To all whom it may concern:  

Be it known that I, FRANK SHERMAN, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Billiard-Cue Markers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in means for marking a billiard cue or the like.

It is desirable to have some means of so marking a cue that it may be readily distinguished from others and yet with the marking means so disposed and constructed as not to interfere with the proper handling of the cue. At the same time, it is desirable to have the paper or other means bearing the designating characters so disposed that the name or other designation thereon will not be effaced by repeated handling of the cue, yet be readily discernible. To the accomplishment of such ends and also others as may be desirable in a device of this kind, I employ a band of celluloid or some suitable transparent material adapted to snugly embrace the cue and be held thereupon by frictional engagement therewith and designed to hold and protect a band of paper or other material upon which may be printed, written or otherwise affixed or impressed the designation or inscription desired, such, for instance, as the name of the party owning or using the cue, the weight of the cue, or both, if desired. It is essential that the band of paper or other material bearing the inscription or other marks shall be so disposed as not to be rumpled or distorted as the marking device is applied to the cue.

For this purpose, I provide the transparent band upon its inner face with a groove or depression into which the paper or other inscription-bearing band or strip is received and frictionally held. It thus offers no impediment to the application of the transparent band to the cue and the inscription-bearing band is held smooth and snugly upon the cue, the inscription thereupon showing plainly through the transparent band.

The invention in its preferred form is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the numerals of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a billiard cue with my marker applied thereto. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail in longitudinal section through the cue, and the marking device applied thereto. Fig. 3 is a perspective view, on an enlarged scale, of the marking device before its application to the cue.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts throughout the different views.

In carrying out my invention, I take a band 1 of celluloid or analogous transparent or semi-transparent material, the said band or ring being formed by any suitable process and of a diameter adapting it for application to a billiard cue 2 so as to snugly embrace the latter at the desired distance from the larger end of the cue, preferably at such a point as not to interfere with the proper handling of the cue, although it is evident that the marker may be applied to the cue at any point between its ends.

The band 1 is provided upon its inner face or surface with a groove or depression 3 which may extend for a portion or the entire circumference of the ring, the depth of such groove being practically the same as the thickness of the paper or other band 4 which is received therein, so that it shall be practically flush with the surface of the band or ring 1, as seen clearly in Fig. 2. If the groove extend entirely around the ring, the band 4 is placed therein with its ends abutting, as seen at 5. By this means, the band 4 is retained by friction within the groove of the ring 1 and there is no liability of the band becoming rumpled or damaged as the marker is applied to the cue. The band has its outer face substantially unbroken so as to avoid any protrusion that would interfere with the use of the cue.

The band 4, which may be of paper or any suitable material, may have printed, painted or otherwise applied thereto any suitable inscription such as "21 oz.", shown at 6, to indicate the weight of the cue, or the name of the owner, or both the weight of the cue and the owner’s name, or any other inscription that it may be desirable to place thereupon.

The marker is durable, not liable to be injured in any way and the band 4
being protected by the outer ring, is out of contact with the hand of the player and yet the inscription is readily discernible. It can be manufactured at minimum cost, readily applied and easily removed if it be desired to change the inscription to put the marker upon another cue.

Modifications in details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What is claimed as new is:

1. A marker for cues or the like, comprising a ring with a transparent portion having a groove upon its inner surface, and an inscription-band frictionally held within said groove with its ends abutting, said band being flush with the inner surface of the ring; the outer face of the transparent portion being substantially flush with the outer face of the remaining portion of the ring.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a marker for a billiard cue, the same comprising a ring adapted to slide upon the cue and to be frictionally held thereon, said ring having upon its inner face an annular groove, and a band removably seated in said groove flush with the inner surface of the ring, the portion of the ring opposite said groove being transparent, the outer face of the transparent portion being substantially flush with the outer face of the remaining portion of the ring, said band and the inner face of the ring upon opposite sides thereof being in contact with the cue when in use and the band removable from the interior of the ring when off the cue.

Signed by me at Washington, D. C., this 17th day of May, 1912.

FRANK SHERMAN.

Witnesses:

JOHN SCRIVENER,
SAMUEL SCRIVENER.