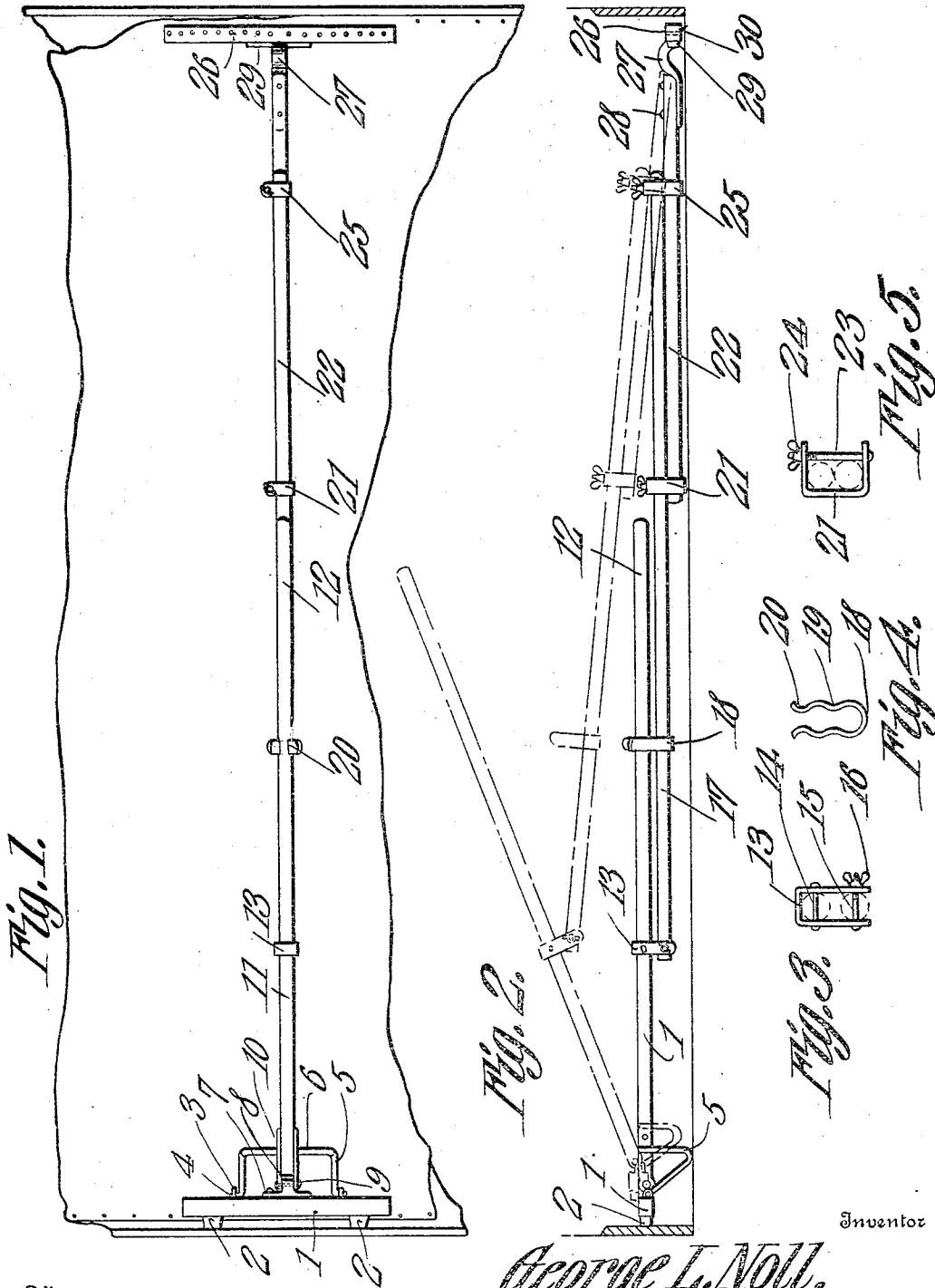


G. L. NOLL.
CARPET STRETCHER.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 27, 1909.

943,199.

Patented Dec. 14, 1909.



Witnesses

E. J. Heman

Francis Boyle

George L. Noll,

By C. Snowles.
Attorneys

Inventor

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. NOLL, OF WINCHESTER, KANSAS.

CARPET-STRETCHER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. NOLL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Winchester, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Carpet-Stretcher, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to carpet stretchers and has for an object to provide a device of this character which will stretch the carpet evenly from one base board to the opposite base board and when placed in operative position securely lock itself to that position.

Another object is to provide a device of this character which will have no hooks to penetrate the floor or base board of a room and will preserve the wood work of a room free from scratches and scars.

Still another object is to provide a device of this character which can easily and quickly be adjusted to operative position in any sized room and will permit the operator to freely move about after being so adjusted.

With these and other objects in view which will be described in the following specification and set forth in the claim, my invention embraces the structure illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the device in operative position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the device in final or operative position and showing the first position dotted. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are detail views of the devices for holding the members of the stretcher in the operative position.

