(No Model.)

A. McFARLAND.

CARPET STRETCHER.

No. 373,595. Patented Nov. 22, 1887.

Fig. 1.

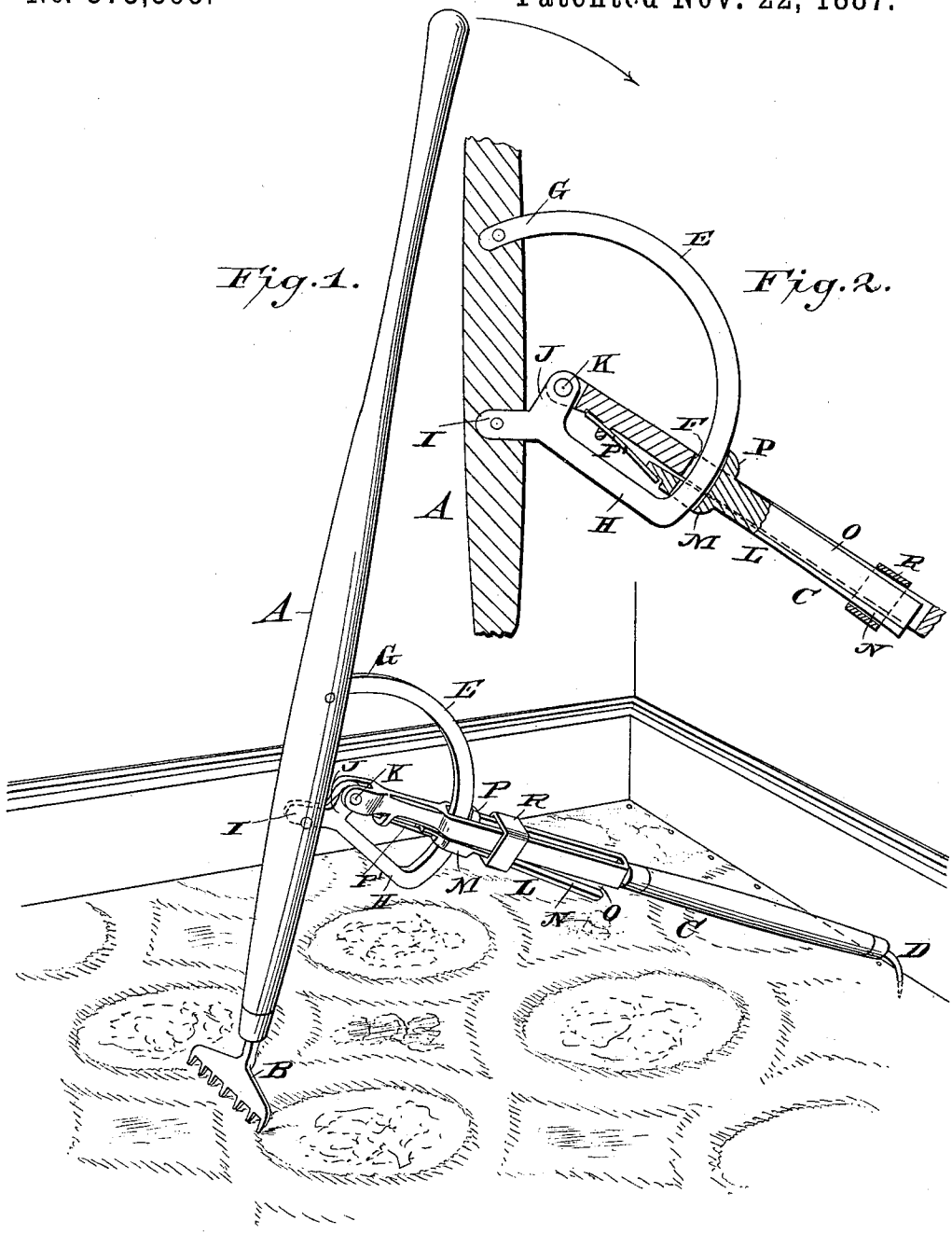


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW McFARLAND, OF THOMASTON, MAINE.

CARPET-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,595, dated November 22, 1887.

