

J. M. WILSON.

FLOOR-CLAMPS.

No. 185,810.

Patented Dec. 26, 1876.

Fig. 1.

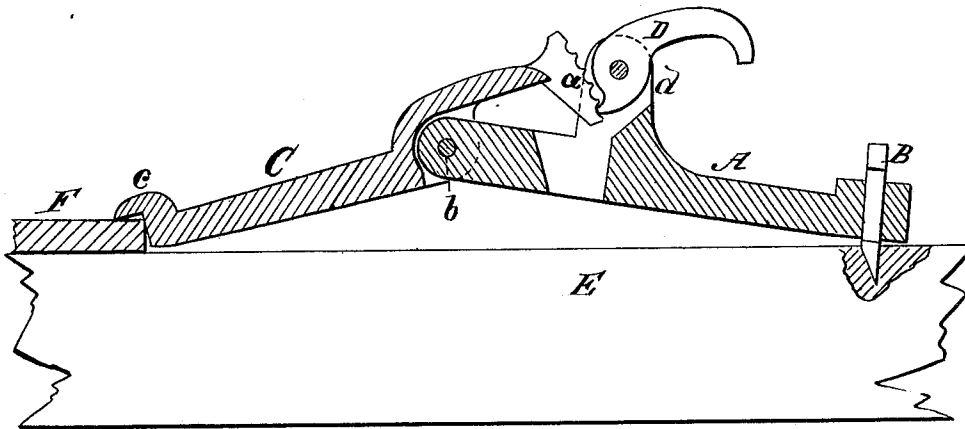
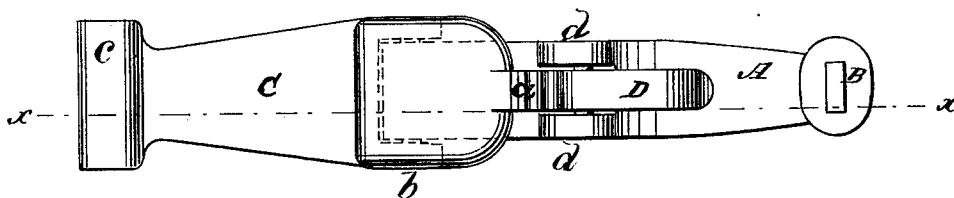


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

E. Wolff
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INVENTOR:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MILTON WILSON, OF NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, ASSIGNOR TO
HIMSELF AND JAMES H. HALL, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLOOR-CLAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,810**, dated December 26, 1876; application filed
October 23, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN M. WILSON, of Nashua, in the county of Hillsborough and State of New Hampshire, have invented an Improvement in Floor-Clamps, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section on line *x x* in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a top view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention consists in the arrangement of two arms hinged together, so as to form a toggle or knee joint. Upon the extremity of one of the arms a lip is formed that embraces the edge of the flooring. At the extremity of the other arm a mortise is made, in which a spur is placed, which is driven into the joist. One of the arms is provided with a ratchet, and the other arm with a pawl, which retains the parts in position when the desired pressure is secured.

The object of the invention is to furnish a clamp for laying flooring, and for other similar purposes, which will facilitate the laying of floors, and effect a material saving of time and labor.

Referring to the drawing, A is one of the arms of the floor-clamp, which is mortised at its outer end, and provided with a spur, B, which is capable of sliding in the mortise, but is prevented from dropping out by lugs formed at one side near its ends. C is an arm that is hinged to the arm A at *b*, and is provided with a lip, *c*, that embraces the edge of the flooring F. The arm C is elongated be-

yond the hinge, and is provided with a curved ratchet, *a*. Ears *d d* are formed on the arm A, between which a pawl, D, is pivoted, which is capable of engaging with ratchet *a*. The arm A is mortised between the ears *d*, to receive the ratchet *a* when the arms A C are brought in line.

In using the flooring-clamp the flooring F is placed in the required position, and the lip *c* placed against it. The hinged ends of the arms are raised from the joist, and the spur B is driven into the joist sufficiently to retain it. The arm C is pressed down by the foot or otherwise, which straightens the toggle formed by the arms A C, and presses the flooring-piece F to its place. The pawl D engages the ratchet *a*, and prevents the arms A C from rising until the pawl-lever is raised, and the ratchet is released.

My improved flooring-clamp is simple and inexpensive in its construction, convenient and efficient in its operation, and light, strong, and portable.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The arm A, spur B, arm C, having the lip *c*, the ratchet *a*, and pawl D, combined and operating substantially as herein shown and described.

JOHN MILTON WILSON.

Witnesses:

W. D. MONGORAN,
E. E. PARKER.