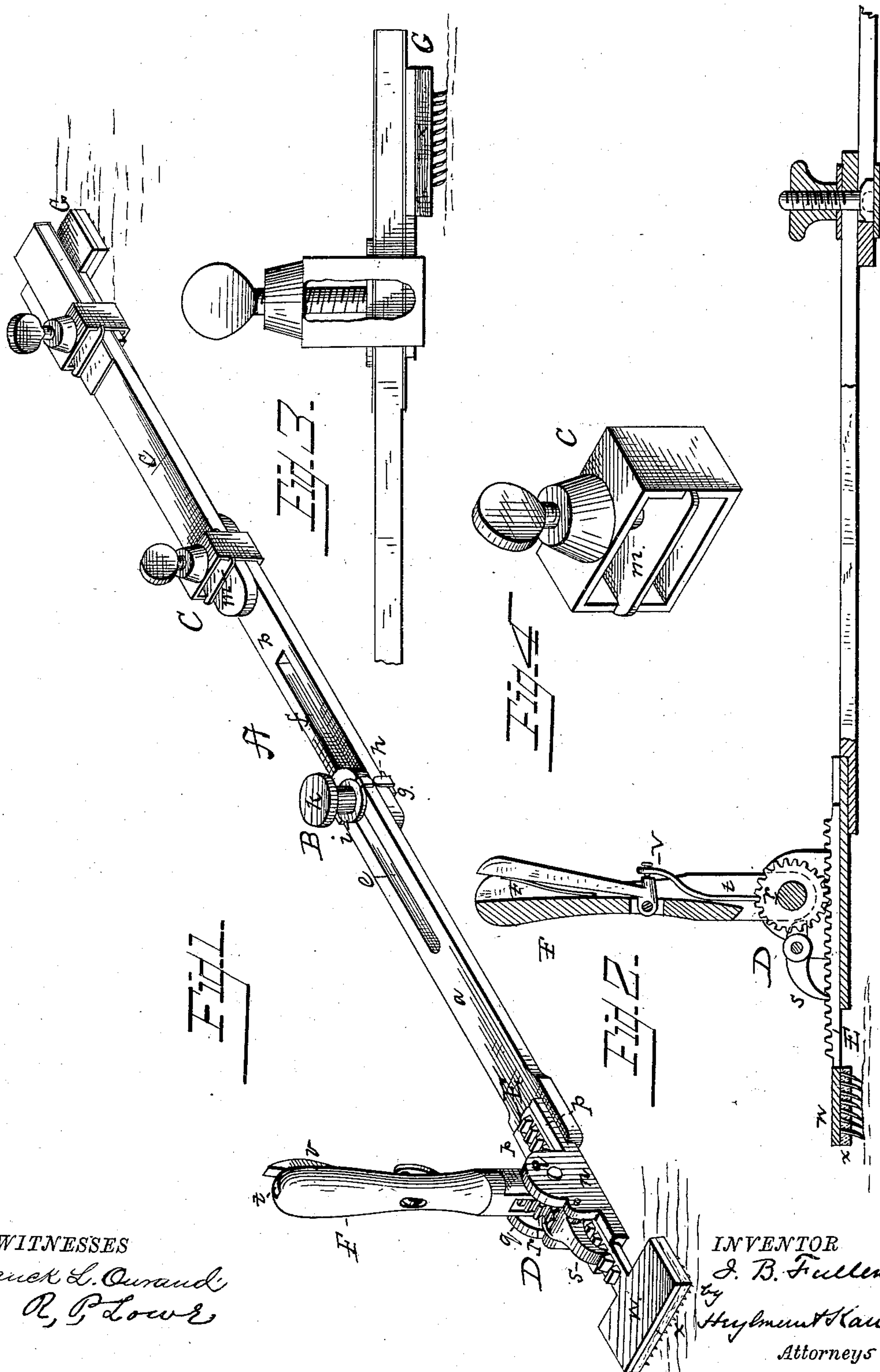


(No Model.)

J. B. FULLER.  
CARPET STRETCHER.

No. 264,144.

Patented Sept. 12, 1882.



WITNESSES  
Frank L. Ourand  
R. P. Lowe

INVENTOR  
J. B. Fuller,  
by  
Hugmunt Kane,  
Attorneys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JEROME B. FULLER, OF NAUGATUCK, CONNECTICUT.

## CARPET-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,144, dated September 12, 1882.

Application filed July 19, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JEROME B. FULLER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Naugatuck, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, 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.

