(No Model.)

W. H. DREW.

CARPET STRETCHER.

No. 277,015. Patented May 8, 1883.

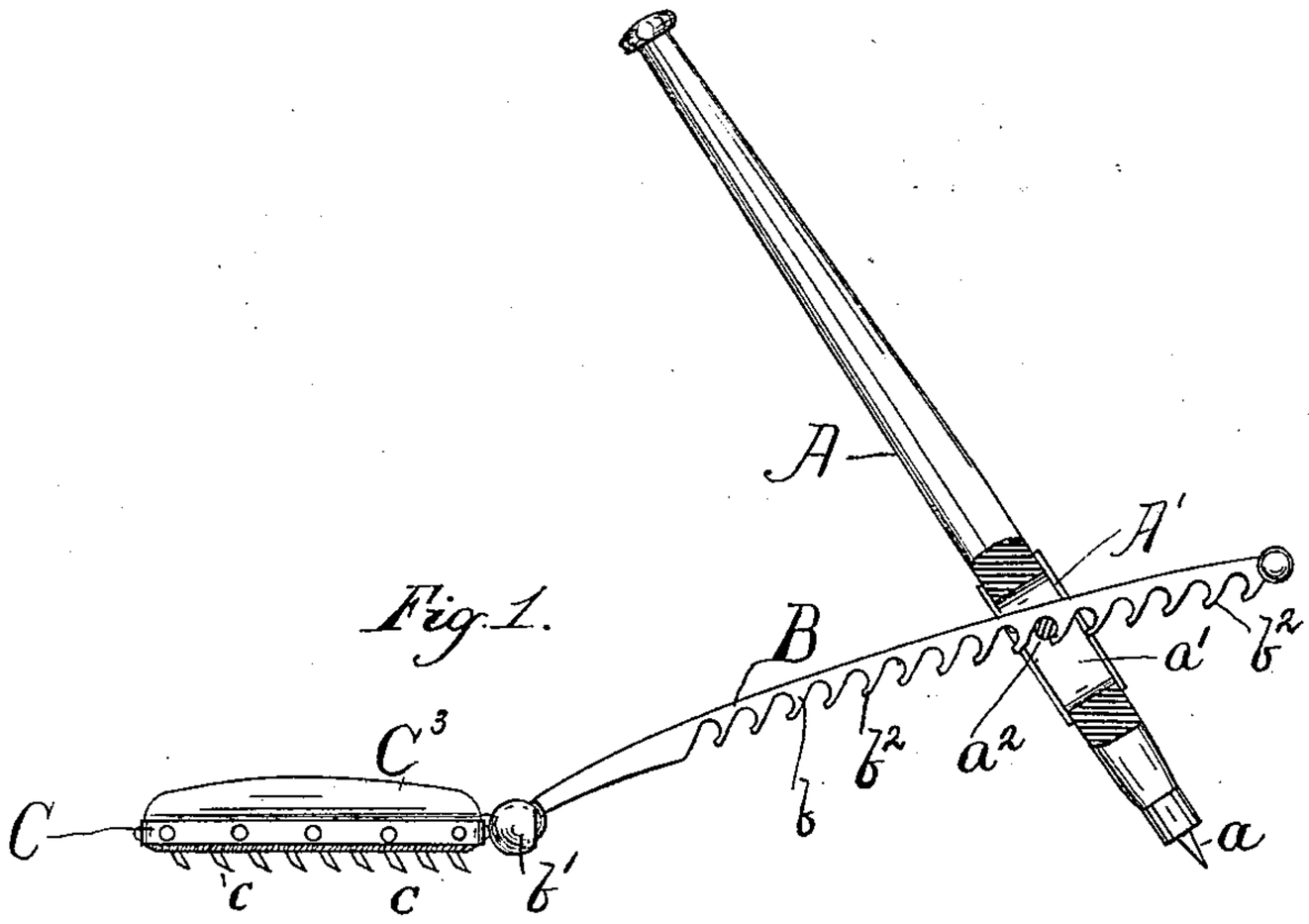

Fig. 1.

