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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CARPET-SECURING MEANS.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARY A. V. ODELL, residing in Elkhorn, in the county of Walworth and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Carpet-Securing Means, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

This invention relates to carpet securing means and has for its object to provide a device which may be arranged along the edge of a floor, preferably close to the molding of the washboard, and having swinging prongs to engage the edges of a carpet and swing, so as to tighten the carpet, and then be held securely in position, there being a hinged cover strip to close down over the swinging prongs and their securing means and constitute an ornamental border around the edge of the carpet.

An object of the invention is to facilitate the laying and removal of carpets and to overcome the objectionable features incident to the use of carpet tacks for such purposes, by means, as above mentioned, which will add to the appearance of the room.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the carpet securing means, its parts and combinations of parts as herein claimed, and all equivalents thereof.

Referring to the accompanying drawings in which like characters of reference indicate the same parts in the several views:— Figure 1 is a plan view of a carpet securing means constructed in accordance with this invention, as it appears in the corner of a room, parts being broken away and parts being shown in dotted lines for clearness of illustration; Fig. 2 is an elevation of parts shown in Fig. 1, one portion of the carpet securing means being shown in cross-section and another portion thereof being shown in front elevation; Fig. 3 is a similar view, with the parts open and in position to receive the carpet; and, Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a portion of the cover strip.

In these drawings 6 represents the corner of a carpet and 7 is the usual molding which surrounds the room at the junction of the washboard and the floor. A base strip 8, which is preferably formed in sections of suitable length, but may be made in full length, is secured to the floor along the edge

of the molding 7, by having screw eyes 9 passing through it and into the floor. To the front edge of the base strip 8 are secured a number of hinge members 10, with one leaf extending under the front edge of the base strip and secured thereto by solder or in any other desirable manner, and the other leaf free to swing and provided with one or more pin-like prongs 11 on its edge adapted to be passed through the edge of the carpet 6, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The hinge members 10 are provided with abutting shoulders 12 to limit the movement of the swinging parts to a vertical position of the prongs when swung open, as shown in Fig. 1, but they may be swung closed to the position shown in Fig. 2, so as to pull upon the edge of the carpet. A securing rod 13 is adapted to be passed through two or more of the screw eyes 9, which are located between the prongs of each hinge member, and above the prongs 11, and thus lock the prongs in this closed position.

A cover strip 14 is hinged to the rear edge of the base strip 8 by means of hinge members 15, which preferably have their leaves secured to the under side of the cover strip and of the base strip respectively, by being riveted or soldered as found most suitable. The cover strip is preferably beaded at its intermediate portion to arch over the screw eyes 9 and the securing rods 13, and incidentally serve as an ornamentation to the device, while the front edge bends downwardly so that when the cover strip is lowered it stands in front of the other parts. The downwardly bent front edge of the cover strip is provided with teeth 16 to pass through the carpet and hold the cover strip closed.

At the corner of the room the meeting sections of the securing device may be mitered, but I prefer to provide corner blocks 17 held by central screws 18, which will permit of the blocks being raised, as shown in Fig. 3, to allow the corner of the carpet to pass underneath, and then lowered to tightly fit thereon and complete a neat and finished corner construction.

In use, the carpet securing means having once been placed in position is to remain, and whenever it is desired to remove the carpet, it is only necessary to swing the cover strips open and remove the securing rods 13, when the prongs 11 may be swung upwardly

and the edge of the carpet disengaged therefrom. When it is desired to replace the carpet, the edges thereof are impaled upon the prongs and the prongs are swung downwardly and secured by means of the securing rods as before, the lowering of the prongs serving to stretch the carpet evenly. When the cover strips are lowered and the corner blocks are tightened the operation is complete.

The carpet securing means of this invention may be constructed of sheet metal and preferably in convenient lengths for general use.

It will be noted that the use of the carpet securing means of this invention avoids injury to the carpets and to the floor, which is incident to the use of tacks for this purpose, besides rendering the operation of laying and removing carpets easy of accomplishment, and producing an ornamental trimming around the border of the carpet.

