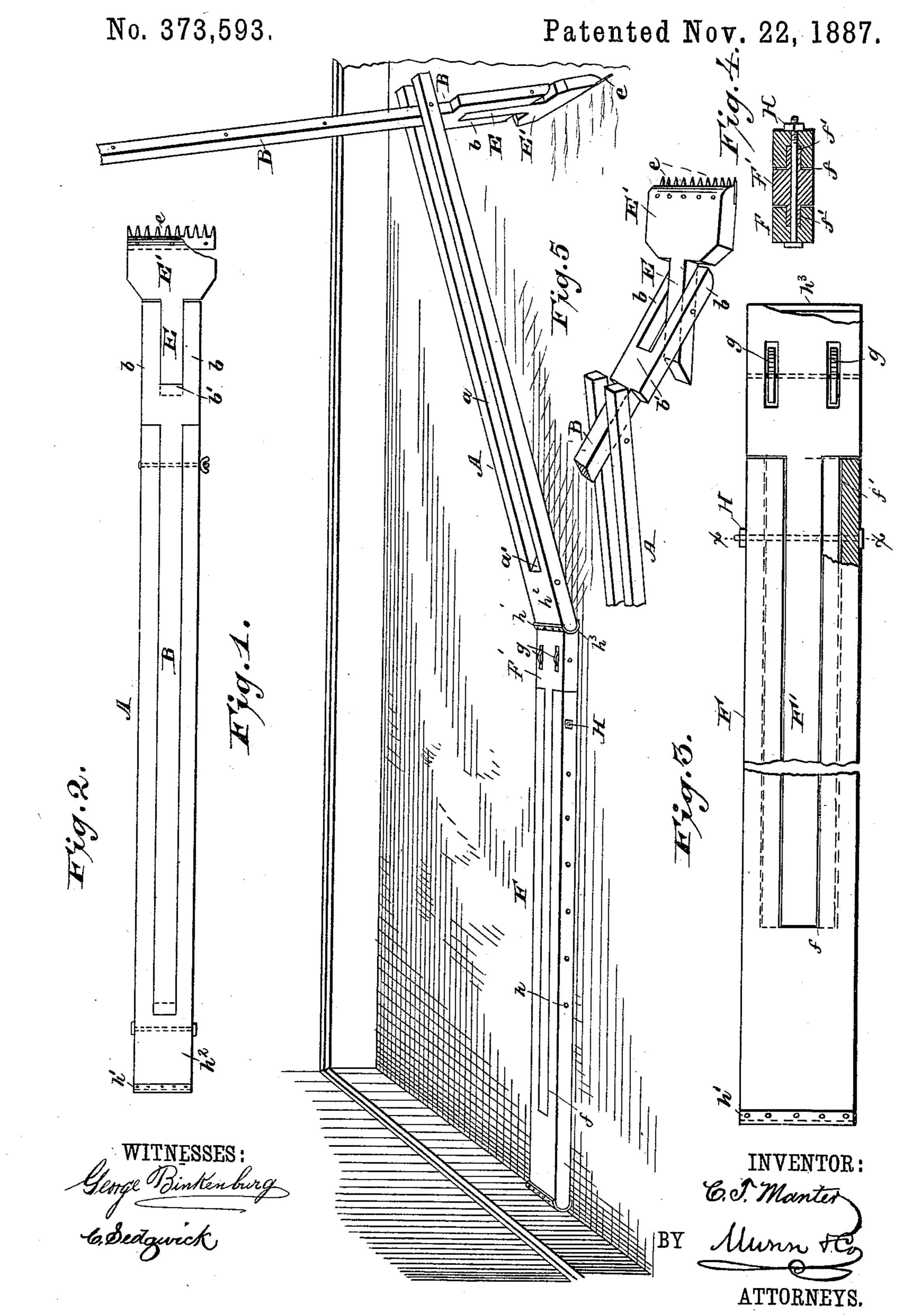
C. T. MANTER.

## CARPET STRETCHER.



## INITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CARPET-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,593, dated November 22, 1887.

Application filed May 26, 1887. Serial No. 239,419. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES THOMSON Manter, of Bismarck, in the county of St. François and State of Missouri, have invented 5 a new and Improved Carpet-Stretcher, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in carpet-stretchers, and has for its object to ro provide a device whereby carpet of any weight may be evenly stretched across a room by a single individual, and wherein the device may be adjusted for use in various sized rooms.

The invention consists in the construction 15 and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, 20 in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my stretcher applied, and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the 25 auxiliary or extension and partly broken away, and Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section through the same on the line x x of Fig. 3.

In carrying out the invention, the body A of the stretcher is preferably made rectangu-30 lar, of any light material, and of any desired length, the said body being provided centrally and longitudinally with a slot, a, extending from a point near the inner end, where the wall of the slot is made to taper 35 forward, out through the forward end, as shown at a' in Fig. 1. A lever, B, is pivoted in the slot a, near the forward end, which lever, extending to the rear in said slot, is normally adapted to rest at its inner end upon 40 the aforesaid tapered wall, flush with the upper surface of the body, as shown in Fig. 2. The lever B, beyond the end of the body A, is made slightly narrower than the body A, and is provided with a central longitudinal 45 end slot, b, having a forwardly and downwardly inclined end wall, b', the reverse of the slot in the body. In the said slot b the shank E of the stretcher-head E' is pivoted, which head is provided with a toothed plate,

e, attached to its outer end. It will thus be 50 seen that while the lever B may be raised upward, it cannot pass down through the slot a, due to the inclined end surface, a', of said slot and the corresponding inclined inner end face of the lever, and also that when the lever 55 is raised to an angle of forty-five degrees or more, as shown in Fig. 1, (the stretcher having been adjusted to reach within a few inches of across the room,) as soon as the teeth e are securely set in the carpet, about six inches 60 from its edge, by bearing down on the arm B the head E' will assume a horizontal position, preventing the teeth from catching in the floor, as shown in Fig. 5, and by further pressing on the arm B the edge of the carpet 65 will be carried to the desired point.

An auxiliary or extension arm, F, is provided, adapted for use with the body A, purposed to lengthen the said body when and as required. The said auxiliary arm is slotted 70 longitudinally through the center, as at f, and opposing longitudinal and horizontal grooves stretcher proper. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the |f'| are made in the walls of said slot, as shown in Fig. 4. Into the grooves and slot a tongued extension - rod, F', is slid, provided with an 75 outer end, G, of a width equal to the width of the arm, the said lever having journaled therein rollers g, the object of which rollers is to prevent the binding of the carpet to the floor by the thrust of the stretcher, thus allowing 80 the carpet to stretch evenly and smoothly clear across the room.

> A series of transverse apertures, h, are made through the arm F, and the rod adapted to receive a bolt, H, by means of which the rod 85 may be held at any point of extension desired.

> In operation the inner end of the auxiliary arm, which is convexed and covered with soft material, h', is placed against the baseboard, and the similarly curved and covered 90 end  $h^2$  of the body is brought in contact with the concave forward edge,  $h^3$ , of the extension-rod. The rod is then drawn out until the head registers with the desired point upon the carpet and secured. The lever being 95 then lifted up, the carpet is easily forced forward, as aforesaid, and held in position for nailing.

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

The combination, with the body A, provided with a longitudinal slot, a, having a beveled inner end wall, a', of the lever B, provided with a slot, b, provided with a beveled inner end wall, b', the head E', pivoted in said slot

b, and the toothed plate e, secured to said head and adapted to operate substantially as 10 herein set forth.

CHARLES T. MANTER.

Witnesses: Chas. Leggett,

L. F. Jones.