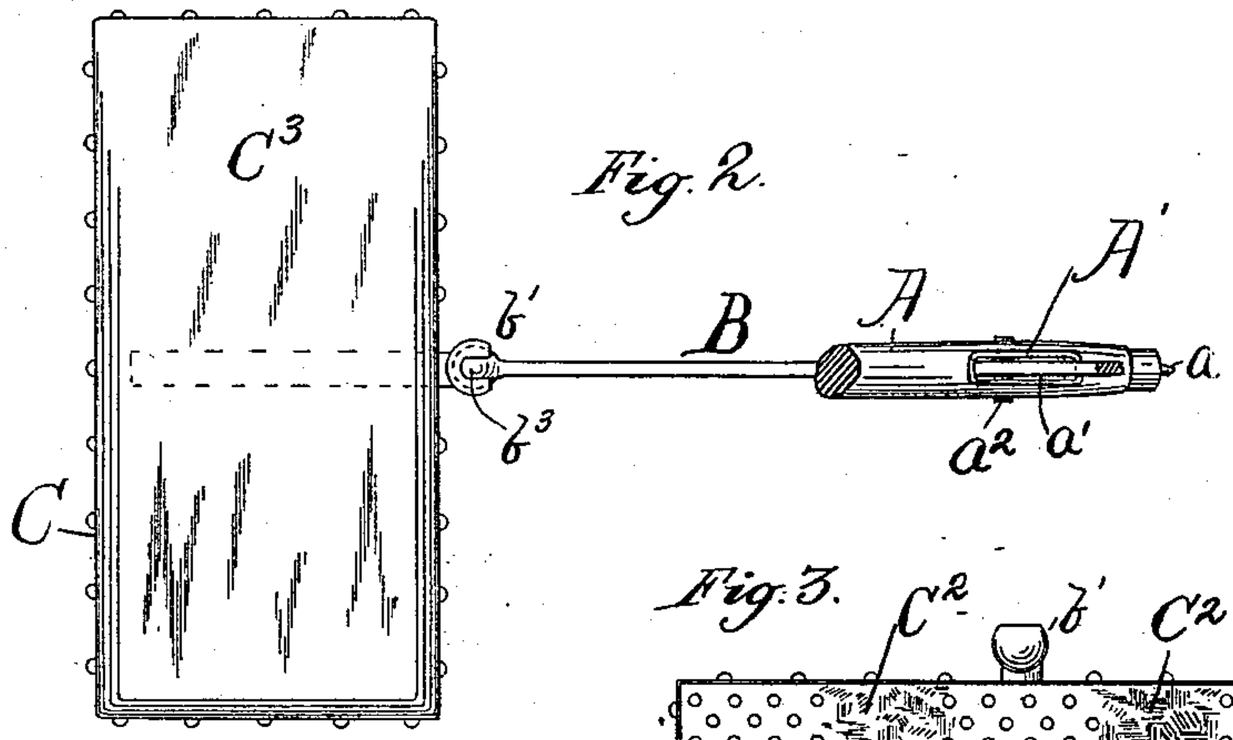

Fig. 2.

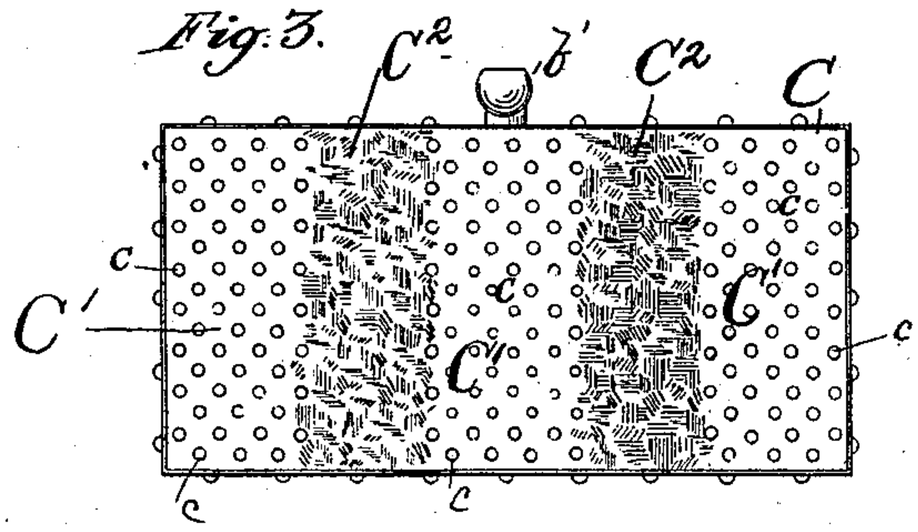

Fig. 3.

Witnesses:
J. Everett Brown
A. Th. Munday

Inventor:
William H. Drew
per Munday, Evarts & Adcock
his Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. DREW, OF LA PORTE, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND SAMUEL FILDES, OF SAME PLACE.

