

(No Model.)

A. D. SHATTUCK.

STRETCHER FRAME.

No. 272,162.

Patented Feb. 13, 1883.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

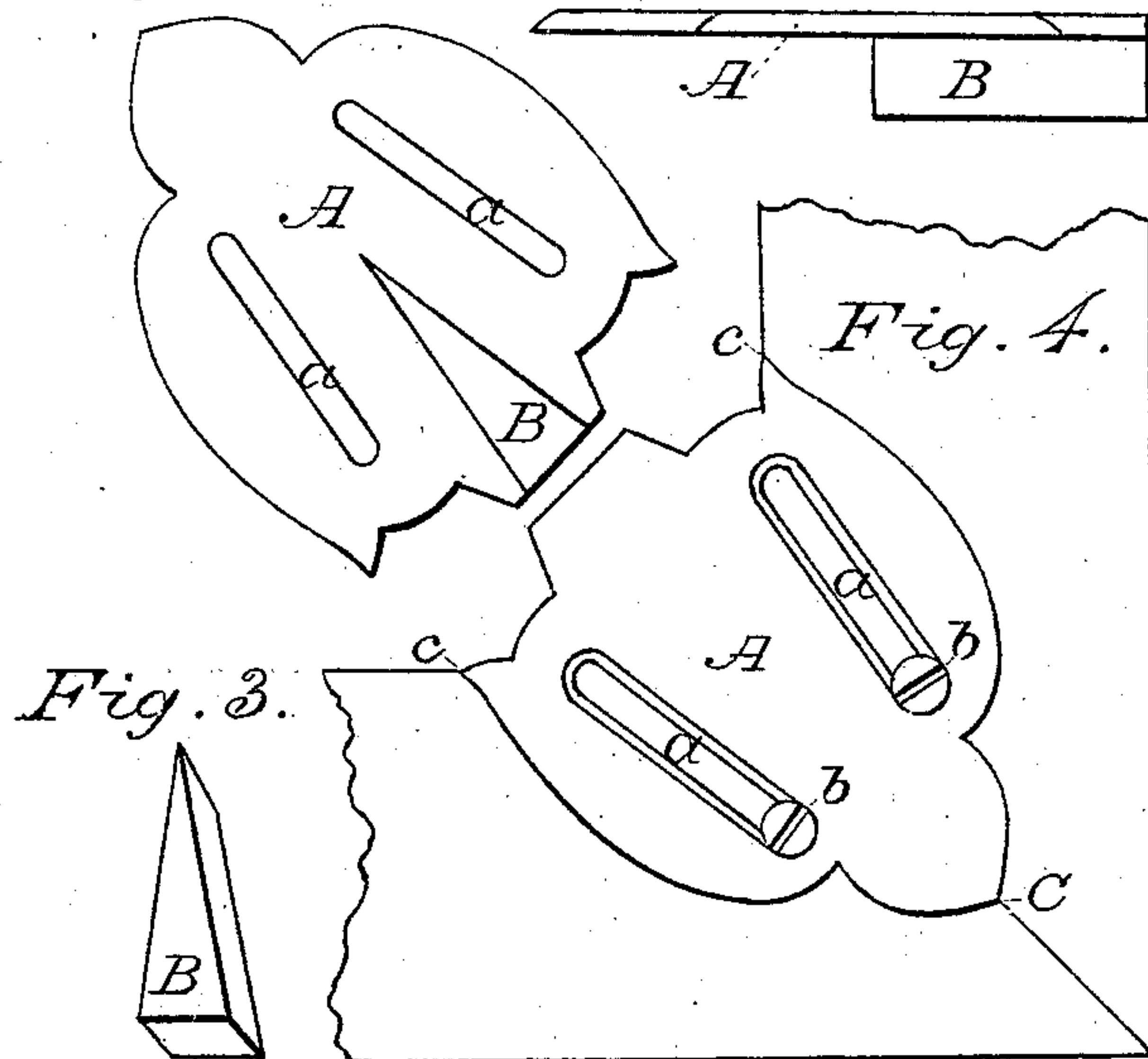
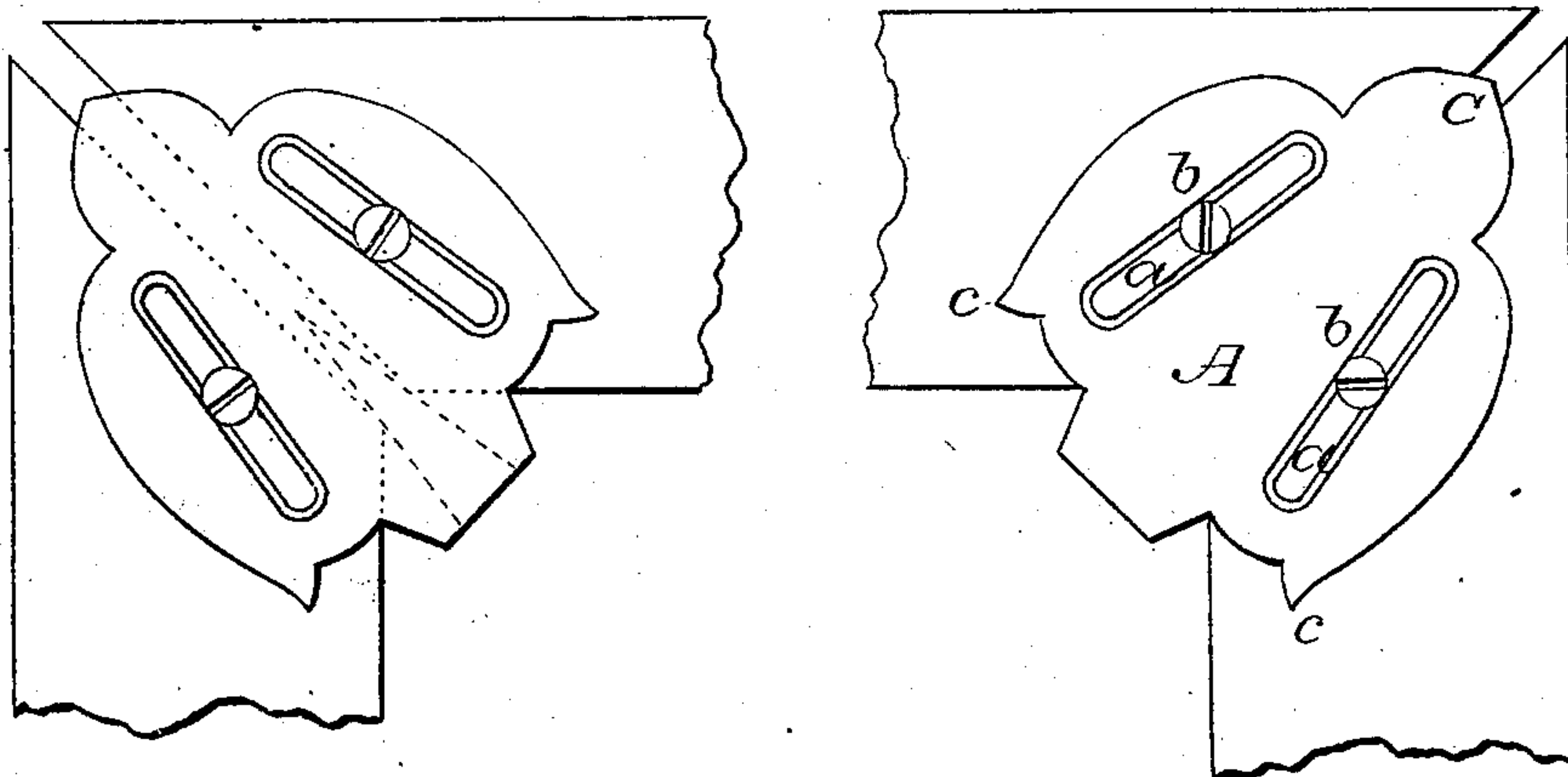


