

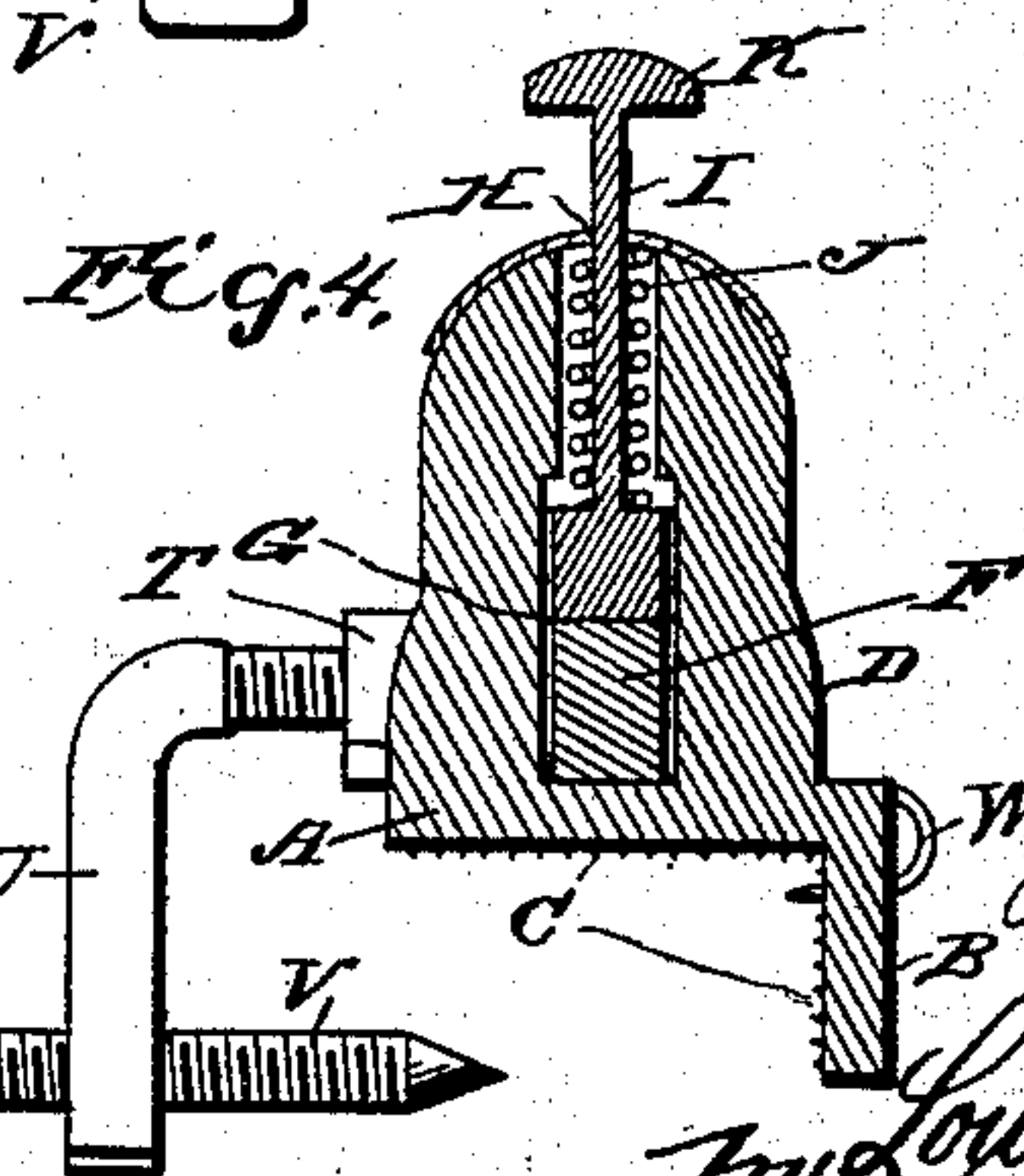
