No. 888,348. PATENTED MAY 26, 1908.

J. S. RAPSON.

COMBINATION DESK IMPLEMENT.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 17, 1907.

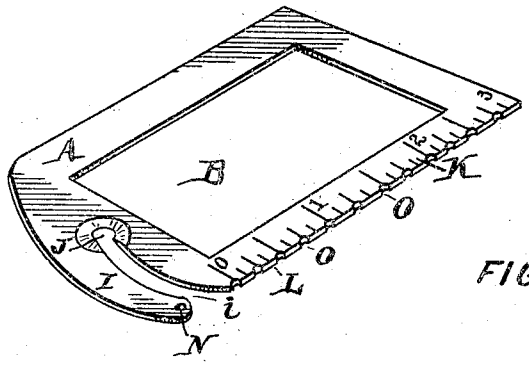


FIG. 1

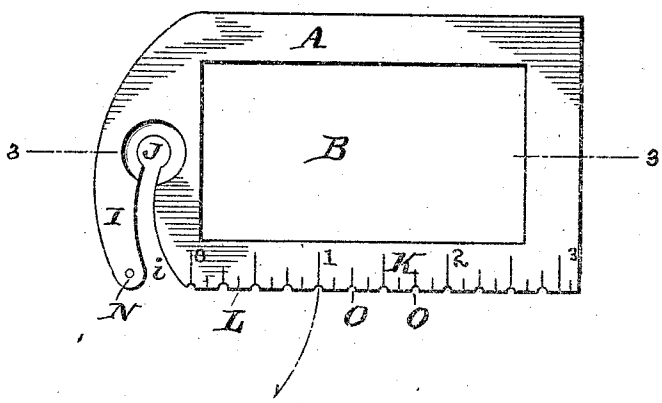


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

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COMBINATION DESK IMPLEMENT.

No. 888,848. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 26, 1908.

Application filed December 17, 1907. Serial No. 406,831.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN S. RAPSON, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of Jenkintown, county of Montgomery, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Combination Desk Implements, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to combination desk implements, and consists of certain improvements which are fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, which form a part thereof.

The object of my invention is to provide an article for use on writing desks which may be employed for numerous purposes in connection with paper, such as opening letters, holding the sheet of paper steady during erasure therefrom, ruling straight or curved lines, drawing angles or describing circles of various radii and measuring distances.

My invention consists of an article of manufacture consisting of a flat plate rectangular in general outline provided with a central opening and a prong at one end; further in having the end of the prong provided with a small hole and the edges of the plate in alinement therewith formed with notches at scaled distances apart.

My invention also comprehends minor details of construction which, together with the features above specified, will be better understood by reference to the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the combination desk implement embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same; and Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the same.

The article is stamped from flat sheet metal, being of an integral piece and having the following features of construction.

A is the body of the plate and is essentially rectangular and provided at one end with a prong or fixed jaw I, forming a slotted portion *i* terminating in a knife-edge J and constituting as a whole an envelop opener. The central part of the plate is provided with an opening B, preferably rectangular, so that when the plate is pressed down upon the sheet of paper the latter may be held in clamped position while exposing a confined portion from which an erasure is to be made. This erasure may be thus performed without the crumpling of the sheet of paper.

The plate is made rectangular on the outside upon three of its sides and preferably on the boundaries of the aperture B so as to provide straight edges and right angles for drawing upon paper. The nose of the jaw or prong I is provided with a small aperture N in substantial alinement with one edge L which may have a scale K. This edge L may also be provided with notches O in line with the scale marks, and these may be for every quarter of an inch, or otherwise, as desired. By inserting a pin through the aperture N and using it as a center, the plate A may be rotated about said pin, and by placing a pencil point in any one of the notches O and applying pressure laterally to the said pencil, the plate may be rotated about the pin for describing circles or curved lines of any desired radii within the range of the scale K. This scale may be used for drawing or any other purpose where measurement is required. The curved portions of the jaw or prong I may also be used for drawing curved lines. The plate as a whole may be employed as an edge for holding a stub or other paper while the loose portion is being torn or severed for detachment.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. As an article of manufacture a desk implement consisting of a thin flat plate A of stamped sheet metal and uniform thickness provided with an aperture B in its body and a fixed jaw I at one end forming a slotted portion *i* to constitute a letter opener.

2. As an article of manufacture a desk implement consisting of a thin flat plate A of stamped sheet metal and uniform thickness provided with an aperture B in its body and a fixed jaw I at one end forming a slotted portion *i* terminating in a knife edge as at J to constitute a letter opener the bevel of which knife edge is wholly on one side of the plate.

3. As an article of manufacture a desk implement consisting of a flat plate provided with an aperture through which to expose a clamped portion of a paper sheet and a bounding edge having notches at equal distances apart and said plate also having an aperture in line with the notched edge for the insertion of a pin when using the notched edge as a compass.

4. As an article of manufacture a desk implement consisting of a flat plate having a fixed jaw at one end to form an envelop

opener said jaw having near its end an aperture and the body of the plate having a straight edge in line with the aperture and provided with a scale.

5. As an article of manufacture a desk implement consisting of a flat plate having a fixed jaw at one end to form an envelop opener said jaw having near its end an aperture and the body of the plate having a straight edge in line with the aperture and provided with a scale and notches in its edge at equal intervals along the scale.

In testimony of which invention, I have hereunto set my hand.

JOHN S. RAPSON.

Witnesses:
R. M. KELLY,
SARAH G. RAPSON.