Fig. 6.

Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AARON D. SHATTUCK, OF GRANBY, CONNECTICUT.

STRETCHER-FRAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 272,162, dated February 13, 1883.

Application filed October 2, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AARON D. SHATTUCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Granby, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements pertaining to Stretcher-Frames, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of a metallic plate and wedge combined, forming a stretcher-key, to be applied to the miter-joints of frames used by artists and others for the purpose of stretching canvas and other like material.

The object of my invention is to furnish a secure and substantial fastener for miter-joints, which, united with a wedge driven forward into said joints, shall stretch the canvas or like material when fastened to the stretcher-frame, and at the same time hold the frame together. I attain these objects by the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the under side of the plate and wedge united. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same; Fig. 3, a perspective view of the wedge; Fig. 4, the instrument as it appears when first adjusted to the miter-joint, and Figs. 5 and 6 the same device in operation.

The common method of making stretchers heretofore has been with complicated joints, requiring much time and skill in their production, and keyed with wooden wedges which were liable to shrink and fall out of place. Other contrivances are in use having springs set within the angles of the frame, which are apt to fail from excess of strain or otherwise, and require special machinery for their adjustment.

My invention is simple and durable, and, being practically in one piece, cannot get out of place, and is easily adjusted by any one who can put together a common miter-joint.

Referring to the drawings, where similar letters indicate similar parts, Figs. 1, 4, 5, and 6 show two open grooves or slots, *a a*, in the

plate A, which are parallel to the sides of the wedge B, as seen in the under side of the plate A, Fig. 1.

The wedge may be of any required thickness; but the angle of the slots in the plate must coincide with the angle formed by the sides of the wedge.

The wooden frame being joined with small brads at the outer angles, to facilitate adjustment, Fig. 4 will display the method of adjusting the stretcher-key to the miter-joint. *o o o* are guiding-points of contact. The instrument is fastened to the stretcher-frame by the screws *b b* through the slots *a a*, the wedge having its point at the inner angle of the frame.

Figs. 5 and 6 show the stretcher-key in operation. In this instance the key has been driven forward, so that the wedge has entered half its length into the miter-joint and the screw-heads reciprocally have gained a position half-way along the slots *a a*. Should the key be driven forward till the screws have traversed the whole length of the slots, the wedge will have gained its full power, having been driven its whole length into the miter-joint. It will rarely happen in practice that the whole force of the wedge will be needed, as it can be made sufficiently wide to allow a surplus of power.

This device, being of metal, may be cast or forged whole; or the wedge and plate can be produced separately and riveted together. It may be made also of any required size or pattern for special adaptation.

I claim as my invention—

A canvas stretcher-key composed of the metallic plate A, provided with the converging slots *a a*, and the wedge B, integral therewith, substantially as described.

AARON D. SHATTUCK.

Witnesses:

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