

(Model.)

E. J. LOBDELL.

FLOOR JACK.

No. 302,416.

Patented July 22, 1884.

Fig. 1.

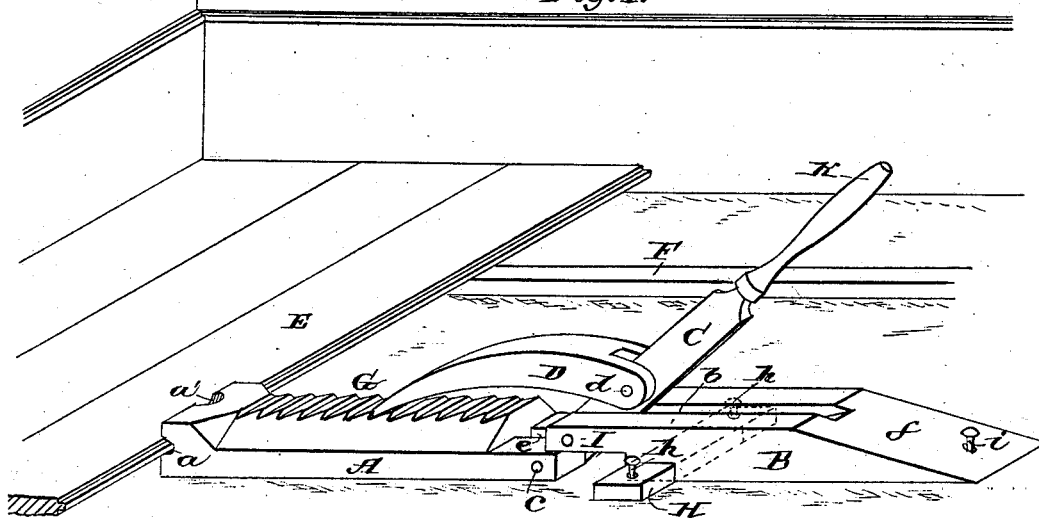
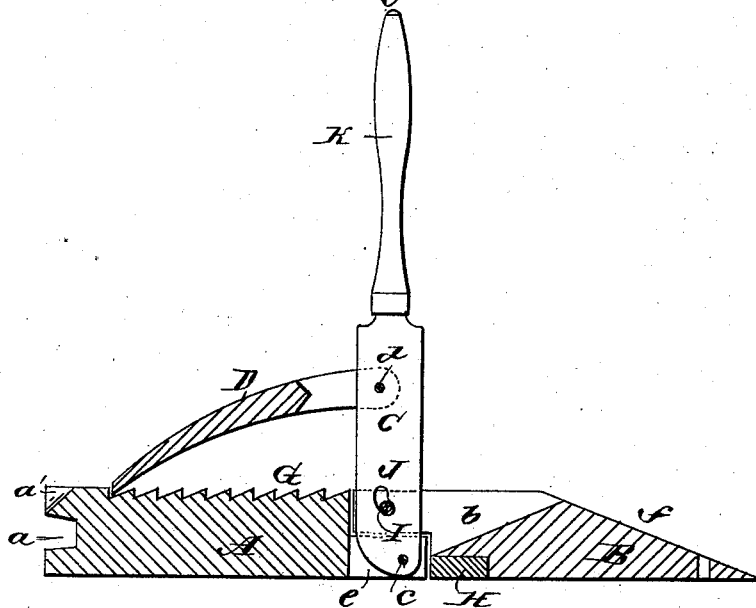


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMMETT J. LOBDELL, OF NORTHVILLE, NEW YORK.

FLOOR-JACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,416, dated July 22, 1884.

Application filed May 16, 1884. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMMETT JOHN LOBDELL, of Northville, in the county of Fulton and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Floor-Jack, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive, effective, and durable jack for closing the joints of flooring or other planks prior to securing them to place.

