Oct. 9, 1923. 1,470,515

R. E. WATTS

FLOOR JACK

Filed Jan. 20, 1923

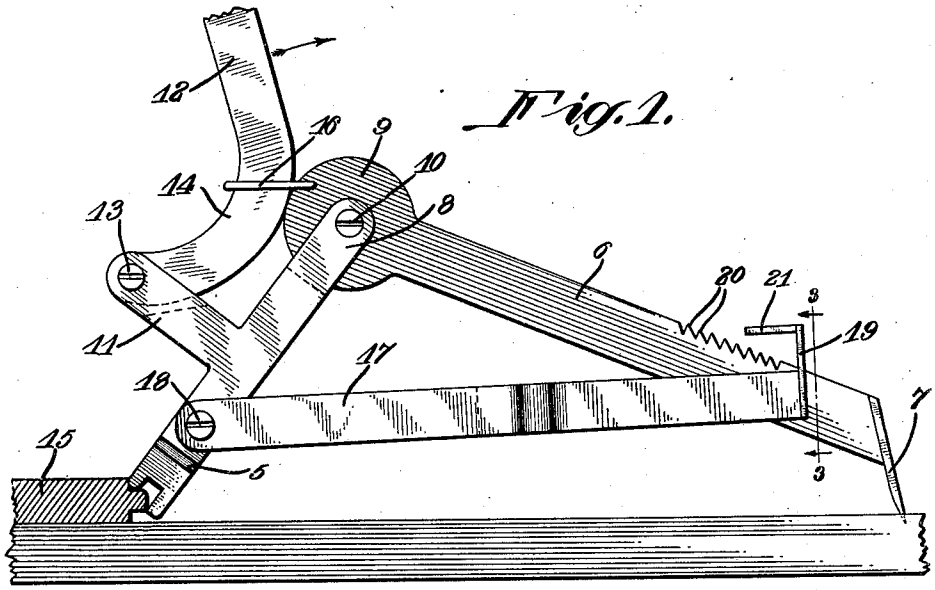


Fig. 1.

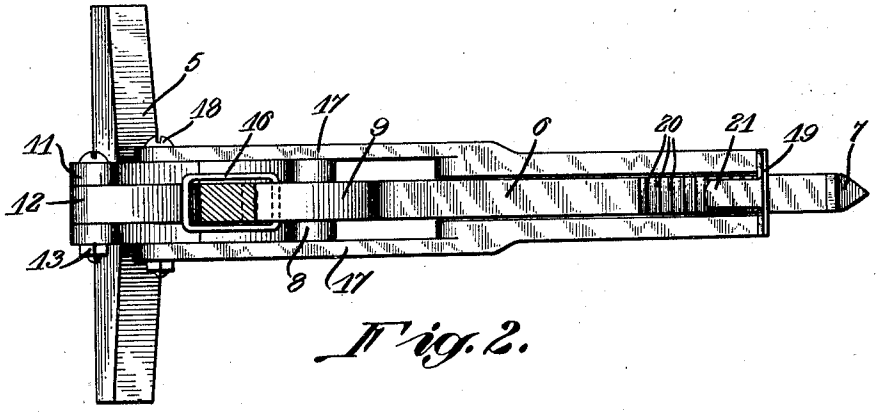


Fig. 2.

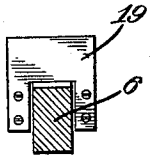


Fig. 3.

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Patented Oct. 9, 1923. 1,470,515

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUFLEY E. WATTS, OF TRENTON, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO GEO. H. HUBBELL, OF TRENTON, MISSOURI.

FLOOR JACK.

Application filed January 20, 1923. Serial No. 613,953.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUFLEY E. WATTS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Trenton, in the county of Grundy and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Floor Jack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to jack construction and more particularly to a jack especially designed for use in laying flooring.

The primary object of the invention is to provide means which may be conveniently operated by the person laying the flooring to force a board to be laid into close engagement with a board which has been secured in position.

Another object of the invention is the provision of means for automatically holding the jack in its positions of adjustment so that the operator may move his hands from the jack to nail the board, held thereby.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a jaw adapted to fit over the tongue of the board being laid, thereby eliminating any possibility of marring the board or distorting the tongue.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, may be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Referring to the drawing:—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view disclosing the jack in position to force a board in position for laying.

Figure 2 is a plan view thereof.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the jack embodies a board engaging jaw 5 which is relatively wide as clearly shown by Figure 2 of the drawings, and an anchoring jaw 6, the anchoring jaw being provided with a piercing end 7 designed to bite into a rafter or beam on which the flooring is being positioned.

The board engaging jaw 5 is formed with spaced arms 8 between which the rounded head 9 of the anchoring jaw 6 is pivotally supported, the pivot pin being indicated at 10.

Forming a part of the body portion of the jaw 5 are spaced arms 11 that extend at right angles with respect to the body portion 5 where they have pivotal connection with the lever 12 as at 13. This lever is formed with a curved portion 14 that normally engages one edge of the head 9 so that when the lever 12 is moved in the direction of the arrow in Figure 1 of the drawing, the jaw 5 will be moved in the opposite direction causing the same to force the board, which in the present showing is indicated at 15, towards the adjacent board which has been already positioned.

In order that the lever 12 will be held against lateral movement, a link member 16 is provided, which link member embraces the lever 12 at the point of engagement with the head 9.

Associated with the members 5 and 6 are the arms 17, which have pivotal connection with the member 5 as at 18, the opposite ends thereof being connected by the plate 19 which straddles the member 6 as clearly shown by Figure 2 of the drawing. The plate 19 is designed to engage between the teeth 20 formed in the upper edge of the member 6 and support the members 5 and 6 against movement with respect to each other, after the lever 12 has been moved to accomplish its purpose.

Thus it will be seen that when the lever 12 has been moved to force a floor board to its proper position for securing reverse movement of the jaw 5 will be prevented by the plate 19 engaging between certain teeth 20, and permit the operator to secure the board, by nailing.

In order that the plate may be readily moved to its inactive position, an extension 21 is provided, which may be gripped by the operator and lifted from the position between the teeth.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. A jack including opposed members pivotally connected at their upper ends, a pair of arms pivotally connected with one of the members, a plate connecting the free ends of the arms, teeth formed on the upper edge of one of the members and adapted to be engaged by the plate to restrict movement

of the members towards each other, and a lever for moving the members in opposite directions.

2. A jack including opposed members, one of said members having a bifurcated extremity, the opposite member having a head positioned between the furcations of the bifurcated end, a lever having a curved portion contacting with the head to move the members away from each other, and means for restricting movement of the members towards each other.

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

RUFLEY E. WATTS.

Witnesses:
GEO. H. HUBBELL,
E. O. WRAZART,
DELBERT AMES PROFFIT.