To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM CLARK, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Greenville, in the county of Greenville and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tools for Marking Letters; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in tools for laying off letters on stonework, signs, &c., where it is desired that the letters should be arranged in the segment of a circle; and the invention consists of a tool or gage which is provided near one end with a slot or aperture presenting two parallel sides, the opposite end having a series of apertures through which the centering-pin passes, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a tool or drafting implement constructed in accordance with my invention, said view also showing the application of the same.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view.

A designates the tool, which may be made up of a strip or bar of wood, metal, or other suitable material and adjacent to one end is provided with an aperture B, the side walls 5 6 of which are parallel with the longitudinal edges a a of the tool. It will be noted that the width of the aperture differs from the width of the parallel portions on each side thereof, the aperture being a little wider.

C designates a series of apertures, which may be extended at their upper and lower portions to provide notches c c, within which passes a pin d or through which a gage-mark can be seen when the material to be worked upon is of such a nature that a pin cannot be well inserted.

In practice the tool A is placed over a gage pin or mark d and two segmental lines, as e e, are drawn, and when it is desired to form a letter the gage-mark is used in the manner shown, the outer edges of the tool being used to mark the outer lines of the letter, while the side walls of the aperture determine the space between the inner lines. Thus it will be seen that the vertical lines of a letter can be readily laid off, thereby accomplishing a great saving of time and labor.

Though this implement lays off the letters in the style of what is known as "block" letters, it is obvious that when said letters have been outlined the style can be readily varied.

The curve or segment of the circle is determined by the position of the pin or gage mark with respect to the aperture.

I claim —

1. A device for laying off letters, consisting of a plate or bar A, having an aperture B with parallel side walls adjacent to one end and a series of apertures c c, commencing from the opposite end, substantially as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a device for laying off letters, the combination of a plate or bar A, having parallel edges a a, a series of apertures C C with notches, and an aperture B with parallel side walls, the width of said aperture being greater than the portions of the implement on each side thereof, substantially as shown.

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

ABRAHAM CLARK.

Witnesses:

JOHN KING,
J. H. CURETON.