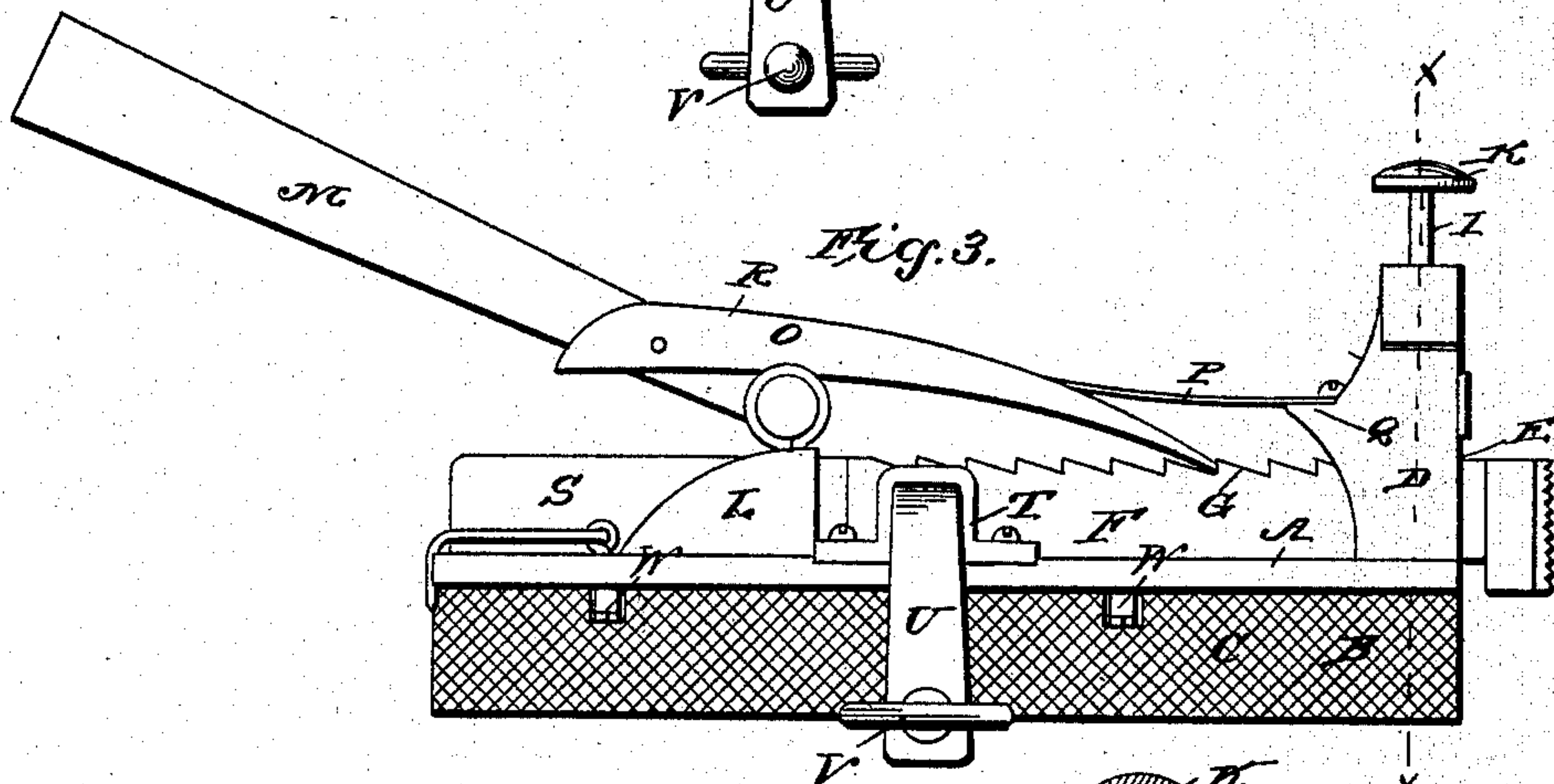
