

1,039,022.

E. BURKS.
STRETCHING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 13, 1912.

Patented Sept. 17, 1912.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

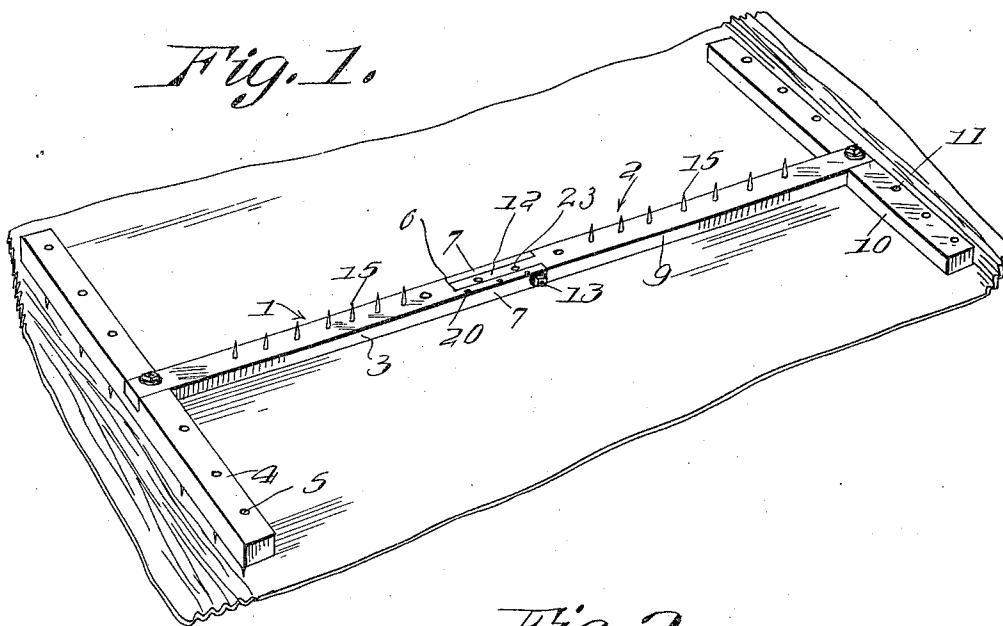


Fig. 2.

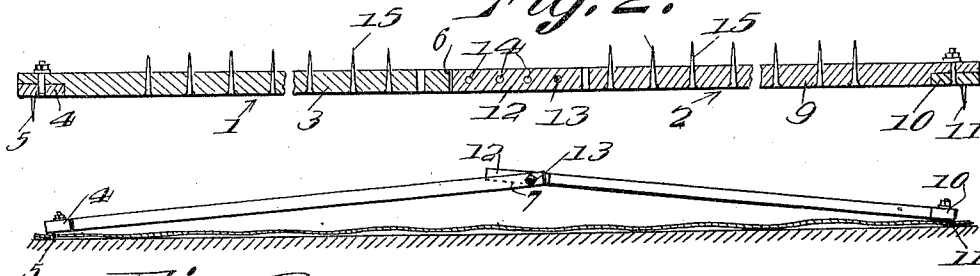


Fig. 3.

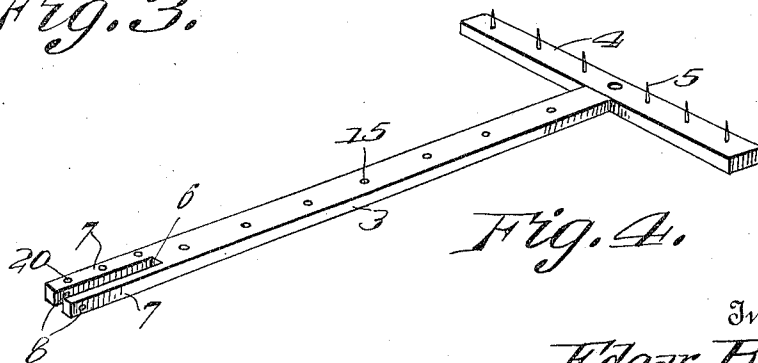


Fig. 4.

