

(No Model.)

F. M. DRAPER.  
Carpet Stretcher.

No. 236,421.

Patented Jan. 11, 1881.

Fig. 1.

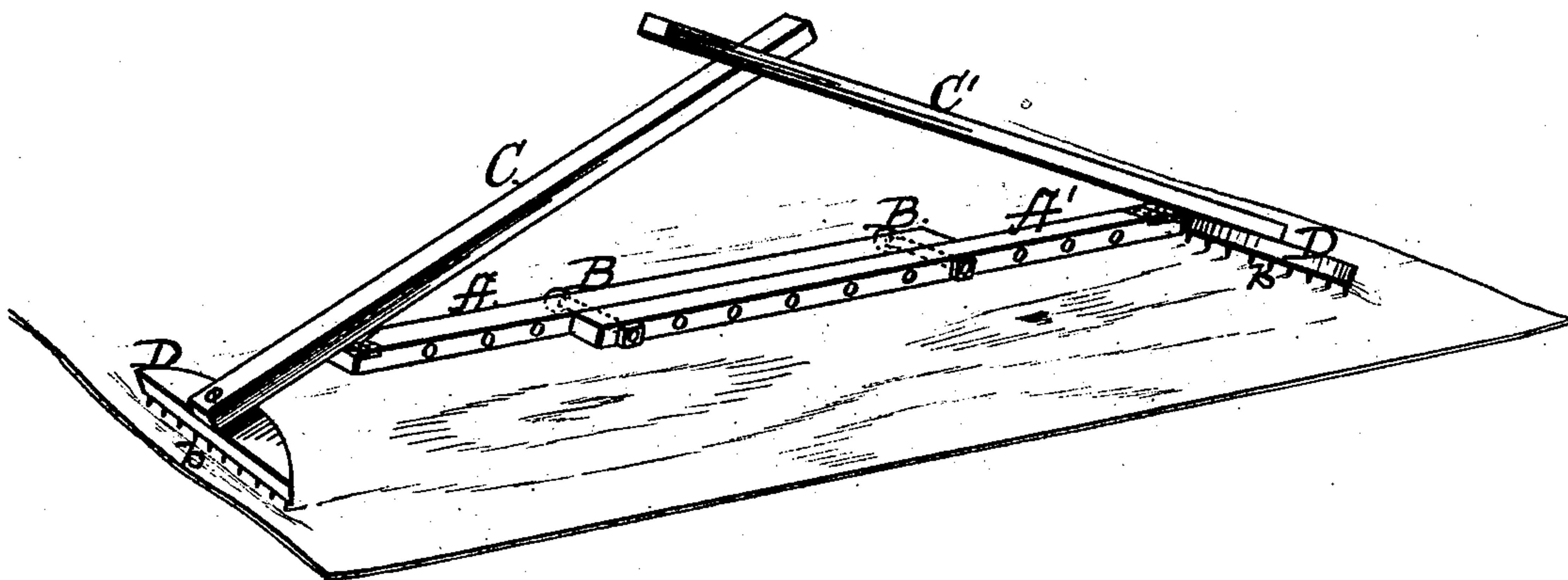


Fig. 2.