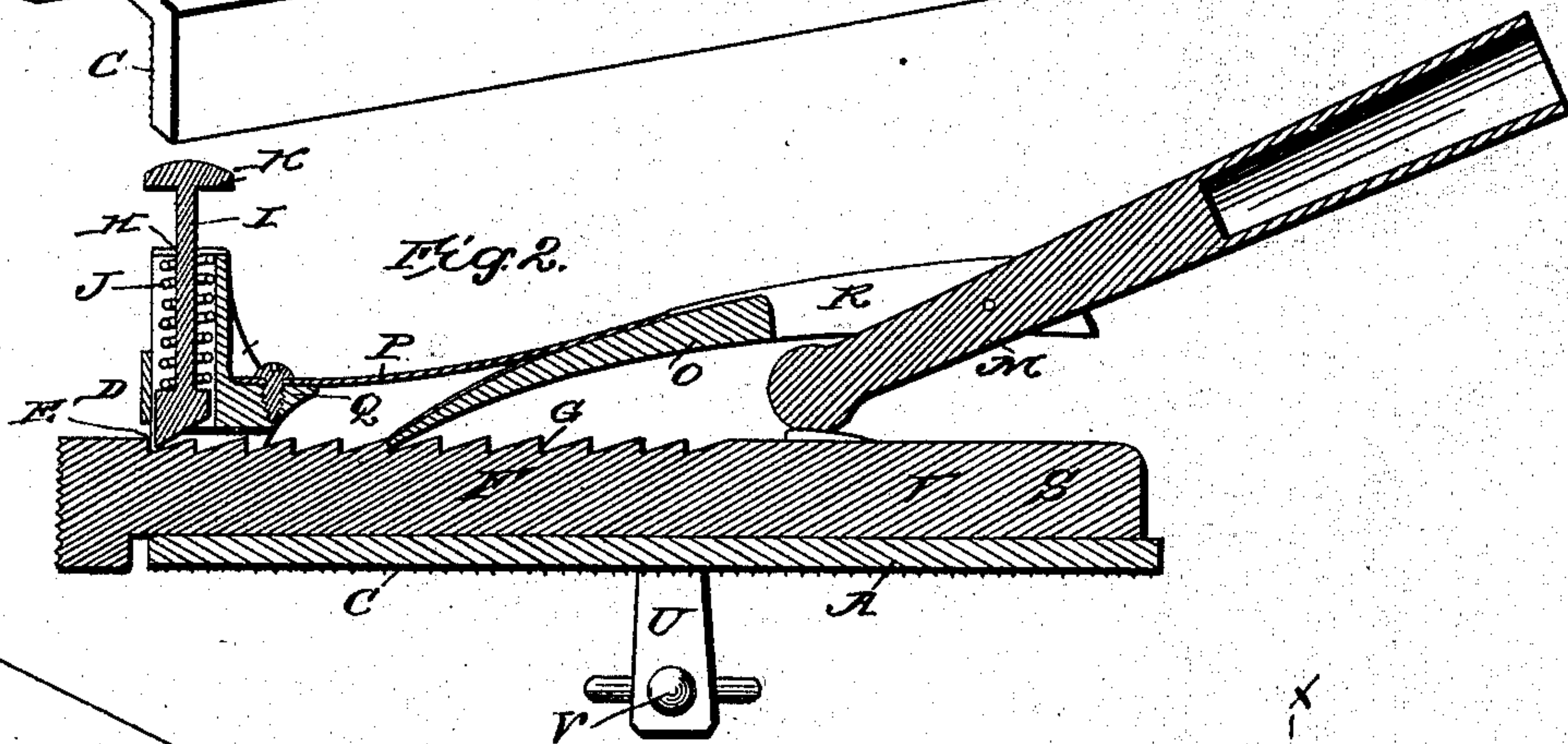
