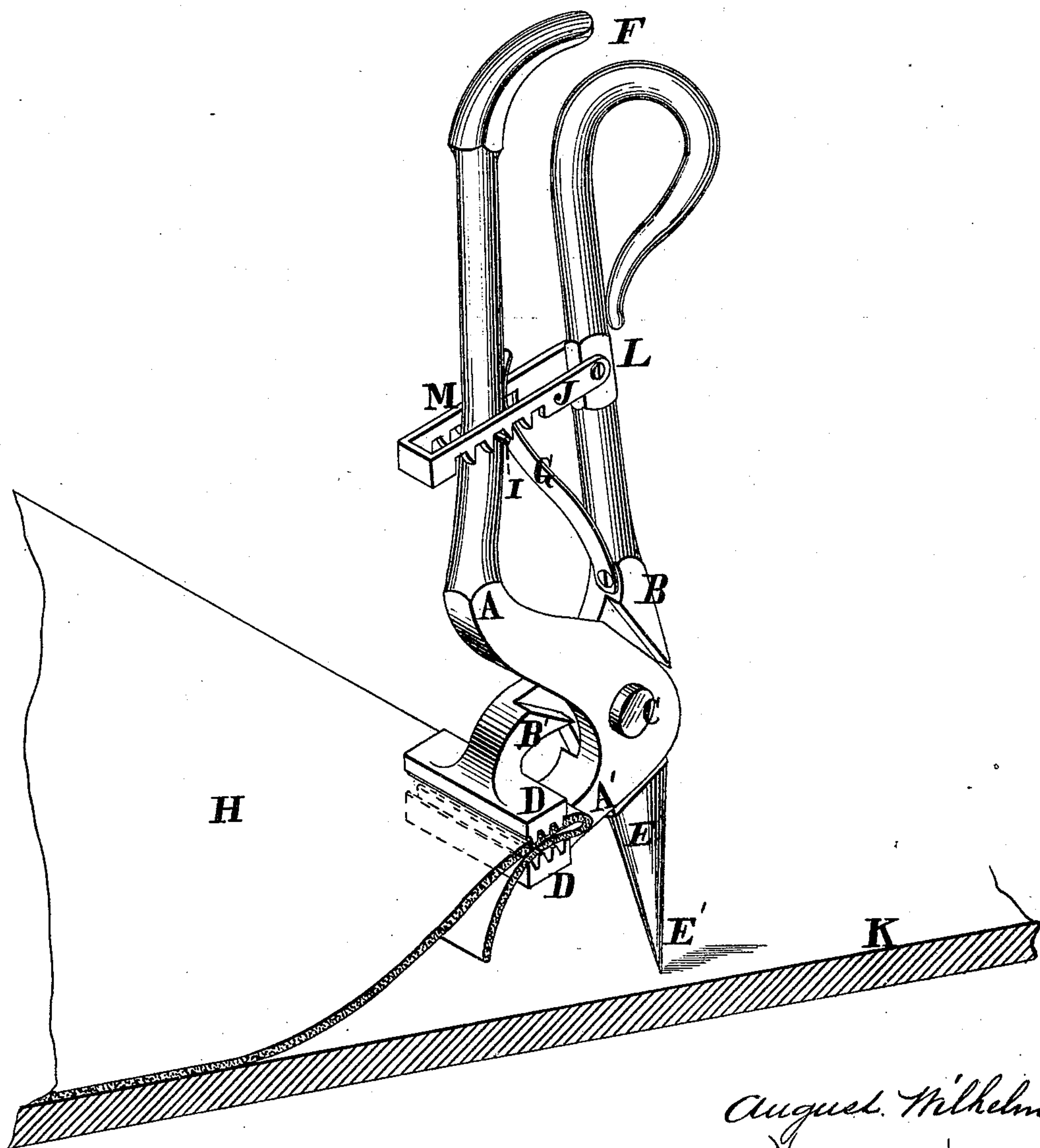


A. WILHELM.

CARPET-STRETCHING MACHINE.

No. 179,439.

Patented July 4, 1876.



Attest

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by
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST WILHELM, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN CARPET-STRETCHING MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **179,439**, dated July 4, 1876; application filed April 20, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST WILHELM, of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carpet-Stretching Machines, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to a carpet-stretcher to stretch carpets on floors preliminary to tacking them down; and consists in a pair of forceps, from the toothed jaws of which a pointed part extends downward a convenient distance to allow of its being forced into the floor for the purpose of securing a leverage for the forceps. It consists, further, in a ratchet attachment for retaining the gripe the toothed jaws have upon the carpet while in the act of stretching the same upon the floor, and a spring for forcing them apart when the carpet is to be released.

The accompanying drawing is a perspective view of a carpet-stretcher of my invention, representing the device attached to a carpet preliminary to stretching it.

A and B are levers, which are pivoted at C. At the end of each of the arms A' B' of the levers A B is a toothed head or jaw, D. The lever B has a downward projection, E, which tapers to a point, E'. This point, when slightly forced into the floor, constitutes the fulcrum for a common lever, E' D F. G is a spring, which separates the jaws D D whenever the pin I is relieved from the teeth of the ratchet-frame J. This frame is pivoted to the lever B at L, and straddles the lever A at M. The teeth in the ratchet-frame are arranged to accommodate the varying thicknesses of carpet H. The ends of the levers A and B at F constitute the handles of the carpet-stretcher.

The mode of operation may be briefly described as follows: The operator places the carpet H between the jaws D D, and, taking hold of the handles at F, draws them together, thereby closing the jaws D D upon the carpet, when the ratchet-frame J engages with the pin I and retains the gripe the jaws have upon the carpet. The point E' of the forceps is then forced into the floor K. The forceps then act as a common lever, E' D F, having its fulcrum at E', and by moving the part F in the direction the carpet is to be stretched the object will be attained, and a few "stretching-tacks" being placed in the carpet at the nearest convenient point to the carpet-stretcher, the ratchet-frame is removed from the pin I, and the spring G forces the jaws D D apart, and the carpet is ready to be permanently tacked down.

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

1. A carpet-stretcher consisting of the levers A B, pivoted upon a common center, and having the arms A' B' and jaws D D, the lever B being also formed with the pointed projection E, substantially as described.

2. The pivoted ratchet-frame J, pin I, and spring G, in combination with a carpet-stretcher, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of April, 1876.

AUGUST WILHELM.

Witnesses:

HENRY MILLWARD,
JNO. S. MURPHY.