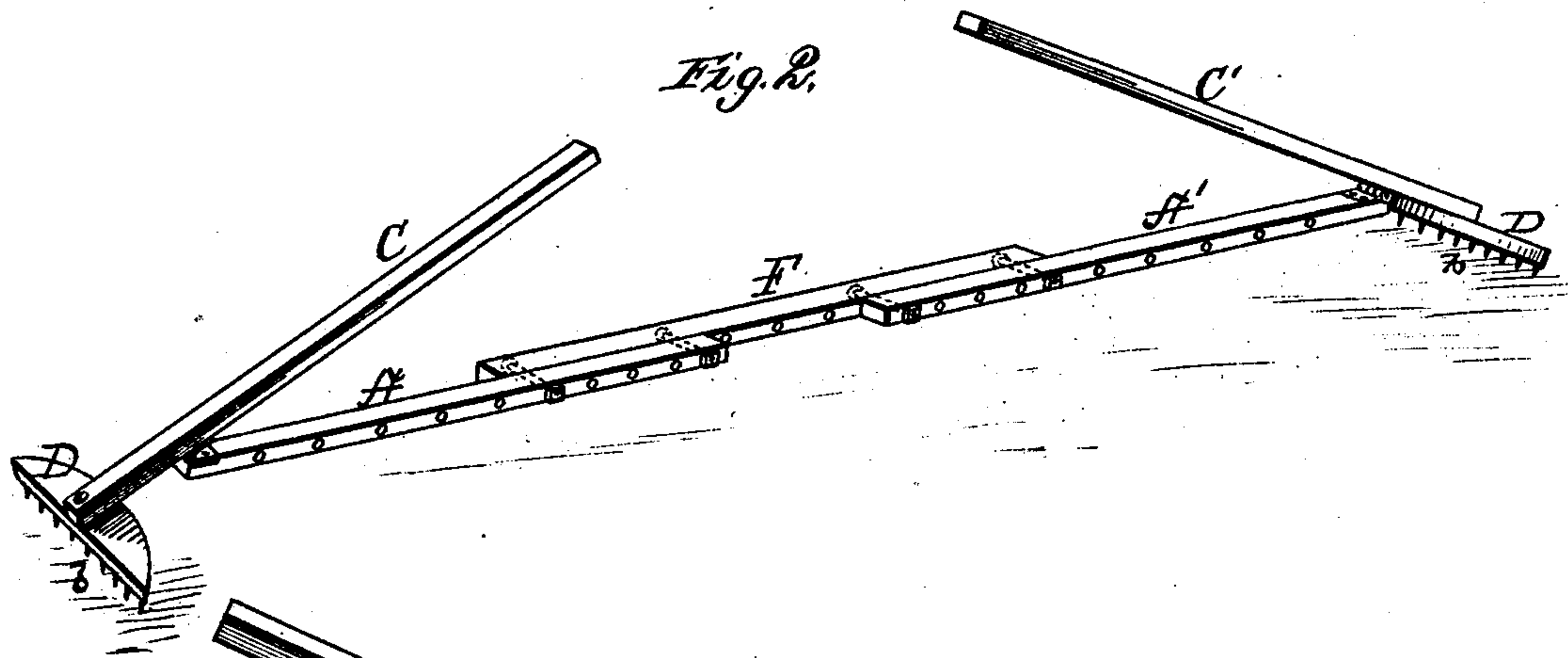


Fig. 3.