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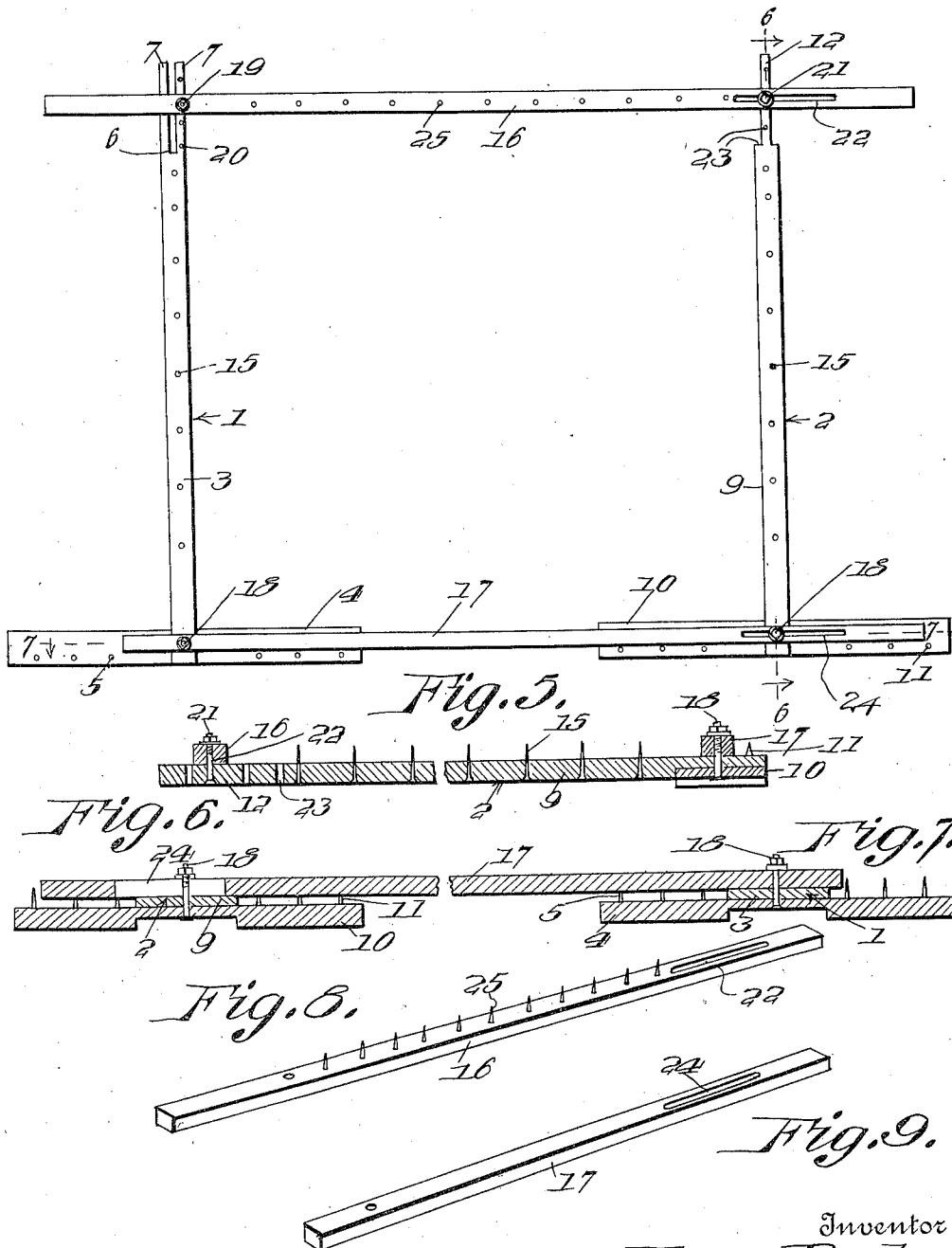
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDGAR BURKS, OF ELDORADO, ILLINOIS.

STRETCHING DEVICE.

1,039,022.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 17, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDGAR BURKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Eldorado, in the county of Saline and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stretching Devices; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in stretching devices.

One object of the invention is to provide a stretching device which may be employed for stretching carpets, curtains, or other fabrics.

Another object is to provide a stretching device of this character which will be simple, strong, durable, and inexpensive in construction, efficient and reliable in operation, and well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings; Figure 1 is a perspective view of the stretching device showing the same arranged and in use as a carpet stretcher; Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the same; Fig. 3 is a side view of the stretcher showing the position of the parts before the carpet is stretched; Fig. 4 is an inverted perspective view of one of the members of the stretcher; Fig. 5 is a plan view of the device arranged as a curtain stretcher; Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; Fig. 7 is a similar view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 5; Fig. 8 is a perspective view of one of the side connecting pieces employed when the device is used as a curtain stretcher; Fig. 9 is a similar view of the other side connecting piece.

My improved stretching device comprises a pair of stretching members 1 and 2. The member 1 comprises a longitudinally disposed bar 3 to the outer end of which is bolted or otherwise detachably secured a cross bar 4 having in one side near its outer edge a series of stretching pins 5 which are adapted to be engaged with the fabric to be stretched. The inner end of the bar 3 of the stretching member 1 is bifurcated or

has therein a longitudinal notch or recess 6 which forms parallel lugs 7. In the lugs 7 near their outer ends are alined bolt holes 8 the purpose of which will be hereinafter described.

The stretching member 2 comprises a longitudinal bar 9 to the outer end of which is bolted or otherwise detachably secured a cross bar 10 having in one side adjacent to its outer edge a series of pointed stretching pins 11 which when the device is employed for stretching a carpet co-act with the pins 5 in the cross bar 4 of the member 1. On the inner end of the bar 9 is a longitudinally extending tongue 12 which is adapted to fit between the lugs 7 and is adjustably and pivotally connected to said lugs by a bolt 13 which is engaged with the bolt holes 8 in the lugs 7 and with one of a series of bolt holes 14 in the tongue 12.

