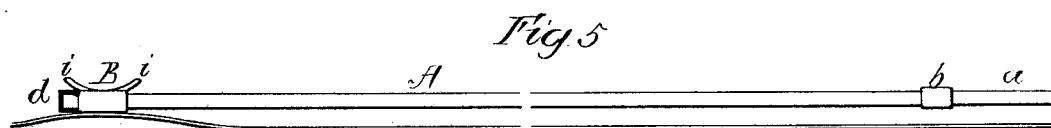
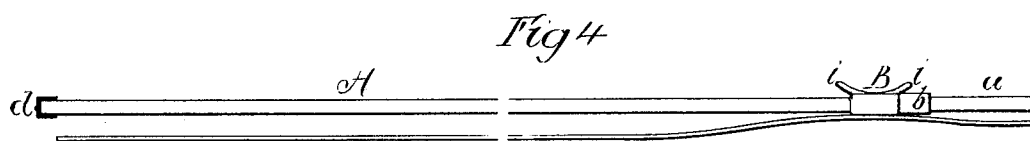
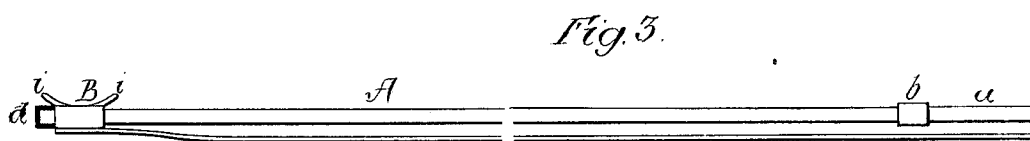
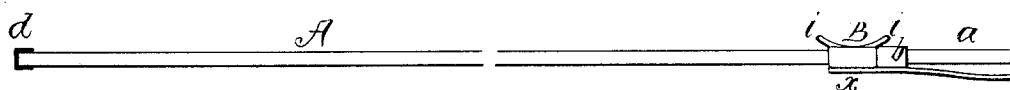
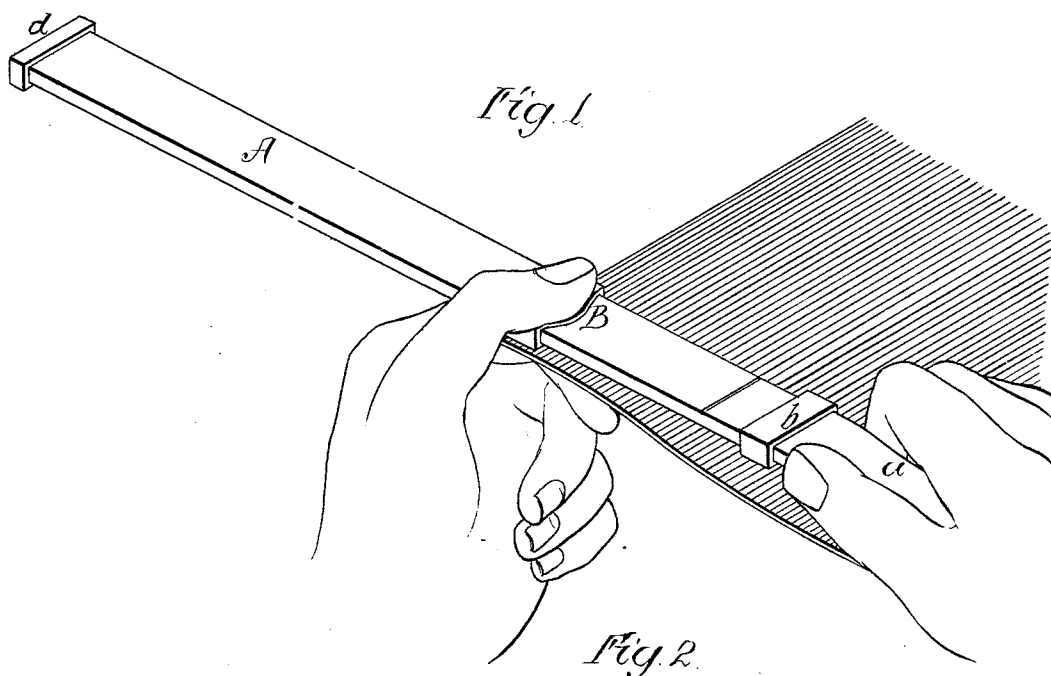


J. M. GASKINS.
Scale-Measure.

No. 220,823.

Patented Oct. 21, 1879.



Witnesses
Henry Howson for
Harry Smith

Inventor
James M. Gaskins,
by his Attorneys
Howson & Son

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES M. GASKINS, OF SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF OF HIS RIGHT TO WILLIAM H. DOUTY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCALE-MEASURES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,823**, dated October 21, 1879; application filed May 8, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES M. GASKINS, of Shamokin, Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Measuring Implements, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of the combination of a yard-stick or other measuring-rod with a slide, in the manner described hereinafter, so as to facilitate the accurate measurement of fabrics in dry-goods stores, &c.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view, illustrating the method of using my improved measuring-instrument; and Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5, diagrams illustrating the measuring operation in detail.

The instrument consists of a strip, A, of wood or metal, preferably wood, having a handle, *a*, separated from the straight portion of the strip by a collar, *b*, the end of the strip being also furnished with a collar or ferrule, *d*. A loose slide, B, is adapted to the strip, the top of the slide having lips *i*, so that its upper face is adapted for the reception of the ball of the thumb.

The collar *b* and ferrule *d* form stops for limiting the movement of the slide B, the distance between the inner edge of the collar and that of the ferrule being in excess of the desired measurement to an extent equal to the width of the slide.

The mode of measuring fabric with the above-described device is as follows: The stick A being held in the right hand by means of the handle *a*, and the slide B being pressed against the collar *b*, the front edge of the strip of fabric *x* is brought into line with the front edge of the slide, as shown in Fig. 2. The slide and the fabric are then grasped between the thumb and fingers of the left hand, as shown in Fig. 1, and moved along the stick A until the front edge of the slide strikes the ferrule *d*, as shown in Fig. 3. The fabric is

then released, the thumb, however, remaining pressed upon the upper surface of the slide, and the latter is then moved back by said thumb until it again comes into contact with the collar *b*, (see Fig. 4,) when the fabric is again seized and carried forward until the slide strikes the ferrule *d*, and this operation is repeated as often as desired.

It will be seen that on each forward movement of the slide B in the manner above set forth the length of fabric measured will be exactly equal to the distance between the inner edge of the ferrule *d* and the front edge of the slide when the latter is in contact with the collar *b*, there being no surplusage, as in measuring with an ordinary yard-stick, in which case the thickness of the thumb is always added to the proper measurement on each new adjustment of the yard-stick. Moreover, the use of the slide B materially facilitates the operation of measuring.

Instead of using a slide embracing the yard-stick, a simple plate having a pin adapted to a slot in the stick might be used, the slide B being preferred, however, as it does not necessitate the weakening of the stick by slotting the same.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of a yard-stick or other measuring-rod, A, having a handle, *a*, and stops *b* and *d* with the slide B, adapted to the stick, all substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of a yard-stick or other measuring-rod, A, with a slide, B, having lugs *i*, as specified.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES M. GASKINS.

Witnesses:

W. H. GILGER,
ISAAC GOLDSCHMIDT.