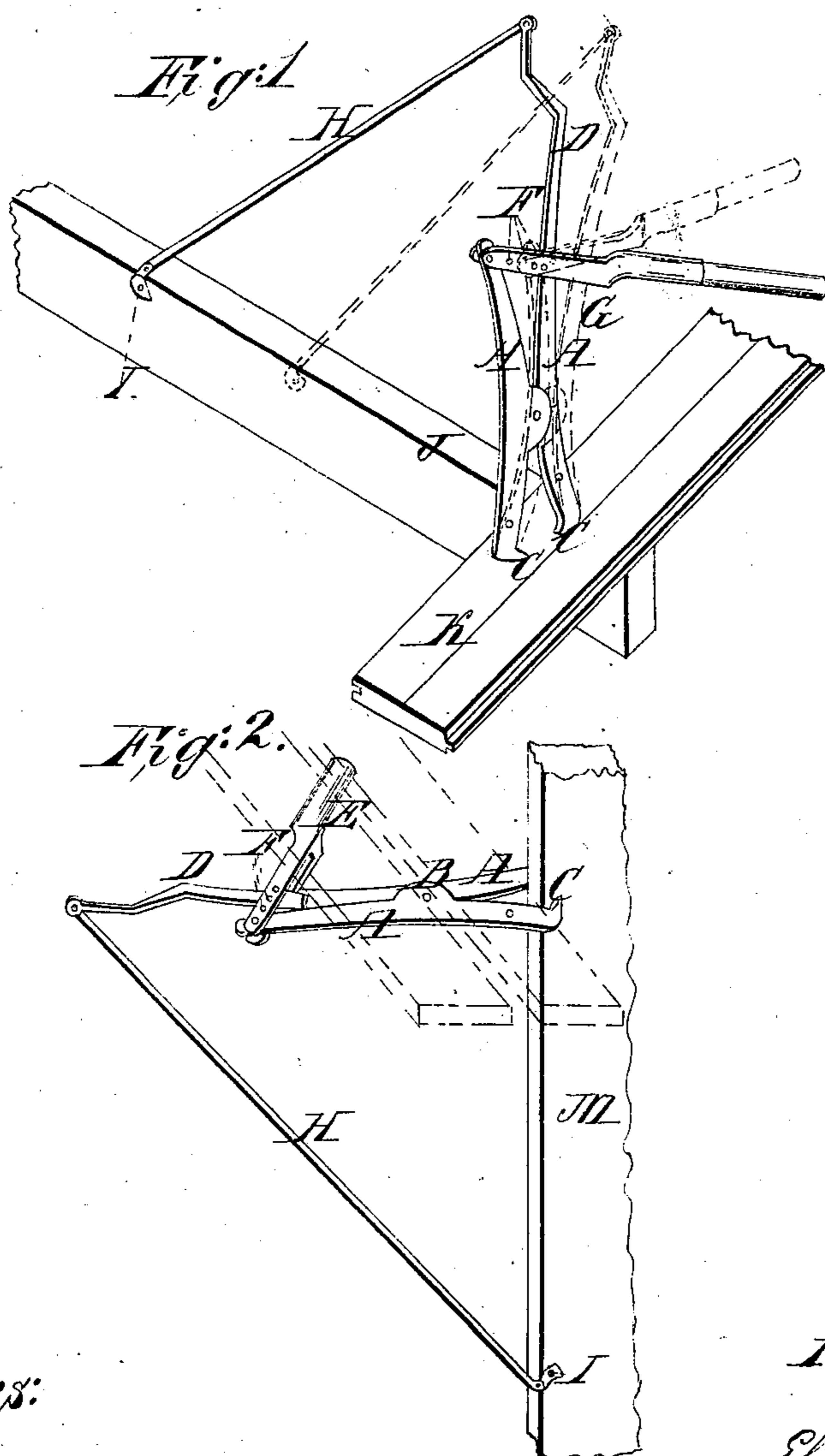


E. K. Purdy,
Floor Clamp.
N^o 82,985. Patented Oct. 13, 1868.



Witnesses:

H. C. Ryall
H. P. Clark

Inventor:

E. K. Purdy

United States Patent Office.

ELIJAH K. PURDY, OF SCHOOLCRAFT, MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 82,985, dated October 13, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLAMPS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIJAH K. PURDY, of Schoolcraft, in the county of Kalamazoo, and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clamps; and I do declare that the following is a true and accurate description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, and being a part of this specification, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are perspective views of my clamp in different positions.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing an apparatus to be used in laying floors, for pressing the floor-boards together, holding each board firmly in its proper position, until it is securely nailed therein; likewise for securing matched ceiling or siding in a similar manner; and is also equally applicable for use as a movable bracket, upon two or more of which boards may be laid, to form a scaffold, thereby saving what would otherwise be a waste of lumber and nails.

In order that others skilled in the art may make and use my invention, I will now proceed to describe the same, and name its various parts.

A are clamps, of wood or metal, connected or hinged together, as at B, the shorter arms terminating in pointed prongs C. One of the clamps A is prolonged on its longer arm, to form the curved lever D. At the extremity of the longer arm of the other clamp is hinged the slotted lever E, in the slot of which freely vibrates the curved lever D. F are holes through the slotted lever E, through one pair of which is passed a pin, so that when it is desired to force the prongs C into a joist or stud, (the clamps being open,) by bearing down on the lever E, the pin pressing against the convex side of the curved lever D, forces the upper ends of the clamps apart, and consequently the prongs C towards each other, and to enter the joist or stud

which they embrace. G is a stop on the longer clamp, to prevent the slotted lever E from being forced too far down, and thus open the prongs and disengage them from the wood. H is a brace attached to the outer end of the curved lever D, and which serves as a dog, securing the apparatus at any desired angle, its lower end being bent in the form shown in the accompanying drawings, that portion which rests upon and engages with the top of the joist being provided with an acute-angular and serrated edge, for better retaining its hold thereon, and is continued around one side of the timber, as a strap, which, when used as a scaffold-bracket, is secured to the stud by a nail or spike through the hole I, provided for that purpose.

It will readily be seen that when the operator has secured the prongs C in the joist J, under and a little in advance of the floor-board K, by pushing forward the curved lever D, the floor-board K is forced into close proximity with the next preceding one. At the same time, the sharp serrated edge of the brace H, engaging with the top of the joist J, holds the whole firmly until the board is securely nailed to its place.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The floor-clamp, consisting of the clamps A, hinged together at B, and provided with prongs C, the curved lever D and slotted lever E, with holes F, all constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. In combination with the above, the brace H, provided at its lower end with a sharp serrated edge and hole, I, substantially as and for the purpose described.

ELIJAH K. PURDY.

Witnesses:

H. F. EBERTS,
G. C. HYDE.