

No. 716,904.

Patented Dec. 30, 1902.

J. LAWSON.
CARPET STRETCHER.

(Application filed Mar. 7, 1902.)

(No Model.)

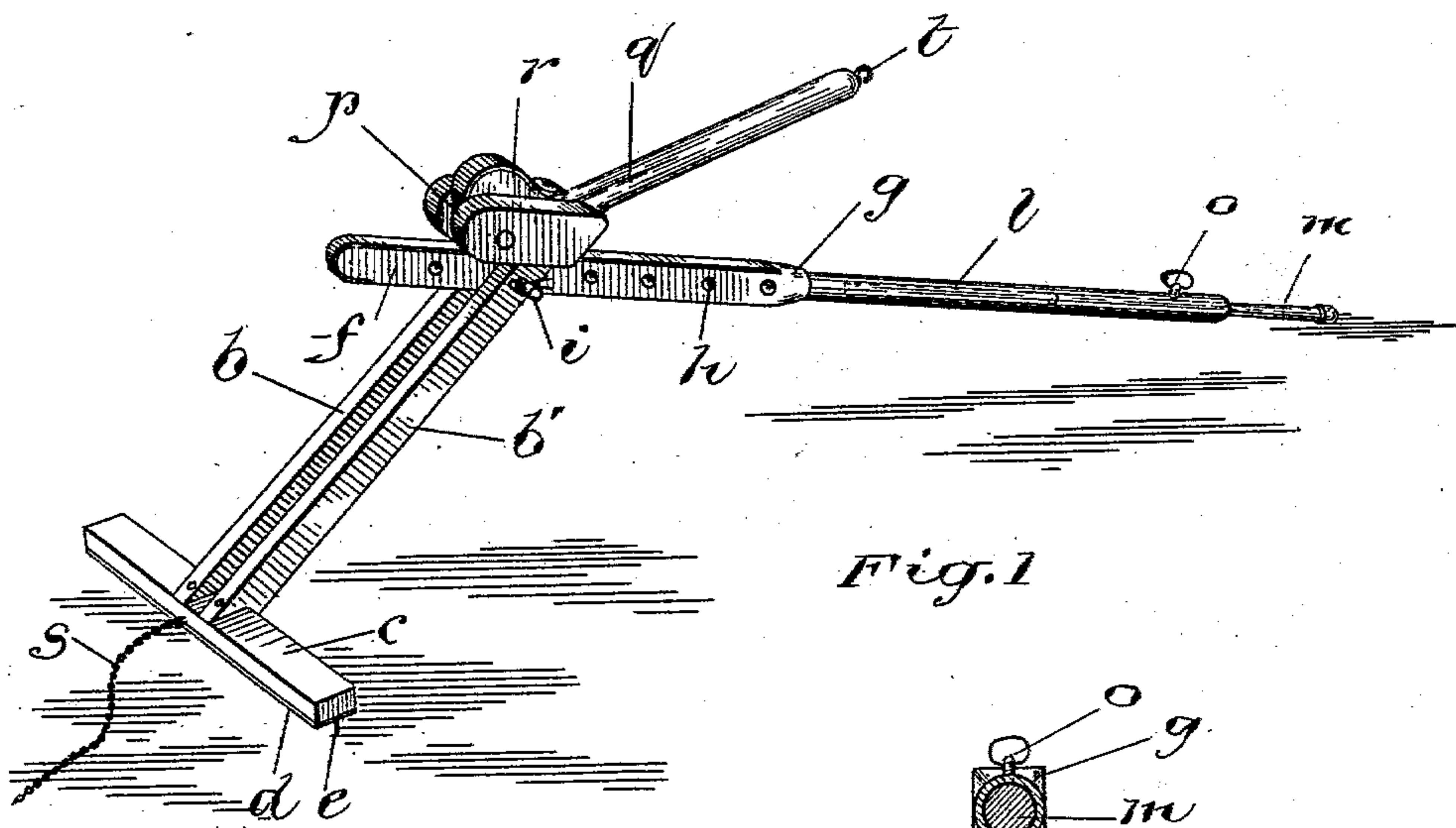


Fig. 1

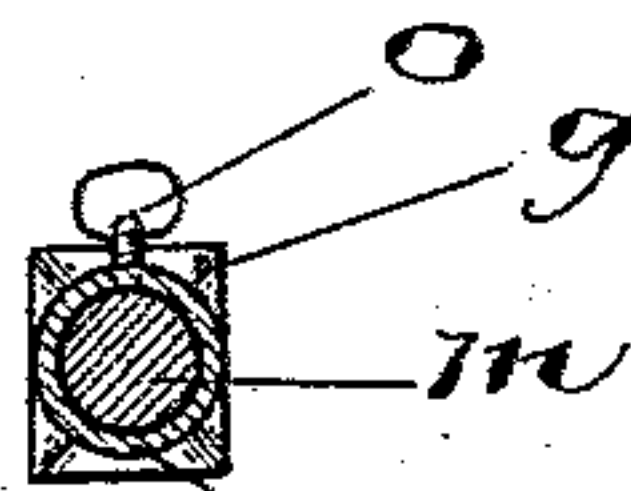


Fig. 3

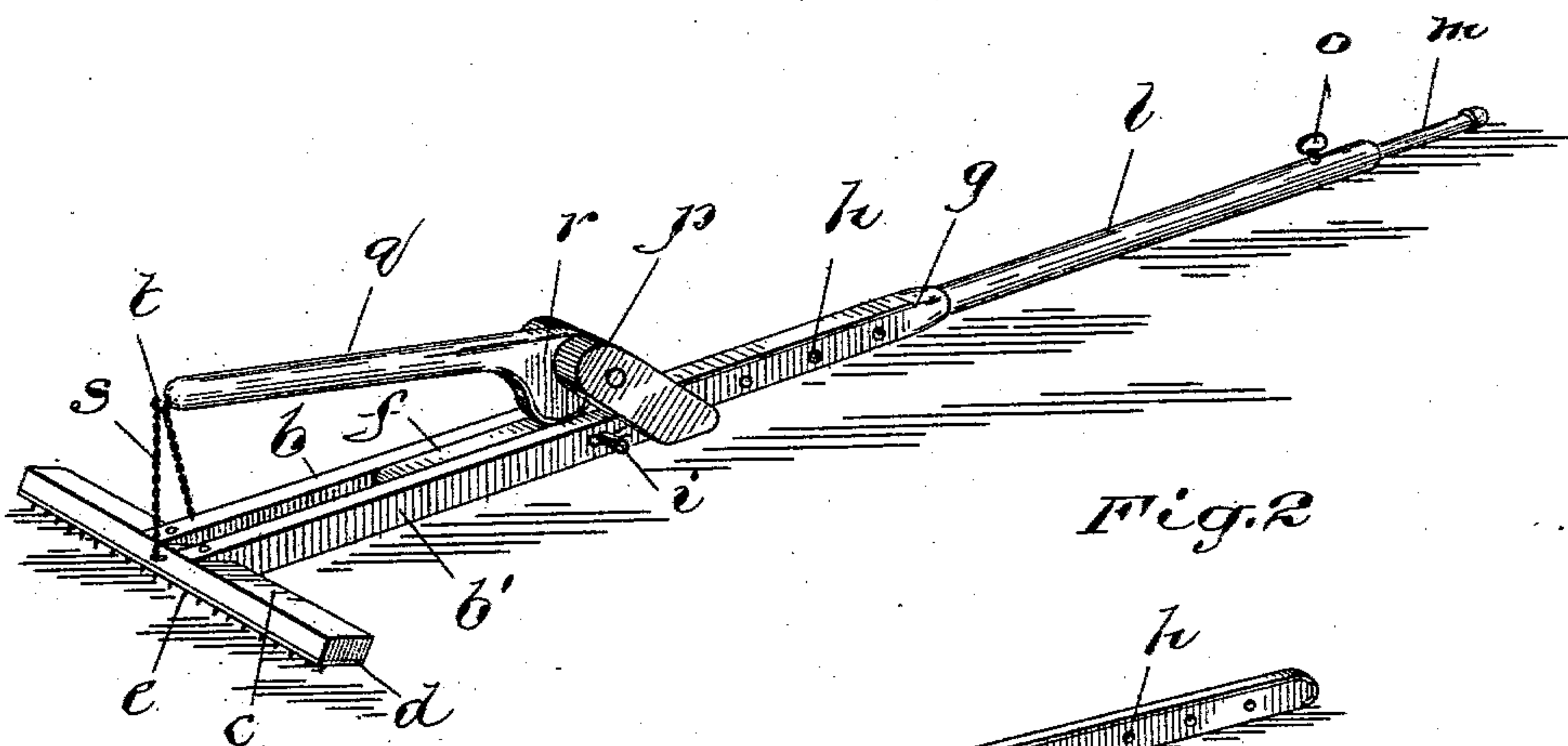


Fig. 2

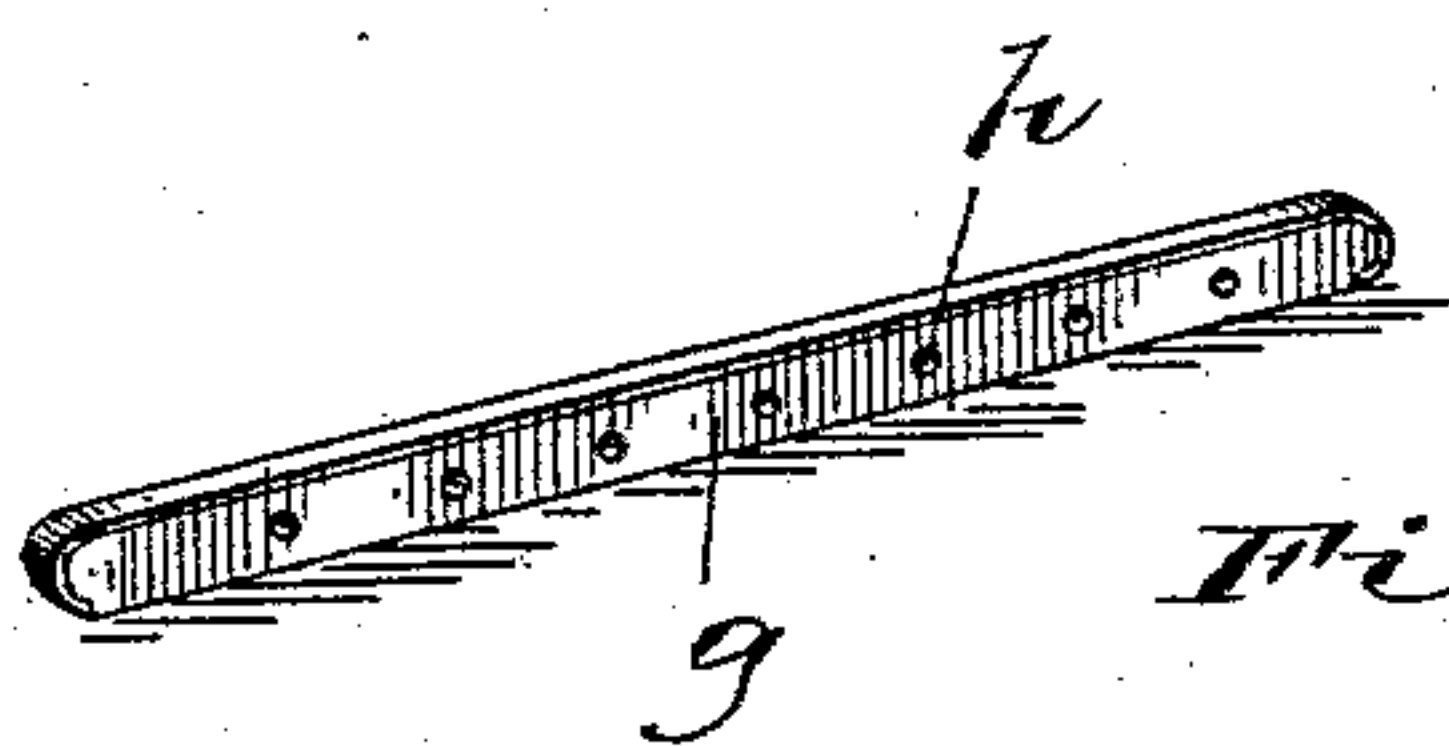


Fig. 4

Witnesses
J. E. Cameron
L. P. Brock

Inventor
J. H. Lawson
by C. A. Smith
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN LAWSON, OF MARKDALE, CANADA.

CARPET-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 716,904, dated December 30, 1902.

Application filed March 7, 1902. Serial No. 97,055. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN LAWSON, a British subject, residing at Markdale, in the county of Grey and Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carpet-Stretchers; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in that class of carpet-stretchers consisting of a carpet-stretching head actuated by a movable lever; and the object of the invention is to so construct the operative parts of the carpet-stretcher that they can be quickly actuated with a minimum of power to properly stretch the carpet and hold it until again freed from engagement therewith.