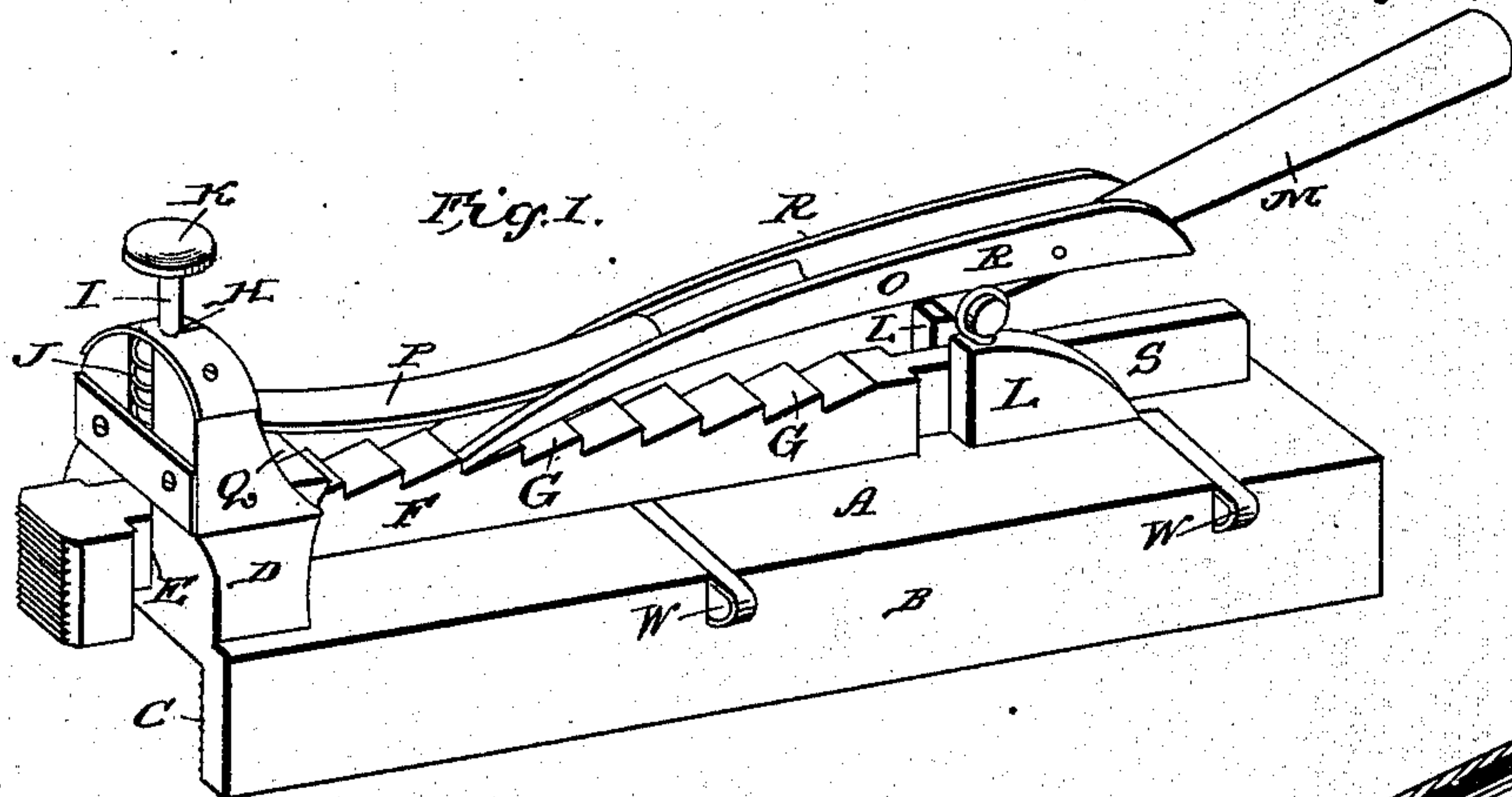
(No Model.)

