No. 796,134. PATENTED AUG. 1, 1905.

J. LE ROY.

CARPENTER'S TOOL.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 25, 1904.

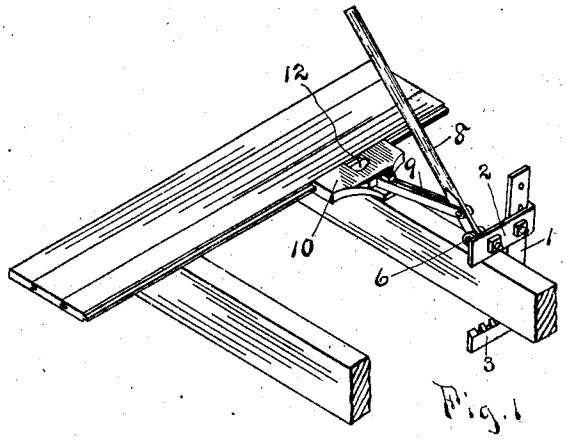


Fig. 1

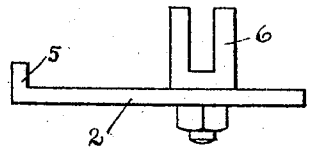


Fig. 3.

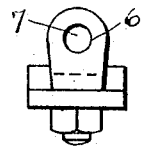


Fig. 4.

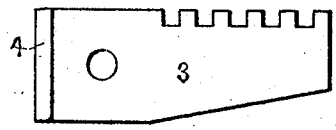


Fig. 5.

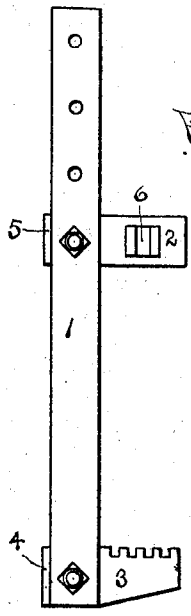


Fig. 2.

Witnesses.

Emma Petersen.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH LE ROY, OF BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN.

CARPENTER'S TOOL.

No. 796,134. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 1, 1905.

Application filed July 25, 1904. Serial No. 217,962.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH LE ROY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Belleville, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Carpenter's Tool, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to carpenters' tools to be used in laying floors; and the objects of my improvements are to provide a tool for forcing the floor-boards tightly together without bruising or otherwise injuring their edges, to provide a tool that can be used for laying floor-boards directly on joists or on a previously-laid floor, and to provide a tool for such purpose that will be simple, strong, easily made, and that can be sold at a low price. I attain these objects by the construction shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective showing my improved tool holding flooring in place for nailing to the joists. Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 are views of details.

Similar reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views.

In laying floors made up of boards of "matched" lumber it is usual to lay one board firmly against one wall and then drive each succeeding board firmly against the one last secured. The means used to force this last board against the one next to it are various, from the bare hammer to a small piece of flooring, but all resembling each other in that none holds the board after it has been forced into place and the majority in that the edge of the board is bruised and defaced. The tool hereby presented not only does not injure the board in the slightest degree, but also holds it in place until the last nail is driven, thereby insuring an evenly-laid floor.

In the drawings, 1 is the upright bar that carries the upper jaw 2 and the serrated lower jaw 3. The lower jaw is provided with a flange 4, adapted to fit against the rear edge of the bar 1. As shown, the upper edge of this jaw is beveled to insure a better grip on the joist. The jaw 3 and bar 1 may be connected by the bolt, as shown, or in any other desirable manner. The upper jaw 2 is adjustable on the bar 1 and is provided with a flange 5 for contact with the rear edge of the bar to hold the jaw and bar at a constant angle to each other. The lower edge of this jaw is beveled to insure a better grip on the joist. Secured in this upper jaw is the bracket 6, having the hole 7 for the pivot-bolt of the handle 8. Pivoted to this handle is the link 9, which connects to the block 10, which block is provided with a groove 11 along its outer edge to receive the tongue of the matched flooring.

In using this tool the upright and jaws are positioned on the joist and the handle is forced down, pushing the board away from the jaws and against the adjacent board. The handle may be held down by the carpenter's knee or foot. The block 10 is cut away, as at 12, to permit nails to be driven diagonally through the board just above the tongue.

On account of the great leverage the boards to be laid can be pressed firmly against those previously laid, and from the shape of the block 10, which will be changed to suit the different kinds of flooring, the edges of the boards will not be bruised.

Having now explained my improvement, what I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a floor-jack the combination of a vertical bar, a horizontal jaw secured to the lower end of said bar and having its upper edge beveled, a second jaw adjustably secured to said bar above the first, a handle pivoted to the upper jaw, a link pivoted to said handle, and a grooved block secured to said link.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH LE ROY.

In presence of—
L. E. RUTHRUFT,
J. H. CODEY.