In carrying out the invention I employ a frame consisting of two parallel side bars, to one end of which is rigidly secured a cross-head having on its under face a series of carpet-stretching teeth. Fulcrumed between the parallel side bars is one end of an adjustable brace having a series of transverse holes to receive the fulcrum-pin, which passes through the side bars and pivotally and adjustably connects the brace to the frame. Connected to the side bars are two upwardly-projecting lugs, between which is pivoted the operative lever, having an eccentric head or cam to engage the adjacent part of the brace to distend the carpet-stretcher.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the carpet-stretcher in its preparatory or contracted position. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing it in its actuated or distended position. Fig. 3 is a sectional view through the brace. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modification of the brace.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts throughout the specification and drawings.

The frame consists of two parallel side bars *b b'* and a head *c*, to the under side of which is secured a plate *d*, having a series of carpet-stretching teeth *e*. Fulcrumed between the parallel side bars *b b'* is the inner end *f* of an adjustable brace *g*. The inner end *f* of the adjustable brace *g* is provided with a series of transverse holes *h* to receive the fulcrum-pin *i*, which passes through the parallel side bars *b b'*. The outer end *l* of the ad-

justable brace *g* is of a tubular formation, and contained in the outer end *l* is an extension-rod *m*, adapted to be locked in its adjusted position by a set-screw *o*. By means of the extension-rod *m* and set-screw *o* the brace *g* can be lengthened or shortened to any extent within the range of the extension-rod. Projecting upwardly from the end *a* of the parallel side bars *b b'* are two lugs *p*, between which is pivoted the actuating-lever *q*, having an eccentric head or cam *r* arranged to engage the inner end or adjacent part of the brace *f*.

The carpet-stretcher can be constructed of any suitable material having the requisite strength and rigidity, such as wood or iron; but I prefer, however, for economy in manufacture to make the carpet-stretcher of wood and face the top of the inner end *f* of the brace *g* and the contacting face of the eccentric head or cam *r* with metal, so that the constant engagement of the eccentric head or cam *r* with the adjacent end of the brace will not cause these parts to wear one on the other to any appreciable extent.

In order that the carpet-stretcher can be used in confined spaces, such as narrow hallways or rooms, I find it advisable to make the brace *g* interchangeable with a brace of shorter length, such as that shown in Fig. 4, which when fulcrumed in the frame barely projects beyond the ends of the parallel side bars.

In the use of the carpet-stretcher the parts are contracted into the position shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, in which it will be noticed that the brace *g* and the frame are inclined into a suitably triangular shape to bring the carpet-stretcher teeth into as close proximity as possible with the outer end of the brace, the lever being thrown back to disengage the eccentric head or cam from contact with the adjacent part of the brace. While the parts are in this position the carpet-stretcher teeth are inserted into the carpet, and the outer end of the brace is placed against either a permanent or movable stop, such as a wall or the body of the operator. By turning the lever into the position shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings the braces and frame are straightened out into the same alinement, moving the carpet-stretcher teeth to the full limit of

their distance from the outer end of the brace. This straightening-out movement on the part of the brace and frame enables the carpet-stretcher teeth to stretch the carpet correspondingly. When the parts are in their straightened-out position, the lever is locked by means of a chain *s*, permanently connected to the cross-head and detachably connected to the end of the lever by means of a hook *t*.

10 I may vary the shape and size of the various parts and make them of any material suitable for the purpose without departing from the nature of the invention.

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

1. A carpet-stretcher, comprising a slotted frame, a cross-head carried thereby and provided with teeth, an operating-brace adjust-
20 ably secured to the free end of said frame, a pin for making a hinge connection between

the free end of the frame and the brace, and an operating-lever fulcrumed out of line with the free end of the frame and having an eccentric head adapted to engage the extended
25 end of the brace and hold the brace in line with the frame.

2. A carpet-stretcher, comprising a frame having two parallel side bars and a cross-head rigidly connected to one end of the parallel
30 side bars provided with teeth, lugs rigidly connected to the opposite end of the side bars, an operating-lever provided with an eccentric head fulcrumed between said lugs, and a brace adjustably fulcrumed between the
35 parallel side bars and adapted to be actuated by the operating-lever as specified.

Markdale, February 20, 1902.

JOHN LAWSON.

In presence of—

CHARLES PICKELL,
WM. ZEADELL.