J. M. GROCE.

FLOOR CLAMP.

No. 322,369.

Patented July 14, 1885.



WITNESSES:

*Ad. S. Dieterich*  
*Wm. Baggett*

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INVENTOR.

*Louis Baggett & Co.*  
ATTORNEYS.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB M. GROCE, OF RAVENSWOOD, WEST VIRGINIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO ABRAHAM HERTJE, OF SAME PLACE.

## FLOOR-CLAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 322,369, dated July 14, 1885.

Application filed April 20, 1885. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JACOB M. GROCE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Ravenswood, in the county of Jackson and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flooring-Clamps; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved flooring-clamp. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view, and Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse sectional view, taken on the line *xx* in Fig. 3.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

This invention relates to that class of devices which are known as "flooring-clamps," and which are used for the purpose of forcing flooring-stuff and the like into position upon the joists and retaining it while it is being secured, thus enabling warped stuff to be placed in position with ease and accuracy; and the invention has for its object to provide a device of this class which shall possess superior advantages in point of simplicity, durability, and general efficiency.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings hereto annexed, A designates the base of my improved flooring-clamp, which is provided at one edge with a downwardly-extending flange, B. The under and inner sides of the said base and flange are roughened or serrated, as shown at C, for the purpose of assisting in retaining the device securely in any position to which it may be adjusted, as will be hereinafter set forth.

The base A is provided at its front end with a vertical head or block, D, the lower end of which has an opening, E, for the passage of a longitudinally-sliding bar, F, the upper side of

which is provided with a series of teeth or ratchets, G G. The upper portion of the head D has a recess, H, in which is placed a vertically-sliding bolt, I, which is forced automatically in a downward direction by the action of a suitably-arranged spring, J, which engages the teeth G of the sliding bar F. The upper end of the bolt I has a handle or knob, K, by means of which it may be withdrawn from engagement with the teeth of the sliding bar when desired.

The base A is provided near its rear end with upwardly-extending lugs L L, having bearings for the lower end of a lever, M, the upper end of which is formed with a socket, N, into which, when desired, an operating-handle may be inserted.

O is a pawl or dog secured pivotally to the lever M, and engaging the upper toothed face of the sliding bar F. Said dog is held in contact with the sliding bar by means of a flat spring, P, which is secured to a transverse flange, Q, upon the rear side of the head D, and which rests between longitudinal flanges R R, extending upwardly from the sides of the pawl O.

The sliding bar F is provided with a laterally-extending lug, which is designated by letter S, and which serves to limit the sliding movement of the said bar between the head D and the lugs L. The rear end of the said bar F, which slides between the lugs L L, is not toothed, but serves simply as a guide.

The base A is provided with a horizontal socket, T, for a screw-clamp, U, which is adjustable in the said socket, and the arm of which has a pointed screw, V, by means of which the device may be attached to a joist upon which the flooring is to be laid. The said base is also provided with suitably-arranged sharp prongs or hooks, W W, which serve to assist in securing it in its proper position.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed, the operation and advantages of my invention will be readily understood. The device being attached by means of the screw U to one of the joists, the lever M may be worked so as to bring the outer end of the sliding bar F up



against the outer edge of the board, which may thus be forced into its proper position and held while it is being nailed or otherwise secured.

I would have it understood that in the construction of this device I do not wish to limit myself to the precise construction herein shown and described, but reserve to myself the privilege of making such alterations and modifications as may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

In a flooring clamp, the combination of a base having a downwardly-extending flange at one edge, and provided at its front edge with a head having a longitudinal slot or perforation, and near its rear end with a pair of lugs, a bar arranged to slide longitudinally in the

said perforation and between the said lugs, and having a series of teeth or ratchets formed in its upper side, a lever pivoted to the said lugs, and having a dog or pawl adapted to engage and operate the said sliding bar, a spring secured to a flange upon the rear side of the head and holding the said pawl in engagement with the sliding bar, a spring-actuated bolt arranged in a vertical recess in the head and engaging the sliding bar, and means for attaching the device and retaining it in position upon a joist, substantially as herein described, for the purpose set forth. 25 30

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses. 35

JACOB M. GROCE.

Witnesses:

ABRAHAM HERTJE,

BENJAMIN D. WILLIAMS.