Arranged through the center of each of the bars 3 and 9 of the stretching members 1 and 2 is a row of stretching pins 15 which are used when the stretching device is employed for stretching curtains and the like.

In using the stretching members 1 and 2 for stretching a carpet or the like, the inner ends of the bars 3 and 9 thereof are swung upwardly on their pivotal connections thus drawing the cross bars 4 and 10 on the outer ends inwardly to the desired extent, whereupon, the stretching pins 5 and 11 on the cross bars 4 and 10 are engaged with the carpet near the opposite edges thereof. After the device has thus been engaged with the carpet pressure is applied to the pivoted inner ends of the bars thus forcing said ends downwardly and the cross bars 4 and 10 outwardly which operation will effectively stretch the portion of the carpet between said cross bars and will hold the same in the stretched position until tacked or otherwise fastened as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

In addition to the members 1 and 2 I also provide side connecting bars 16 and 17 which are employed when the device is to be used for stretching curtains and the like. When the device is to be employed for stretching curtains or similar fabrics the members 1 and 2 are disconnected at their inner ends by removing the bolt 13 and said members are placed side by side at the desired distance apart with the cross bars 4 and 10 arranged in line as clearly shown in Fig. 5 of the drawings. After the members

1 and 2 have been separated and before arranging the same as above described, the bars 3 and 9 are removed from the cross bars 4 and 10 and said bars 3 and 9 are turned over to project the pins 15 thereon, upwardly or in the same direction as the pins 5 and 11 of the cross bars 4 and 10. The bars 3 and 9 after being reversed are again secured to the cross bars by their attaching bolts 18 as shown. After the members 1 and 2 have thus been arranged the connecting bar 16 is adjustably secured to the free end of the bar 3 by a bolt 19 which is engaged with a bolt hole in the bar 16 and with one of a series of bolt holes 20 in one of the lugs 7 of the bar 3. The opposite end of the bar 16 is secured to the tongue 12 on the adjacent end of the bar 9 of the member 2 by a bolt 21 which is engaged with a slot 22 in this end of the bar 16 and with one of a series of bolt holes 23 in the tongue 12. The opposite ends of the members 1 and 2 are adjustably connected by the connecting bar 17 which is secured at one end to the bar 3 and cross bar 4 by the bolt 18 which fastens these parts together and at its opposite end the bar 17 is secured to the bar 9 and cross bar 10 of the member 2 by the bolt 18 which fastens these parts together said bolt being engaged with a slot 24 in this end of the bar 17. When the members 1 and 2 have been connected by the bars 16 and 17 in the manner described, it will be seen, that these parts form a stretching frame which may be increased or diminished in size in one direction by means of the slots 22 and 24 in the connecting bars 16 and 17 which will permit the member 2 to be adjusted toward or from the member 1. The lateral adjustment of the frame is provided for by the bolt holes 20 and 23 in the bars 3 and 9 of the members 1 and 2, whereby, the bar 16 may be shifted toward or from the bar 17 and secured in its adjusted positions by the bolts 19 and 21 which are engaged therewith and with the bolt holes 20 and 23 as will be readily understood. After the members 1 and 2 and the connecting bars 16 and 17 have been adjusted in the manner described to form a frame of the desired size the curtains or other objects to be stretched are fastened to the frame by engaging the ends thereof with the pins 15 on the bars 3 and 9 of the members 1 and 2 while one of the side edges of the curtains is engaged with the pins 5 and 11 on the cross bars 4 and 10 of the members 1 and 2, and the opposite side edge of the curtain is engaged with a series of pins 25 in the connecting bar 16.

By constructing and arranging my im-

proved stretching device as herein shown and described, it will be seen that the same may be readily converted into either a carpet stretcher or a curtain stretcher, whereby, the carpets, curtains, or similar fabrics may be evenly or uniformly stretched. When the device is used as a carpet stretcher the entire width of the carpet to which the stretcher is applied is stretched in one operation and will be securely held until fastened.

It will be noted that the device consists of but few parts which are simple and inexpensive in construction and which may be readily detached and closely packed together for storing or shipping.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention as defined and claimed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

In a stretching device of the character described, a pair of stretching members comprising longitudinal bars having in one end a series of bolt holes, cross bars secured to the opposite ends of said longitudinal bars, stretching pins arranged in said cross bars, a connecting bar having therein near one end a bolt hole and near the opposite end a slot, fastening bolts adapted to be engaged with said bolt hole and slot and with said series of bolt holes in the longitudinal bars of said stretching members, a second connecting bar having therein near one end a bolt hole and in the opposite end a slot, fastening bolts engaged with said bolt hole and slot and with the adjacent parts of the longitudinal bars and cross bars of said stretching members, whereby, these parts are adjustably connected together, and stretching pins arranged in said longitudinal bars and in said first mentioned connecting bar, whereby, the device may be employed as a stretching frame for stretching curtains and the like.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDGAR BURKS.

Witnesses:

W. J. HALEY,
BEN BROMLETT.