O. FORCE.

DIVIDERS.

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1,426,269. Patented Aug. 15, 1922.

Fig. 1.

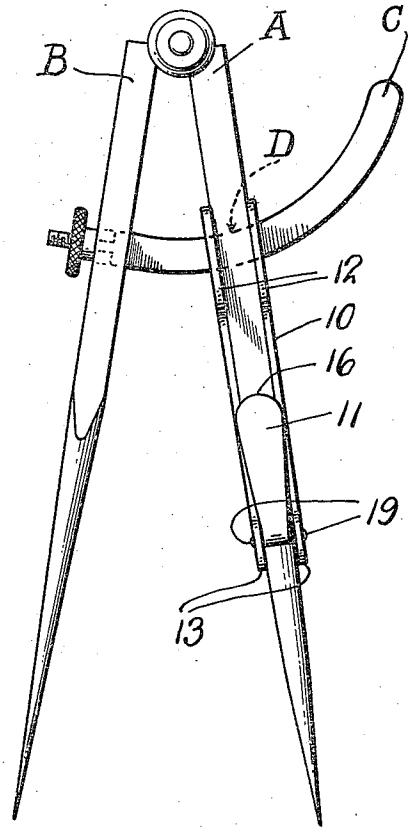



Fig. 2.

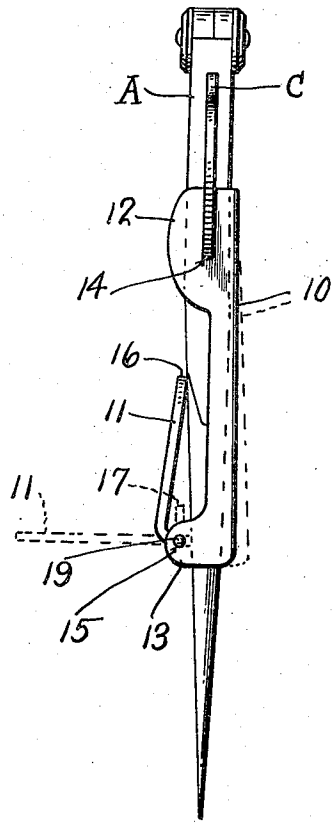
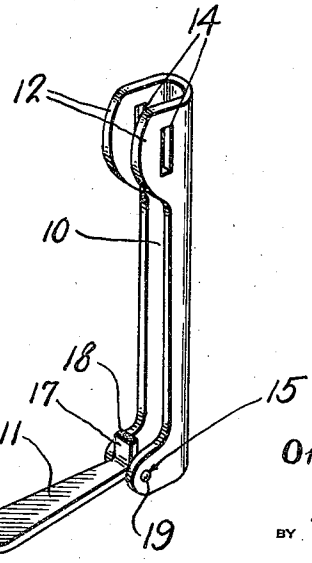



Fig. 3.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ORLANDO FORCE, OF AKRON, OHIO.

## DIVIDERS.

1,426,269. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 15, 1922.

Application filed January 29, 1921. Serial No. 441,000.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ORLANDO FORCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Akron, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Dividers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to measuring or inscribing instruments, particularly to dividers, and has for its object the provision of a clamping device adapted for association with already existing dividers of the type commonly used by carpenters and other artisans in laying off work, this clamping device being designed to hold the divider legs in adjusted position without the use of the usual thumb screw employed for this purpose, especially as it is well known that these screws become stripped and consequently fail to hold.

An important object is the provision of a clamping device of this character which includes merely two parts, both formed from sheet metal as by stamping.

An additional object is the provision of a device of this character which will be simple and inexpensive in construction, easy to apply, accurate and efficient in use, durable in service, and a general improvement in the art.

With the above and other objects and advantages in view, the invention consists in the details of construction to be hereinafter more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a pair of dividers equipped with my invention,

Figure 2 is a side elevation thereof, and

Figure 3 is a detail perspective view of the locking member.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the letters A and B designates the legs of dividers employed by carpenters and other mechanics. Secured to the leg B is an arcuate guide C which is slidable through a slot D in the leg A. Ordinarily the legs are held in adjusted position by means of a thumb screw which is screwed through one side of the leg A and engaged against the arcuate guide C. It is to eliminate this adjustment that the present invention has been designed.

In carrying out my invention I provide a clamping device which includes two members 10 and 11, each of which is formed from sheet metal as by stamping. The member 10 is of course first formed as a flat plate cut to shape to define relatively large lateral extensions or ears 12 and relatively small ears 13. The ears 12 are formed with slots 14 of the same size as the slot D and the ears 13 are formed with holes 15, as shown. The plate forming the member 10 is bent upon itself into substantially semi-cylindrical form and is engaged upon the leg A of the dividers with the wall 14 registering with the slot D.

The member 11 is an elongated plate preferably rounded at its larger end, as shown at 16, and having a substantially right angularly bent end 17 formed with serrations 18. Projecting from the sides of the member 11 are trunnions 19 revolubly engaged within holes 15, the member 11 being thus pivoted between the ears 13. After my clamping device is applied it is of course apparent that the arcuate guide C should be passed through all of the registering slots and it will serve to prevent the clamping device from coming off the dividers when in released position.

In the use of the device it will be seen that when the legs A and B are moved apart a required distance and it is desired to clamp them against further movement it is merely necessary that the operator grasp the member 11 and swing it from the position shown by dotted lines in Figure 2 into the position shown in full lines whereupon the right angular end will engage against the divider leg A and this will of course cause the slotted ears 12 to have a binding action on the guide C which will hold the legs locked. When it is desired to release the lock to permit another adjustment of the dividers, movement of the member 11 upon its pivot point into the position shown by dotted lines in Figure 2 will result in releasing the binding action so that the leg A and guide C may be moved relatively.

From the foregoing description and a study of the drawings it will be apparent that I have thus provided a simply constructed and very inexpensive clamping device which entirely eliminates the use of screws and similar fastening devices. It will be noted that the dividers equipped with my clamp will naturally be more accurate as there is no possibility of slipping.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it

is of course to be understood that I reserve the right to make such changes in the form, construction, and arrangement of parts as will not depart from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A clamping device for dividers including a pair of pivoted legs, one of which is provided with a slot, and a guide carried by one leg and slidable through said slot in the other leg; comprising a member disposed upon the slotted leg in partially encircling relation thereto and formed at one end with slots registering with the slot in the leg, and a clamping member formed as a lever pivotally connected with the other end of said member and having a cam extension engageable with the slotted leg.

2. In combination with dividers including pivoted legs, one of which is provided with a slot, an arcuate guide on one leg slidable through said slot in the other leg, a clamping device comprising a substantially semi-cylindrical member disposed upon the slotted leg in partially embracing relation thereto and formed at one end with relatively small ears provided with holes and provided at its other end with relatively large ears formed with slots registering with said first named slot for the passage of said guide, and a clamping lever formed as a plate having trunnions extending from its sides revolubly engaged within said holes and having an angular end with a serrated edge engageable with said slotted leg.

3. A clamping device for dividers including a pair of pivoted legs, one of which is provided with a slot, and a guide carried by the other leg and slidable through said slot; said device comprising a member adapted to be disposed against the slotted leg and formed at one end with ears provided with slots adapted to be registered with the slots in the legs, said member being provided at its other end with spaced ears, and a locking lever pivoted between said second named ears and having a cam extension adapted to engage the slotted leg.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ORLANDO FORCE.