A. J. FELLOWS.

Tape Measure.-

No. 79,965. Patented July 14, 1868.

Fig. 1.

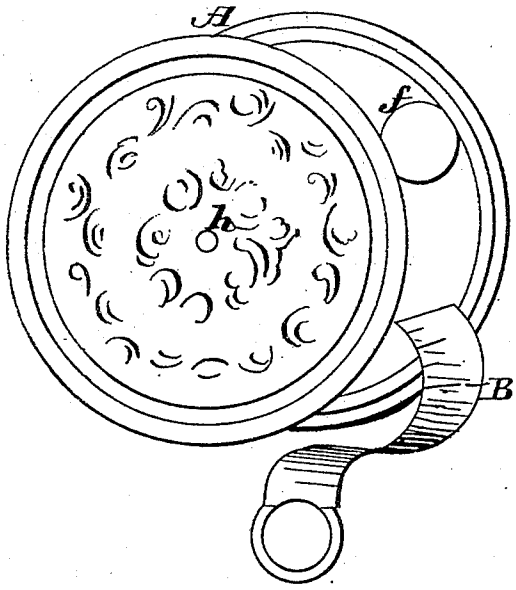
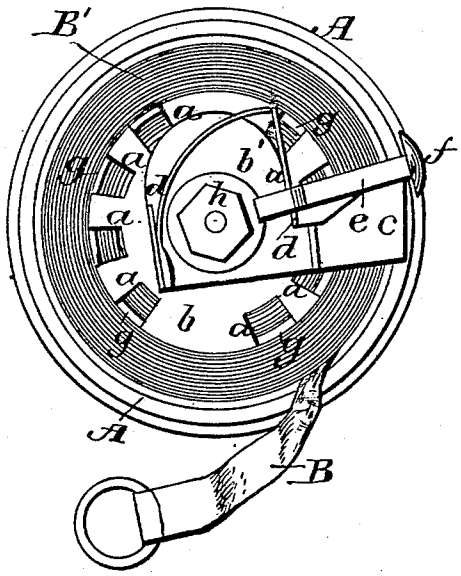


Fig. 2.



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ALVIN J. FELLOWS, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 79,965, *dated July* 14, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN TAPE MEASURES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ALVIN J. FELLOWS, of the city and county of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spring Measuring Tapes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction, character, and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which make part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an enlarged perspective view of the apparatus as it will appear when ready for use.

Figure 2 is a plan of the same, with the movable side taken off, showing the internal structure of the apparatus.

My improvement consists in the manner of fitting the spring-click which detains the main or primary spring to the central part of the main-spring barrel, so as to hold the tape at any desired position.

I make the case, A, fig. 1, and A A, fig. 2, of gum-lac and saw-dust, or any other analogous substances, and color it with ivory-black, or any other suitable matter, to suit the taste or market.

I fit the spiral or helical springs, to wind up the tape, in the usual way, as indicated in several sections at *a a*, &c., by securing it in a suitable sheet-metal barrel, as shown at *b*, and attaching its inner end to the arbor or stud *h*, and its outer end to the periphery or rim of the barrel, as is done in watches, &c., as indicated in fig. 2.

On this stud or arbor *h*, and outside of the head *b* of the main-spring barrel, I fit a piece of sheet metal as *b'*, in such a position that its outer end will rest in the periphery of the case, as shown at *e*, fig. 2.

To this plate or piece I attach the spring-click, as shown at *d d'*, in such a manner that the working end *d'* will hook over the edge of the arm *e* of the knob *f*, in such a manner that the click, acting against the projection *g g*, &c., on the barrel, will prevent the recoil of the main-spring, and hold the tape at any desired position, and let it back at pleasure.

Having made and arranged the parts as before described, I wind on the tape, B, as represented at B', fig. 2, put on the plate *b' e* with the click-spring *d* and *d'*, and the arm *e*, with its knob *f*, when the whole will appear as represented in fig. 2; I then screw the movable cap or side of the case on to the arbor *h*, when the whole will appear represented in fig. 1.

I am aware that metallic cases have been used with the same kind of main-spring, and with a click-spring attached to the removable side or cap of the case, by being soldered to its inner surfaces, and a knob attached to the outer surface of the said removable side, to release the click, and allow the tape to be drawn in by the main-spring; I therefore do not claim any such device, but

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the case A with the plate *b'*, click-spring *d d'*, and the arm *e*, and knob *f*, when the whole is constructed, arranged, and fitted for use, substantially as herein described.

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