

Carnet Stretcher

Patented Oct. 16, 1866.

A perspective view of the handle and curved portion of the instrument. The handle is labeled *D* and has a flared end. The curved portion is labeled *B* and contains internal components labeled *K*, *L*, *F*, *C*, and *a*.

W. H. Huntington
Jas A. Service

To Ashby
 Per Murray
 Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDK. ASHLEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVED CARPET-STRETCHER AND TACK-HOLDER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 58,751, dated October 16, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK ASHLEY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Combined Carpet-Stretcher and Tack-Holder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The present invention relates to an extremely novel and useful implement for the laying down and tacking of carpets and other coverings used for the floors of rooms in dwelling-houses and other private and public buildings; and it consists of a carpet-stretcher and tack-holder combined in one and the same implement, by means of which the stretching and the tacking down of carpets or other similar coverings for floors can be accomplished with ease and dispatch and with the utmost convenience.

In accompanying plate of drawings my combined carpet-stretcher and tack-holder is illustrated—

Figure 1 being a plan or top view; Fig. 2, a section taken in the line *xx*, Fig. 1.

A in the drawings represents the carpet-stretcher, which, in the present instance, consists of a bent bar or plate, B, of metal, that at one end, C, is secured in a handle, D, and at the other is made with a series of sharp prongs or teeth, *a*, which, when the stretcher is used, engage with the carpet, and thus, by properly bringing it to bear upon it, enables it to be stretched or pulled to the requisite degree of tension.

To and upon the upper side, E, of the bar B, and near to its pronged end, an arm, F, is hung; turning upon a fulcrum or center-pin, *b*, of the bar, and extending in the direction of its length. One end, G, of this arm forms one jaw of the holder for a tack, the other jaw, H, being formed by cutting out a portion of the pronged end of the bar B.

The jaw G of the holder is held closed upon the other jaw, H, by means of a spiral spring, I, inserted in the notch J of the rear end of the arm F, which spring is confined between the end of such notch and a fixed lug or stud, K,

upon the top of the bar, as plainly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

The two jaws of the holder are both similarly notched at the same points *c*, forming a square-shaped aperture, *d*, between the two to receive the pointed end of the tack, which, by the action of the spiral spring I, hereinbefore referred to, is thus firmly held therein while the stretcher is being used for stretching a carpet or other floor-covering susceptible of being stretched, when, the carpet having been stretched to the proper degree, such tack can be then driven, by means of a hammer or other suitable implement, through the carpet into the floor a sufficient distance to hold the carpet and yet allow the stretcher to be drawn or pulled off and thus released from the tack, after which the driving of the tack can be completed.

From the above it is plainly apparent that, by means of my improved combined carpet-stretcher and tack-holder, the labor necessary in the stretching and laying and tacking down of carpets and other similar coverings used for floors of rooms is greatly decreased, and the insertion of the tacks in the carpet rendered extremely easy and convenient, this implement also enabling the tacks to be driven into the carpet and floor much nearer or closer to the mop-board of the room than has heretofore been possible, and without the least danger of injuring or defacing it; and furthermore, with it the tacks can be driven in the carpet at such points of the same as are at the utmost degree of tension from the action of the stretcher thereon, as is obvious without any further explanation.

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

The device for the purpose specified, consisting of the toothed bar B and the spring-arm F, with its notched end G bearing against the inner side of the notched jaw H of the bar B, and operating in the manner and for the purpose described.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 27th day of April, 1866.

FREDK. ASHLEY.

Witnesses:

ALBERT W. BROWN,
JAMES A. SERVICE.