

WR PATENT NEWS # 2007-29

PATENTS US160471 ROBINSON 1875 STAIRBUILDERS RULE US454701A1 BARNES 1891 STAIRBUILDERS PLUMB LEVEL

Theme: STAIRBUILDERS

Some years ago I got from a French friend an article with an unknown tool. They asked: What's this?

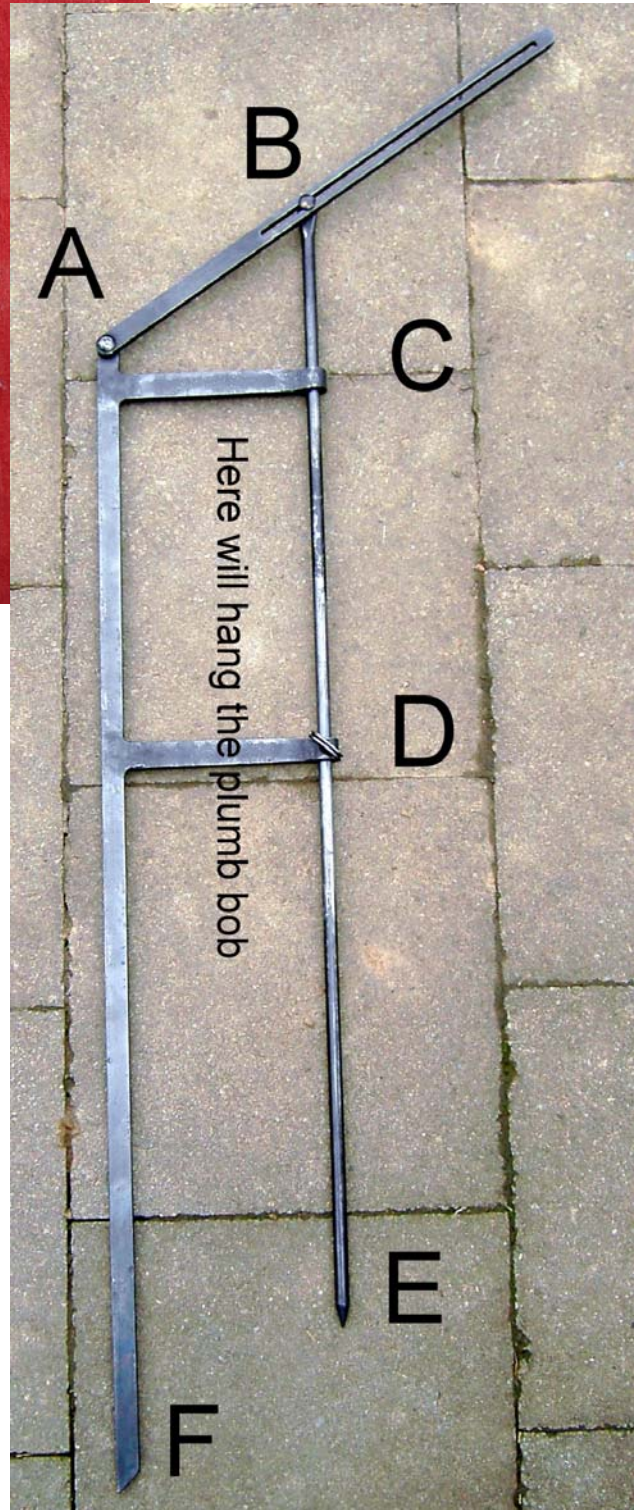
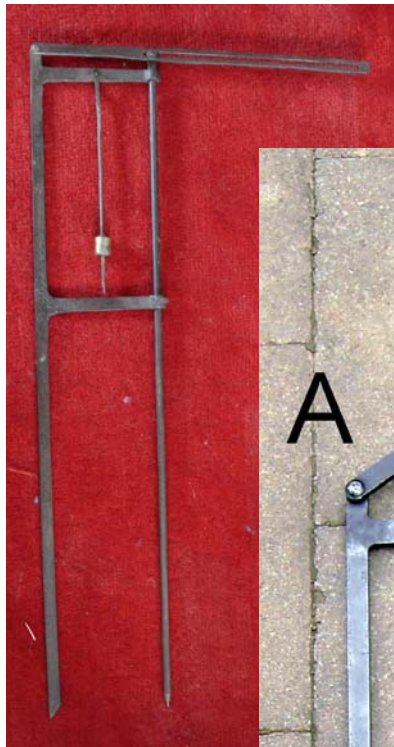
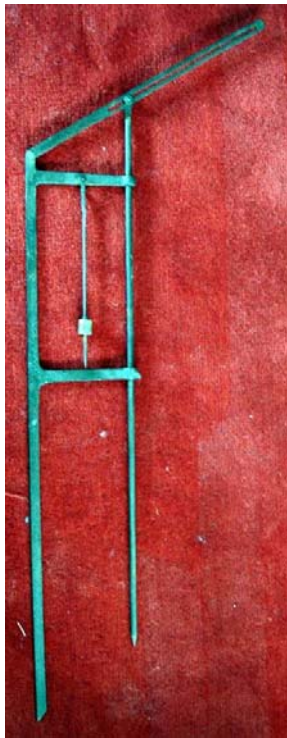
Some weeks later we got the answer:

This tool was used to verify the stairs. See drawing. On this tool in the article the (wooden) part at the top was missing.



PATENT NEWS especially for PLUMB BOB COLLECTORS

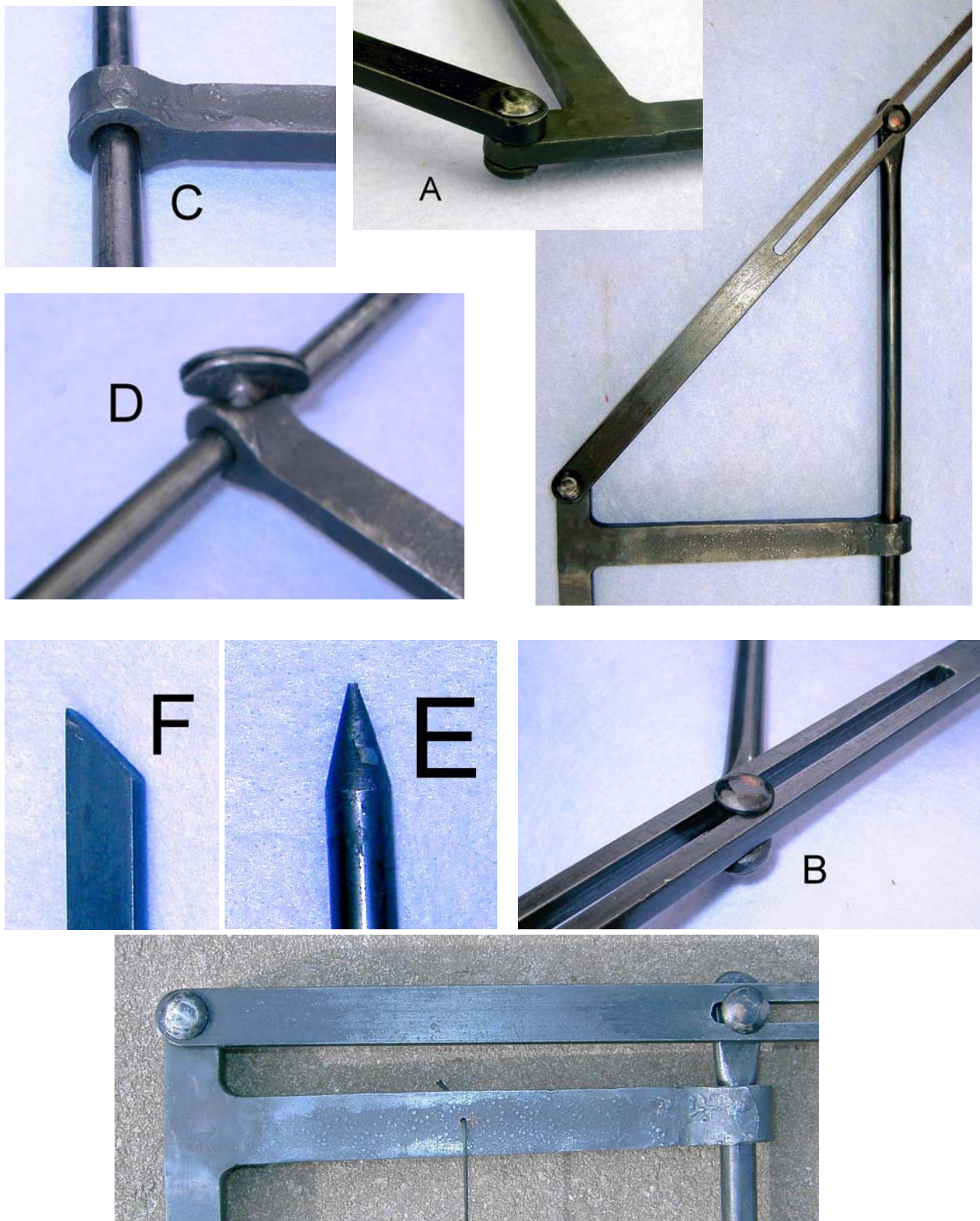
Last year I got pictures from Spain and PG asked if anyone knows this tool. He got it from a Spanish antique dealer:



With the information of these two sources I did let me make a reproduction in a small factory nearby. They were very happy to do this work that was very unique and not as boring as the normal work ☺

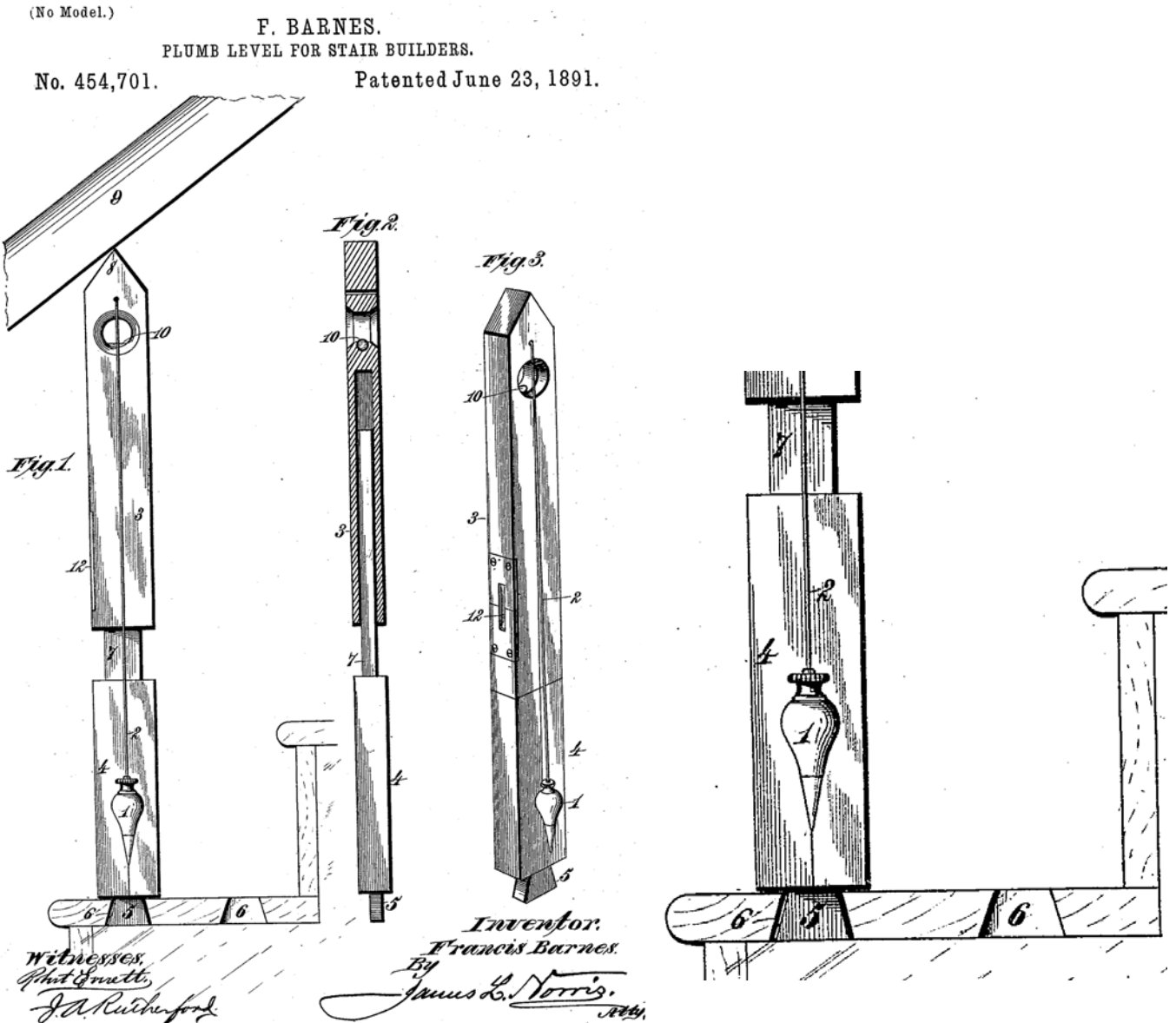
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Here are some close up pictures of my reproduction:



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Searching for patents I did not find exactly the same, but a similar very old one:



10 This invention relates to a stair-builder's
plumb or level, and has for its object to provide a simple instrument which can be adjusted to suit the pitch of the stairs and the height of the banisters, so that the mortises or recesses for the upper ends of the banister-rods can be accurately located in the under side of the hand-rail.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A stair-builder's plumb or level having an extensible support comprising an upper portion having an upper pointed end to come in contact with the under side of the banister hand-rail and a lower portion provided at its lower end with a lug to enter a mortise or recess in the end of a step, substantially as described.

2. In a stair-builder's plumb or level, the combination of vertically-extensible bars or sections, one of which has an upper pointed end to come in contact with the under side of the hand-rail and the other provided at its lower end with a lug to enter a mortise or recess in a step, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANCIS BARNES.
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At least another patent to verify the stairs not with a plumb bob but with spirit levels B and C: (This tool is in use still in our days!)

J. J. ROBINSON.
Stair-Builders' R

No. 160,471.

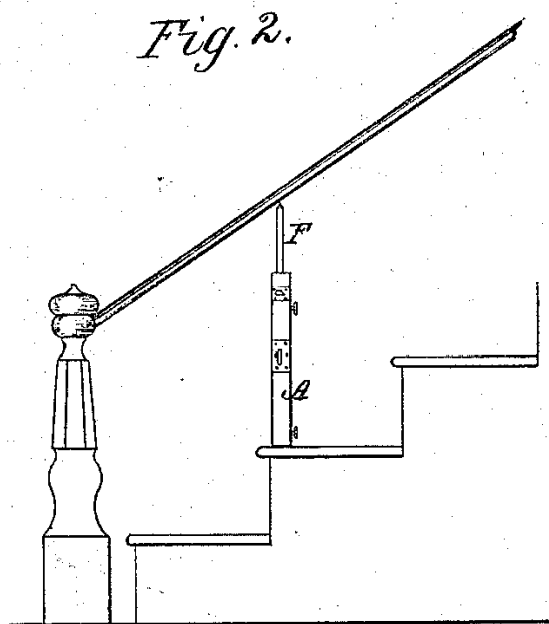
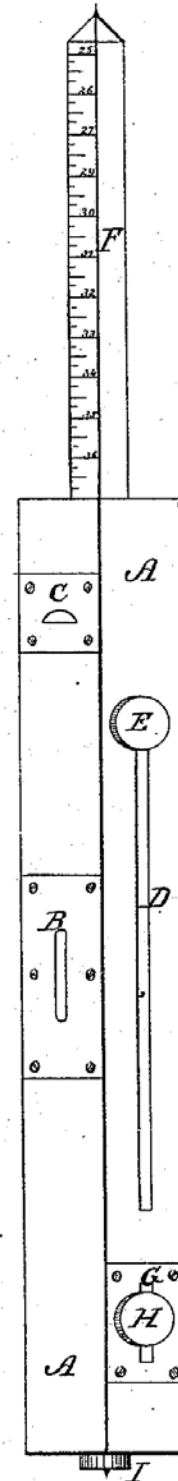


Fig. 1



The instrument may be used also for other purposes, as leveling and plumbing, &c., the spirit-level B adapting the same to ordinary leveling purposes, and the spirit-level C to plumbing.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

The improved stair-builder's rule consisting of the case A, spirit-levels B and C, extension-rule F, and adjustable stud I, provided with a prick, all combined and arranged substantially as shown and described.

JOHN JONES ROBINSON.