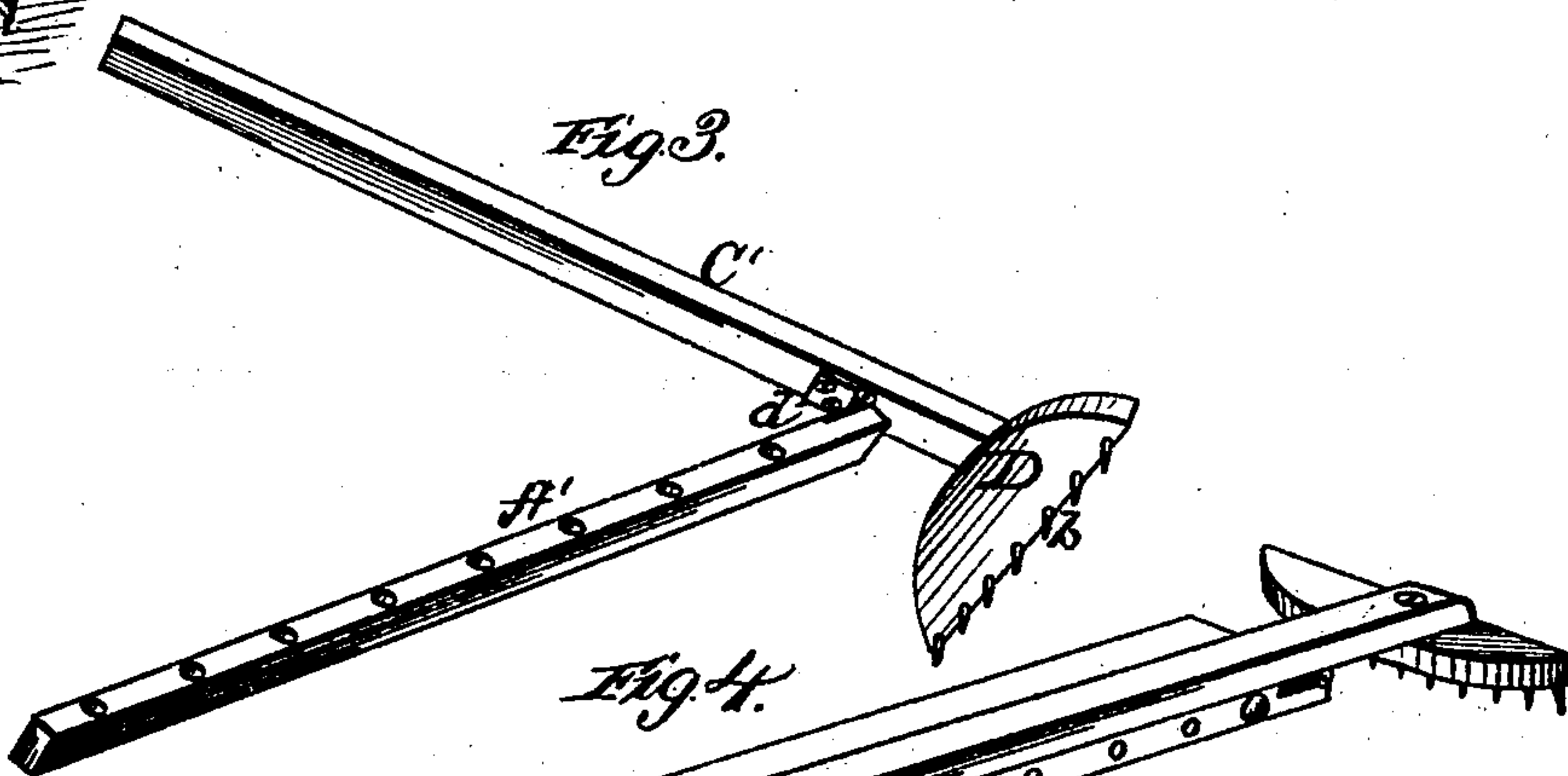


Fig. 4.

Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS M. DRAPER, OF PLATTEVILLE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO ANDREW J. SMITH, OF SAME PLACE.

## CARPET-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 236,421, dated January 11, 1881.

Application filed November 6, 1880. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCIS M. DRAPER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Platteville, in the county of Grant and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carpet-Stretchers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain improvements in that class of carpet-stretchers composed of bars connected together and provided with toothed cross-heads; and the object of the improvement is to construct and provide for the trade a durable, simple, and cheap stretcher that can be easily operated and effective in its work.

My improvement consists of a carpet-stretcher composed, essentially, of four pieces—two horizontal extensible base-pieces and two hinged levers—formed at their outer ends with teeth or points arranged at right angles thereto.

My improvement also consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the carpet-stretcher complete. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the same with an extra extension-bar attached. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the lever and cross-head hinged to one of the horizontal bars. Fig. 4 is a view of the stretcher in its shortest form, adapted to be used in hallways and storage.

In the annexed drawings, forming a part of this specification, the letters A A' represent the horizontal or base bars, provided with a series of perforations or apertures for adjustment and to receive the fastening-bolts B B.

The letters C C' represent levers, which are made of the same width as and a little longer than the base-bars. The outer ends of these

levers are provided or formed with cross-heads or head-blocks D D, arranged at right angles thereto. The straight edges—outer ends—of these cross-heads, which may be slightly beveled or rounded, are provided with series of teeth or points b, arranged at a slight angle to the horizontal plane of the cross-heads, so that when the levers are in their inclined positions the teeth will center readily into the carpet and secure a firm hold for the stretch.

The outer ends of the adjustable horizontal bars are provided with hinges d. One leaf of each is secured near the outer or cross-head end of the levers, substantially as shown in the drawings, whereby the levers may assume the inclined position, substantially as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, so that the required leverage for stretching the carpet is attained.

In case a long carpet for a long room is to be put down, the perforated bar F is adjusted and fastened to the side perforated bars, as seen in Fig. 2, to secure the desired extension.

Operation: The stretcher is adjusted in length so as to reach lengthwise or crosswise of the room, as the process of laying the carpet may require. The ends of the levers are then elevated, causing the teeth or points of the cross-heads to enter the carpet. Power is then applied to the upper ends of the levers, which causes the cross-heads to be moved from the base-bars in opposite directions until the levers are pressed fully down and in the same horizontal plane with the base-bars, thus securing the proper stretch, which may have been predetermined, to the carpet from its center in opposite directions simultaneously. The weight of the levers extending beyond the hinge-connections will be sufficient to maintain the horizontal position and keep them down upon the base-bars, substantially in the manner as seen in Fig. 4 of the drawings.

To prevent any possible flying up of the levers while the carpet is in the stretched condition and being tacked to the floor, a spring-clamp having its free ends to enter the perfo-



rations in the base-bars and the body passed over the levers may be employed to keep them in the locked position.

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

1. An adjustable carpet-stretcher composed, essentially, of four parts—to wit, the horizontal extensible base-pieces A A' and the levers C C', formed at their outer ends with teeth or points and hinged to the base-pieces, substantially as described.

2. The improved carpet-stretcher hereinbefore described, consisting of the base-bars A A', provided with a series of perforations, the levers C C', cross-heads D D, provided with the teeth *b*, and the fastening-bolts.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANCIS M. DRAPER.

Witnesses:

THOMAS JENKINS,  
JOHN D. PLAPP.