

*H. S. Ball,
Ruler.*

No. 112,406

Patented Mar. 7. 1871.

Fig. 1.

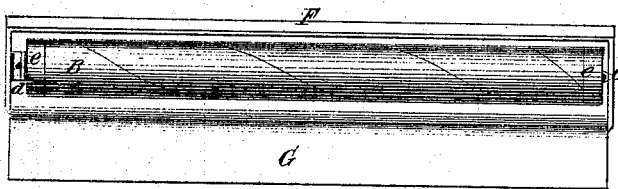


Fig. 2.

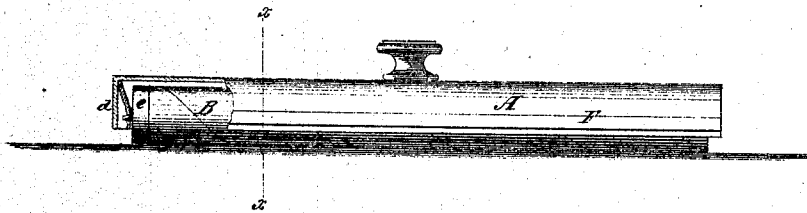
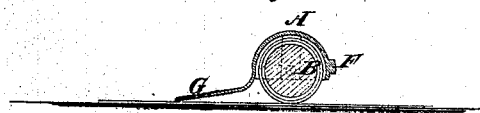


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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HUGH S. BALL, OF SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN RULERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 112,406, dated March 7, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HUGH S. BALL, of Spartanburg, in the district of Spartanburg and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combined Ruler, Blotter, and Paper-Cutter; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to compound ruler, blotter, and paper-cutter; and it consists in a new way of combining the several parts, as hereinafter described, and subsequently specified in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a face view of the article, showing the blotter, ruler, and paper-cutter. Fig. 2 is a side view, partly in section. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of Fig. 2 on the line *x x*.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is a semicircular case, which incloses the blotter, as represented in Fig. 3.

B is the blotting-cylinder, which is supported on pivots, so as to freely revolve within the hollow semi-cylindrical case A. One end of the blotting-cylinder is supported in the end piece, C, of the case A, and the other end in a spring, as seen at *d*, Fig. 2. By this arrangement the blotter can be readily removed for renewing the blotting-paper which covers the cylinder.

e e are small metallic bands, by means of which the blotting-paper is secured on the

cylinder. The blotting-paper may be put on in strips wound spirally round the cylinder, or in any way which may be found most convenient.

F is the ruler, which may be a strip of metal attached to A, as seen in the drawings, or the edge of the case may A be turned up in any manner, so as to present a straight edge slightly raised when the combined article is placed on the paper.

G is the paper-cutter, which may be a continuation or extension of the edge of the case, as seen in Fig. 3, or it may be a piece attached to the case. When the article is placed upon the paper, this cutter, by slightly turning the case, will be brought in contact with the paper, as seen in Fig. 3, so that the paper can be readily torn thereby in the ordinary manner. The blotting-cylinder, being of uniform diameter throughout its entire length, will, when moved over paper, serve as a ruler for marking parallel lines with much greater rapidity and accuracy than can be done with the common flat ruler.

The advantages of this combination are many, and must be obvious to all.

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

The case A, spring *d*, and detachable end sleeves, *e e*, combined, as described, with the blotter-roll B, to allow of its ready removal and replacement with new blotting-paper, as described.

HUGH S. BALL.

Witnesses:

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