In a more detailed description of my invention, wherein like characters of reference designate similar parts wherever they occur, a carpet stretcher is shown having at one end a working head comprising a cross arm 1 provided on one of its lateral faces with stops 2, adapted to bear against the base board of a room and provide a cushion for the arm as well as a yielding pad to prevent the defacement of the base board when in frictional contact therewith. These stops may be made of rubber, felt or any fabric which has a yielding quality. Secured to the opposite lateral face of the cross arm 1 are eye screws 3 that loosely engage the terminals 4 of a frame constituting a support for the cross arm. The frame is preferably made of stiff wire and is bowed downward adjacent the ends to form legs 5 that elevate the cross arm above the floor, the straight-

ened portion 6 of the frame intermediate the legs, being held parallel with the cross arm.

Secured to the inner face of the cross arm in any preferred manner is a plate 7, having an upstanding tongue 8 provided with a transverse opening adapted to engage a pivot pin 9. This pivot pin projects on either side of the upstanding tongue and engages the eyes of the metal strips 10 secured to the lateral faces of the operating lever 11, adjacent its end. By this construction the lever is pivotally attached to the cross arm, and has its movement limited by the straightened portion 6 of the support. The operating lever is of any desired length and terminates in a rounded portion 12, constituting a convenient grip for the hand of the operator.

Engaging the operating lever is a U-shaped clamp 13 having a pivot pin 14 adapted to pivotally secure the operating lever 11, and a transverse bolt 15, the screw threaded shank of which carries a nut 16. The bolt 15 loosely engages an opening formed in the end of the extension rod 17 of the stretcher and pivotally secures this extension rod in the clamp, the nut 16 of the clamp being removable therefrom to permit the detachment of the extension rod from the clamp in order that the device may be packed in a minimum amount of space when not in use. It is evident that both the lever and the extension rod are pivotally secured together and that as the lever is raised or lowered, the extension rod will correspondingly be pulled backward or pushed forward.

Positioned on the extension rod 17 adjacent the U-clamp 13 is a locking device 18 adapted to embrace the extension rod and operating lever, and being bowed inward at substantially its middle portion 19 to conform to the outline of the operating lever and extension rod. The terminals of the locking device are contracted adjacent the ends to form clamping portions 20 that spring over the operating lever when seated in the locking device and clamp it in place until released by the hand of the operator.

Slidingly fitted on the extension rod 17 is a clamp 21 that embraces the main rod 22 adjacent its end and clamps the main rod and extension rod tightly together. To accomplish this the clamp is provided with a transverse bolt 23, the screw threaded end of which carries an adjusting nut 24 that operates to adjust the clamp, and accom-

plish the objects sought in a practical manner.

Slidingly fitted to the extension rod 17 adjacent its end is a clamp 25 similar in construction to the clamp 21 above described and which embraces the main rod and clamps it tightly to the extension rod. By this arrangement it is evident that the clamps 21 and 25 may be slid to any portion of the extension rod and the main rod clamped in this position in order to adjust the carpet stretcher to various sized rooms.

The main rod 22 is of a suitable thickness to engage and slidingly fit the clamps carried on the extension rod and is terminally adapted to secure a transverse working head 26. This working head may be secured to the main rod 23 in any desired manner, the connection between the parts in this instance being effected by a goose neck bar 27 provided at one end with bolts 28 for engagement with openings formed adjacent the end of the main rod 22, and at the other with a transverse rod 29, provided with a plurality of screws or other connectors for engaging the inner lateral face of the transverse working head 26. This working head 26 is provided on its lower face with a plurality of teeth 30 for engaging a carpet and which are of a size to penetrate sufficiently to prevent any tendency to work out and tear the warp of the carpet.

In the operation of this carpet stretcher the cushioned working head is placed against the base board with the wire legs resting on the floor. The main rod is then slid along the extension rod until the toothed working head of the stretcher is in the desired position, when the clamps are tightened, thus holding the rods secured in the desired position. The toothed head is then placed in engagement with the edge of the carpet about to be tacked and the operating lever is shoved home. This causes the pivoted end of the extension rod to be depressed and the toothed head forced outward, thus stretching a portion of the carpet equal to the width of the carpet in length and to the width of

the toothed working head in breadth, the end of which portion may now be tacked down and the carpet stretcher advanced and the operation repeated. The operating lever after being shoved home will enter the locking device when the clamping portions will spring over and lock it in this position until released by the operator, thus permitting the operator to freely move about after the device is set in operative position. In this way the carpet is evenly stretched, as the toothed head stretches the carpet from the opposite tacked down side and thus obviates one of the difficulties experienced in the use of the usual form of carpet stretcher, namely, the carpet being stretched too loose in one place and too tight in another, due to the stretcher only stretching that portion of the carpet adjacent the toothed head.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, it is thought that the construction and operation of the invention will be easily understood without a more extended explanation, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction may be made without sacrificing any of the advantages or departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

A carpet stretcher having terminal working heads and adjustable intermediate connecting members, one of said working heads being provided with a depending frame having spaced bearing portions constituting legs, the other having teeth adapted to engage a carpet, and an operating lever assembled with said connecting members and adapted to yieldingly hold the parts in operative position.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE L. NOLL.

Witnesses:

C. D. DAVIS,
CHAS. G. ROYER.