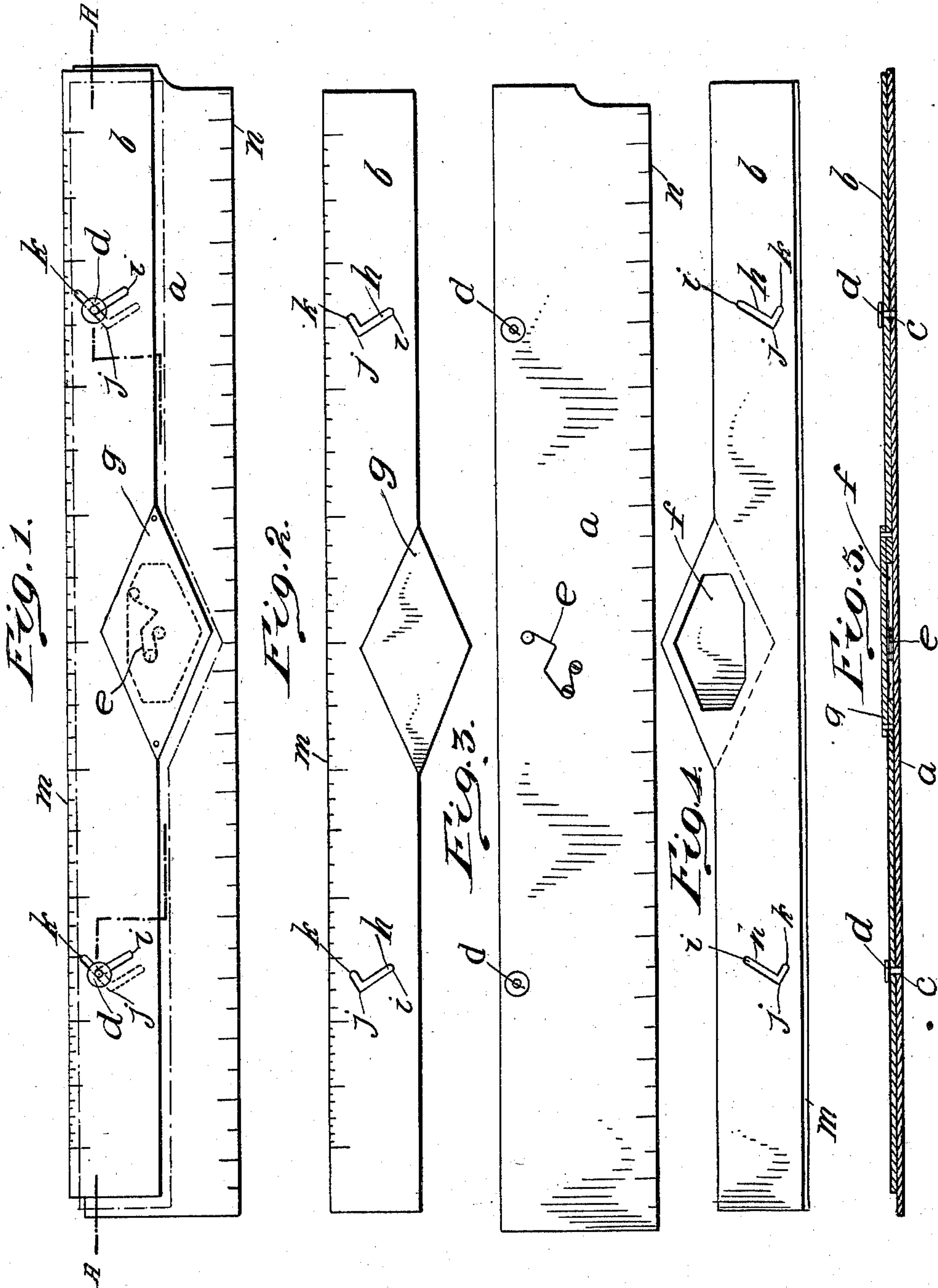


W. A. PORTER.
 PARALLEL RULER.
 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 11, 1909.

967,431.

Patented Aug. 16, 1910.



Witnesses:
 E. G. Carroll
 M. E. Campion

William A. Porter Inventor
 By his Attorney
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. PORTER, OF LEIPSIC, OHIO.

PARALLEL-RULER.

967,431.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 16, 1910.

Application filed June 11, 1909. Serial No. 501,490.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. PORTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Leipsic, in the county of Putnam and State

of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Parallel-Rulers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in rulers and particularly to rulers for ruling parallel lines; and an object of my invention is to provide a parallel ruler of the class described particularly adapted and designed to enable bookkeepers and other accountants to draw readily and speedily the parallel lines usually placed at the foot of a column of debits or credits.

In the drawings illustrating the principle of my invention and the best mode now known to me of applying that principle, Figure 1 is a plan view of my new ruler; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the slide-ruler; Fig. 3 is a plan of the base-ruler; Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the slide ruler, showing the cover-plate thereto attached; and Fig. 5 is a section on the line A—A of Fig. 1.

My new ruler consists essentially of two principal members,—the base-ruler *a* and the slide-ruler *b*. The base-ruler *a* is formed with holes *c*, in each of which is fitted the shank end of a guide-stud *d*. To the base-ruler *a* is fastened one end of a spring *e* the other end of which is free.

The slide-ruler is formed with an aperture *f* which is covered by the cover-plate *g*. Near each of its ends the slide-ruler is formed with an L-shaped slot *h* through each of which passes the shank of one of the guide-studs *d*. The free end of the spring *e* bears against a wall of the aperture *f* and tends to force the slide-ruler *b* from off the base-ruler *a*, so that the guide-studs *d* will lie in the inner ends *i* of the L-shaped slots *h*.

In using the ruler the first line is drawn when the guide-studs *d* lie in the inner ends *i* of the L-shaped slots *h*. Holding the base-ruler *a* with the thumb and little finger of the left hand, for example, the bookkeeper

places the other three fingers of that hand upon the cover-plate *g* and draws the slide-ruler *b* toward him until the studs *d* rest in the corners *j* of the L-shaped slots *h*. He then draws the first or uppermost portion of the double line. He next draws the slide-ruler *b* toward him until the guide-studs lie in the outer end *k* of the L-shaped slots *h* and then draws the second or lowermost portion of the double line.

The ruling-edge *m* of the slide-rule *b* is provided with a series of graduations or a scale and the visible edge *n* of the base-ruler *a* is similarly provided with another scale. One of these scales may be in inches while the other may be in metric units.

I claim:

1. A parallel ruler consisting of a base member and a ruler member slidably mounted thereon; one of said members being formed with L-shaped slots and the other of said members being provided with guiding devices which extend into said slots.

2. A parallel ruler consisting of a base member and a ruler member slidably mounted thereon, one of said members being formed with L-shaped slots and the other of said members being provided with guiding devices which extend into said slots; and a yielding device interposed between said members.

3. A parallel ruler consisting of a base member and a ruler member slidably mounted thereon; one of said members being formed with an aperture and with slots and provided with a cover-plate and the other of said members being provided with guiding devices which extend into said slots; and a yielding device which is interposed between said members and presses against a wall of said aperture and which is shielded by said cover-plate.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand at said Leipsic this 31st day of May, A. D., 1909, in the presence of the two undersigned witnesses.

WILLIAM A. PORTER.

Witnesses:

A. A. SLAYBAUGH,
EMILY SLAYBAUGH.