The invention consists of a movable head carrying a rack, with which engages a dog or pawl pivoted to a lever, which itself is pivoted to the outer end of the head, and a thrust-block adapted to be fastened in position and attached to the lever by a pin-and-slot connection.

The invention consists, also, of a construction of the head and thrust-block with aligned slots for the lever, and with overlapping ends for holding and guiding the head-block to its work, all as hereinafter fully described and claimed.

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

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved floor-jack as applied to use; and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of the jack, showing the position of the parts at the commencement of the stroke of the head-block.

The letter A indicates the movable head-block of the jack; B, its relatively-fixed thrust-block; C, the lever for driving the head A forward, and D the dog or pawl for holding the head in the extreme forward or inward position, to which it may be carried by the lever. The head A is grooved horizontally at its forward end, as at *a*, to straddle the tongue of the matched flooring-boards E, and may have a concavity or recess, *a'*, into or through which the nails may be driven through the tongue of the boards into the floor beams or stringers F, as is usual in blind-nailing flooring boards or planks. Along the top of the head A teeth G are formed, into which the outer end of the dog D drops, said dog being pivoted at *d* to the lever C, and below at *e* the lever is pivoted to the head A, the head being grooved at

e to receive the end of the lever. The block B is correspondingly grooved for the lever C at *b*, and the block preferably is chamfered off at the back end, as at *f*, and has also a cross bar or cleat, H, fitted solidly in it, and projecting at each side, to afford a passage for the nails or screws *h h*, by which, in connection with the back nail or screw, *i*, the block B may firmly be held to the floor beam or stringer or other support on which the jack is laid. The lever C takes its fulcrum on a pin, I, fixed in the end of block B, which pin crosses the groove *b*; and the lever has the slot J, to allow its free movement over or around the pin. A suitable handle, K, is fitted on the head of the lever.

In use the jack is laid along a stringer, F, and when the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 2, and with the head A against the board E being laid, the block B is fixed to the stringer by the nails, pins, or screws *h i*, and, on forcing the upper end of lever C backward, as in Fig. 1, the head will be moved forward or inward to close the joint of the floor-board with the one last laid, the dog D following the lever and engaging the teeth or rack G, and locking the lever in place when the joint of the boards is tightly closed. The board may now be nailed fast, and the jack moved along to the next stringer F, to repeat the operation as often as may be necessary for the entire length of the floor. The jack acts quickly and effectively, and enables flooring or other matched or jointed planks to be set up for fastening at a considerable saving of time and labor over the usual method of hammering the planks together to secure close joints.

The construction of the thrust-block B, as shown, is suitable for making it of hard wood; but when the jack is made of metal—malleable iron, for instance—side and end lugs will be provided on the block to receive the pins or screws *h h i*, as will readily be understood.

It will be noticed that the adjacent ends of the head A and block B always overlap each other, with the head below, which, in connection with the working of the lever in the aligned slots *e b* in the head and block, respectively, serves to hold the head A down to its work and guide it truly as it moves inward to close the

joints of the work. Pins or spikes may be cast on or fixed to the block B, to fasten the block to the beam thereby, instead of by the loose pins or screws *h i*, as above described.

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

10 1. A floor-jack constructed with a movable head, A, having the rack G, the lever C, pivoted to the head at *c*, and carrying a dog, D, engaging the rack G, and a thrust-block, B, adapted to be fastened in position and connected to the lever C by a pin, I, passing through a slot, J, in the lever, substantially as shown
15 and described.

2. The combination, with the head A, having rack G and a projecting outer end slotted at *e*, and the lever C, pivoted to the head A at *c*, and carrying the dog D, engaging the rack G, of the block B, adapted to be fastened in position, connected to the lever C by a pin, I, slotted at *b*, in alignment with the slot *e* of the head, and having its inner end overlapping the outer end of the head, substantially as shown and described.

EMMETT J. LOBDELL.

Witnesses:

D. D. GIBBS,
C. SANDERS.