Another advantageous feature of this invention is that it avoids the accumulation of dust and dirt around the edges of the carpet, which adds greatly to the sanitary conditions.

What I claim as my invention is:—

1. A carpet securing means, comprising suitably mounted swinging prongs for engaging the edge of the carpet, shoulders on the swinging prongs at a distance from their fulcrums and means for holding the prongs in a lower position.

2. A carpet securing means, comprising suitably mounted swinging prongs for engaging the edge of the carpet, shoulders on the swinging prongs at a distance from their fulcrums, means for holding the prongs in a lower position, and a swinging cover for the prongs and the edge of the carpet.

3. A carpet securing means, comprising suitably mounted swinging prongs for engaging the edge of the carpet, screw eyes fastened to the floor, and securing rods passing through the screw eyes above the prongs for holding the prongs in a lower position.

4. A carpet securing means, comprising suitably mounted swinging prongs for engaging the edge of the carpet, screw eyes fastened to the floor, securing rods passing through the screw eyes above the prongs for holding the prongs in a lower position, and a swinging cover strip for inclosing the several parts.

5. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip, screw eyes securing the base strip to the floor, prongs hinged to the base strip, and a securing rod passing through the screw eyes above the prongs for holding the prongs in a lower position.

6. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip, screw eyes securing the base strip to the floor, prongs hinged to the base strip, a securing rod passing through the screw

eyes and above the prongs for holding the prongs in a lower position, and a cover strip hinged to the base strip and adapted to inclose the other parts.

7. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip, screw eyes passing through the base strip and fastening it to the floor, hinges mounted on the front edge of the base strip, prongs projecting from the swinging parts of the hinges and adapted to pass through the edge of a carpet, shoulders formed on the hinge parts to limit their open position, the junction of the prongs with the hinges being at a distance from the pivotal pin of the hinges so that the closing of the prongs will stretch the carpet, securing rods passing through the screw eyes and holding the prongs in a lower position, and a cover strip hinged to the base strip for covering the other parts.

8. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip, screw eyes passing through the base strip and fastening it to the floor, prongs pivotally connected to the base strip and adapted to pass through the edge of the carpet, securing rods passing through the screw eyes above the prongs for holding the prongs in their closed position, a cover strip hinged to the base strip and provided with a downwardly bent front edge to bear upon the carpet in front of the other parts and also provided with a beaded intermediate portion to accommodate the screw eyes and securing rods, and teeth on the front edge of the cover strip for entering the carpet.

9. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip, screw eyes passing through the base strip and fastening it to the floor, prongs pivotally connected to the front edge of the base strip and adapted to pass through the edge of the carpet, securing rods passing through the screw eyes and holding the prongs in their closed position, a cover strip hinged to the base strip for covering the base strip and the other parts thereon, and a corner block at the end of the base strip adjustably secured to the floor to receive the edge of the carpet beneath it.

10. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip of considerable length adapted to be secured to the floor, a series of independent prongs pivotally mounted on the base strip and adapted to engage the edge of the carpet, means for holding the prongs in a lower position, and a swinging cover strip for inclosing the several parts and hiding the edge of the carpet from view.

11. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip of considerable length adapted to be secured to the floor, a series of independent prongs pivotally mounted on the base strip and adapted to engage the edge of the carpet, a common means for holding the several prongs in a lower position, and

a swinging cover strip for inclosing the several parts and hiding the edge of the carpet from view.

5 12. A carpet securing means, comprising a base strip of considerable length adapted to be secured to the floor, a series of independent prongs pivotally mounted on the base strip and adapted to engage the edge of the carpet, shoulders on the prongs at a
10 distance from their fulcrums whereby the closing of the prongs will stretch the carpet,

means for holding the prongs in their closed position, and a cover strip pivotally mounted on the base strip for inclosing the several parts and for hiding the edge of the carpet 15 from view.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

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Witnesses:

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