Application filed July 29, 1887. Serial No. 245,626. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW McFARLAND, of Thomaston, in the county of Knox and State of Maine, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Carpet-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my improvement is to provide a carpet-stretcher whereby greater power, efficiency, and convenience in use are obtainable than is ordinarily possible.

I will first describe in detail a carpet-stretcher embodying my improvement, and then point out the various features of the improvement in claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a carpet-stretcher embodying my improvement when in use. Fig. 2 is a section of the joint connecting the brace and handle lever of the said stretcher.

A handle-bar, A, having a claw, B, on its lower end, as in a common form of carpet-stretcher, is pivotally connected, as a lever, to the end, here shown forked, of a brace, C, the other end of which has a downward-curved spur, D. A segmental guide-bar, E, rigidly attached to the lever A, rides in a slot, F, in the brace C, thus stiffening the handle-lever A and adapting it to swing in the plane of the brace.

I prefer to apply the brace and guide-bar to the handle-bars of common stretchers, as here shown, by forming the segmental guide-bar E at the upper end with an apertured lug, G, which is pinned in a recess in the handle-bar A, and at the lower end with a nearly radial stay-bar, H, having a lug, I, also pinned in a recess in the bar A, and another lug, J, extending to the center of the segmental guide-bar E to receive the pivot K of the brace C. A clamp, L, on the brace C, is employed to lock the guide-bar E in the slot F in the brace for holding the handle-lever in any desired position with respect to the brace.

The clamp L has a slotted eye, M, which is received loosely on the guide-bar at the under side of the brace C, a shank, N, projecting from the eye M along the under side of the brace, a guide-rib, O, on the shank fitted to slide crosswise in a longitudinal prolongation of the slot F in the brace, and a shoe, P, formed on the inner end of the rib O, and adapted to bear upon the outer edge of the guide-bar E at a point just above the brace.

A stiff spring, P', attached to the under side of the brace C, bears upon a lug projecting from the inner end of the clamp, and tends to hold the shoe P off the guide-bar C and the shank N slightly away from the brace, so that normally the guide-bar E is allowed free play in the brace C.

A slip-ring, R, surrounds the brace and the shank N of the clamp, so that when slid outward it draws the shank N against the brace, thereby pressing the shoe P tightly against the guide-bar E, the clamp swinging on its eye-connection with the brace. In like manner the clamp is loosened by sliding the slip-ring R inward on the brace and shank N.

In use the spur D on the brace C is inserted in the floor at that edge of the carpet which has been tacked down, as shown, and the handle-lever swung, as indicated by the arrow, so as to, through its claw B, stretch that portion of the carpet between the spur D and claw B. Where the width of the carpet is, as will ordinarily be the case, too great to be spanned by the handle-lever and brace the operation may be repeated, the carpet being prevented from contracting after each stroke by standing on it near the claw, and the spur D inserted each time at the point where the claw had previously been. In lieu of this repetition a board may be extended from the surbase at which the carpet is tacked down to within spanning distance of the opposite wall, and the extreme end of the board used for reception of the spur; or the brace may be made in any well-known manner, extensible and adjustable lengthwise, the whole width of the carpet being thereby in either case capable of being stretched at a single stroke.

After stretching, the stretcher may be left standing to hold the carpet temporarily in place, the clamp being used to lock the handle-lever in position, as described.

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

1. The combination of a lever, A, a brace or bar, C, having a longitudinal slot, F, a guide-bar, E, mounted to ride in the slot F, a spring-actuated clamp, L, having a shank, N, an eye, M, embracing the guide-bar, and a shoe, P, adapted to bear upon the guide-bar, and a slip-ring, R, surrounding the brace and the shank N, substantially as described.

2. A segmental guide-bar, E, having apertured lugs G I, and a stay-bar, H, to adapt it for attachment to the handle-bar of a carpet-stretcher, and a lug, J, to receive the pivot of a brace at the center of the segment on which the guide-bar E is formed, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a lever, A, a slotted brace, C, a guide-bar, E, fixed to the lever A, a swing-clamp, L, having a shoe, P, adapted to bear upon the guide-bar E, and a slip-ring, R, surrounding the swing-clamp L and brace C, substantially as shown and described.

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Witnesses:
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