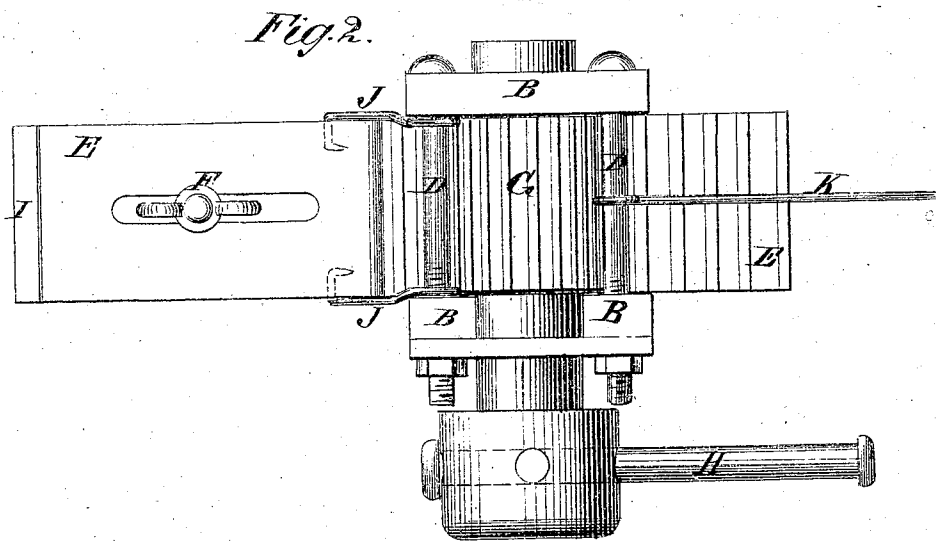
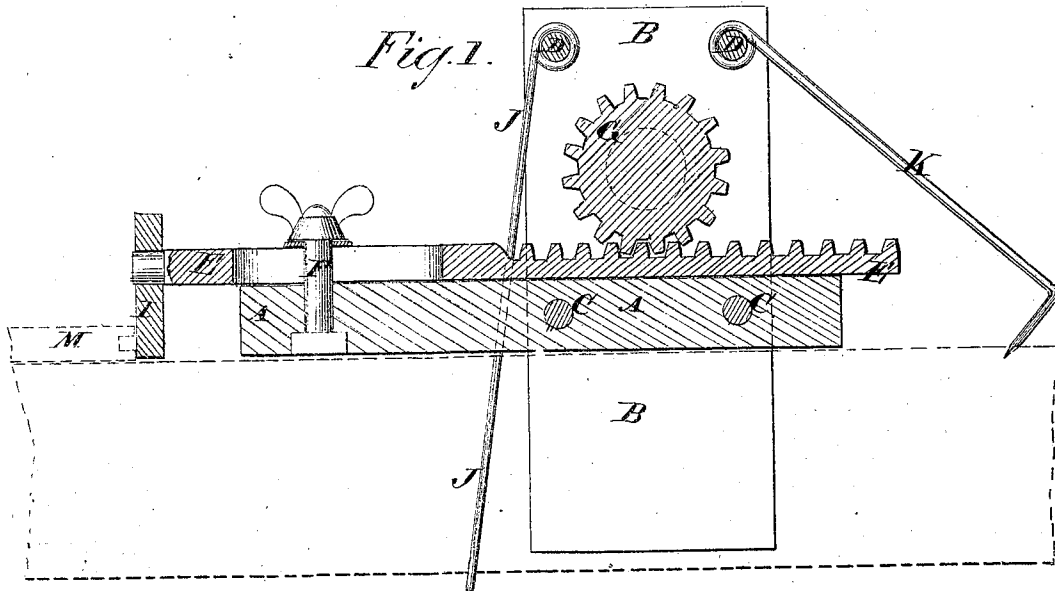


J. J. FOSTER.
Floor-Clamps.

No. 136,428.

Patented March 4, 1873.



Witnesses:
John Becker.
C. Senquist

Inventor:
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PER *[Signature]*
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. FOSTER, OF BELMONT, TEXAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLOOR-CLAMPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **136,428**, dated March 4, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. FOSTER, of Belmont, in the county of Gonzales and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Floor-Clamp, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a detail vertical longitudinal section of my improved flooring-clamp. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same.

The invention consists in improving the construction of flooring-clamps, as hereinafter fully described.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is a bar or plate, to the side edges of the rear part of which are secured two uprights, B, by bolts C, that pass through the said uprights and through the said plate. The upper parts of the uprights B project above the plate A, and are connected by bolts D. The lower parts of the uprights B project below the plate A to straddle the sleepers, joists, or other timbers to which the flooring or ceiling is to be attached. The bolts C D are made longer than the width of the plate A so that the uprights B may be placed wider apart or closer together to adjust them to the width of the sleeper or other timber upon which the clamp is to be placed. Upon the upper side of the plate A is placed a sliding plate, E, which is made longer than the plate A, and is secured to said plate by a hand-screw, F, which passes through a longitudinal slot in the sliding plate E and into or through the plate A. The hand-screw F is especially designed for locking the plate E in place to hold the flooring or ceiling board in place until secured. In the upper side of the rear part of the sliding plate E are formed teeth, into which mesh the teeth of the pinion-wheel G, the journals of which work in

bearings in the upper parts of the uprights B, said journals being made long so that they may not be drawn from their bearings when the uprights B are spread apart. Upon the projecting end of one of the journals of the pinion-wheel G is formed a head, in which are formed holes to receive the lever H for moving the sliding plate E forward and back. To the forward end of the sliding plate E is secured a plate, I, to rest against the board or other timber to be moved, and which may be secured to said sliding plate E by a set-screw, or by a dovetailed projection or block formed upon or attached to said plate I, and which enters a dovetailed notch formed in the said plate E. J J are hooks, which are pivoted to the uprights B, or to the forward bolt D, to hook upon the opposite edge of the sleeper to prevent the device from slipping while being used. The hooks J should be made extendible, so that they may be adjusted in length according to the thickness of the sleepers. K is a hook pivoted to the rear bolt D, and which is designed to be used for holding the device in place when clamping ceiling-boards.

For clamping doors or other light work the bar M is used, having one end secured to the plate I or plate E by a dovetail or set-screw, or by other convenient means.

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

A flooring-clamp, consisting of plate A, standards B B, bolts C D, hooks D K, pinion G, slotted rack-plate E I, and clamp-screw F, arranged as and for the purpose described.

JOHN J. FOSTER.

Witnesses:

D. E. SMITH,
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