CARPET-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 277,015, dated May 8, 1883.

Application filed March 17, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. DREW, a citizen of the United States, residing in La Porte, in the county of La Porte and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Carpet-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

In my improved carpet-stretcher the device for seizing the carpet, consisting of a block or pad furnished with numbers of fine sharp teeth on its under surface, is adapted to be pressed down upon the carpet by the knee, hand, or foot of the operator, so as to grasp the carpet firmly, and is connected to a slotted sharp-pointed pulling-lever by means of a ratchet or toothed draw-bar. The draw-bar is preferably connected to the carpet-seizing device by a ball-and-socket joint, so that the operator, by tilting the pulling-lever from one side to the other, may pull the carpet in slightly different directions, as may be necessary to bring the edge thereof square against the wall. The top of the socket of the ball-and-socket joint is cut away, so that the draw-bar may lie or be folded back on the carpet-seizing device. The under surface of the carpet-seizing device is preferably provided with teeth in alternate strips or sections, and the upper surface is cushioned for the convenience of the operator. The ratchet-teeth on the draw-bar I cut in a peculiar form, to prevent the teeth from becoming disengaged with the pin or pivot of the lever when the draw-bar occupies different inclinations.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view, and Fig. 3 is a detail bottom view of the carpet-seizing device.

In the drawings, A represents the lever, which is provided with a sharp metallic point or foot, *a*, secured in the end of the lever A, adapted to be forced into the floor to constitute the fulcrum of the lever, and is also provided with a slot or opening, *a'*, adapted to receive the ratchet-arm or draw-bar B. The draw-bar B is provided with ratchet-teeth *b*, adapted to engage the pin a^2, inserted through the lever A transverse to the slot *a'*, at about its middle. The lever A is provided with slotted metallic facings A', for the purpose of strengthening the lever at this pivotal point, where it is subject to the greatest strain. The free end of the ratchet-bar is provided with a ball or knob on its end for retaining the parts together. The draw-bar B is secured to the carpet-seizing device C by a ball-and-socket joint, *b'*. The carpet-seizing device C is provided with a number of fine sharp teeth, *c*, on its under surface. These teeth are preferably inserted at an angle, projecting forward in the direction the carpet is to be strained, so as to cause the same to engage more readily therewith. The teeth are preferably arranged on the under surface of the block in strips or sections C', leaving blank spaces C^2 between them, as, arranged in this way, the same number of teeth will in effect take hold of a larger section of carpet. The upper surface of the carpet-seizing device is provided with a cushion, C^3, for the knee of the operator. The teeth *b* in the draw-bar are hooked or recessed, as shown at b^2, so that at whatever inclination the draw-bar B is placed there will be no tendency for it to become disengaged with the pin a^2 of the lever A. The socket of the ball-and-socket joint is provided with a slot, b^3, so that the draw-bar may be folded back upon the carpet-seizing device.

In practice the operator places his knee or other portion of his body on the cushion of the carpet-seizing device, whereby its teeth are caused to engage with the carpet, and then, by operation of the lever A, stretches the carpet into position. By means of the ball-and-socket joint the foot of the lever may be inserted in different positions in the floor, or the top of the lever may be oscillated from side to side, so that it will be seen that the carpet may be stretched in whatever direction it may be necessary to cause its edge to fit snugly against the wall without changing the position of the carpet-seizing device.

The sharp teeth *c* in the bottom of the carpet-seizing device are made of fine steel, and may preferably be secured in a thick piece of leather secured to the block.

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

1. The combination of a lever having a sharp foot adapted to be set in the floor to constitute its fulcrum, a carpet-seizing device, and a ratchet draw-bar for connecting the latter to said lever, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of a carpet-seizing device, C, provided with teeth on its under surface, ratcheted draw-bar B, connected therewith by a ball-and-socket joint, and slotted lever A, provided with sharp foot *a*, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of the carpet-seizing device C, provided with sharp teeth *c* on its under surface and cushion C′ on its upper surface, with the ratchet draw-bar B and lever A, substantially as specified.

4. The combination of the carpet-seizing device C, provided with sharp teeth *c* on its under surface, arranged in sections C′, with intermediate blank sections, C², with lever A and ratchet draw-bar B, substantially as specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my signature this 5th day of March, A. D. 1883.

WILLIAM H. DREW.

In presence of—
JOHN F. WALKER,
J. THEO. BALL.