This invention has relation to certain improvements in carpet-stretchers; and its object is to construct an implement of the kind named which can be adapted to and used in laying and stretching carpets of different measurement and to floors of different dimensions.

My improvements consist in two or more slotted bars, capable of adjustment in different directions, secured by clamping means, in combination with a flexible or elastic end piece adjusted and secured to one end of the stretcher, for the purpose hereinafter set forth.

My improvement further consists in the novel organization and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter set forth and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing all the parts coupled together. Fig. 2 is a side view of one of the sections, showing the adjusting means partially in section. Fig. 3 is a view of the holding-bar and the clamping device, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the clamping device.

The letter A represents the bars of the stretcher, consisting of two or more sections, in this example the three sections *a*, *b*, and *c*. The bar A is formed with the central longitudinal slot, *e*, starting near the end and extending toward the other about one-half the length of the bar. The bars *a* and *b* are formed with corresponding central longitudinal slots, *f*, and the end bar, *c*, is a solid strip of wood, made to register in width with the slotted bar, to which it is clamped.

The letter B represents the clamping devices adapted to the slotted bars, and consisting of the head *g*, with the struck-up side ears, *h*, and the central screw-bolt, with the base widened and fitted to the dimensions of the slot in which it is placed. The cap or washer *i*, with side

ears, fits over the bolt and bar, and the thumb-screw nut *k* secures the devices and clamps the bars together at any desired point.

The letter C represents the clamping devices for securing the solid bar to the rest of the implement. It consists of a frame with central screw-eye in the upper plate provided with a set-screw, and the intermediate adjustable plate, *m*, intended to rest between the lapped ends of the bars. A similar clamping device is used to secure the flexible or elastic material over the end of the implement, and also to secure the cord thereto when it is desirable to stretch the carpet in both directions.

The letter D represents the actuating device for stretching the carpet. It consists essentially of the frame *n*, let in and secured to the end of the sliding bar *a*, and formed with the side walls, *p*, and extensions *q*, with perforations to receive the journals of the gear-wheel *r* and pawl *s*.

The letter E represents the rack-bar and card end, the bar of which slides in the space formed between the walls of the frame, and is arranged therein, so that the teeth of the gear-wheel engage with the teeth of the bar.

The letter F represents the actuating-lever, formed with downward-extending arms journaled to the axle of the gear-wheel, and provided with a groove, *t*, wherein is arranged spring-pawl *v*, impinging the gear-wheel and serving to turn the same and extend or retreat the rack-bar. The pawl *s* is journaled in the walls of the frame, and drops by gravity in the teeth of the rack-bar, and prevents it from running back when the spring-pawl is disengaged from the gear-wheel. On the end of the rack-bar is formed the card-piece *w*, the plate forming an integral part of the rack-bar, and having securely fixed to the under side thereof by suitable fastening means a card piece or pieces, *x*, made with leather back or body and filled with metallic card-teeth.

The letter G represents a removable card, constructed similar to the card on the rack-bar, and adapted to be arranged and adjusted on the end of the implement when it is desired to stretch in both directions, or whenever the circumstances of the work warrant. This card is inserted in the clamp at the end of the device and secured therein by the set-screws.

About the free end of the implement is ad-



justed a piece of thick cloth or felting or other elastic material, and secured under the clamp. This is intended to be used with the end against the mop-boards, and thus save them from injury or displacement while using the implement.

The implement is put to practical use by adjusting the sliding bars to suit the demand, and then clamping them securely together. Then by putting the end or card, as the case may be, in position, and card on the rack-bar at the point to be operated on, and turning the lever, the carpet can be stretched to suit or as may be required.

It will be observed that the implement can be folded by loosening the clamp and doubling the sections against each other; also, that it can be made of two or more sections, and that one or more sections can be dispensed with without destroying the utility of the device.

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

1. In a carpet-stretcher, the combination,

with slotted bars capable of adjustment in opposite directions and secured by clamping means, of a flexible or elastic end piece adjusted and secured to one end of the stretcher, substantially as described.

2. In a carpet-stretcher, the combination, with slotted bars capable of adjustment in opposite directions, of clamping means, a projecting flexible or elastic end piece, and a card secured to the end of a section of the stretcher, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a carpet-stretcher, the hand-lever having a groove extending its length, with spring-pawl operating therein, in combination with the gear-wheel *r*, gravity-pawl *s*, and rack-bar and card, substantially as described.

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

JEROME B. FULLER.

Witnesses:

A. E. MAY,  
J. M. SWEENEY.