

L. W. RIVERS.  
CARPET-STRETCHER.

No. 180,272.

Patented July 25, 1876.

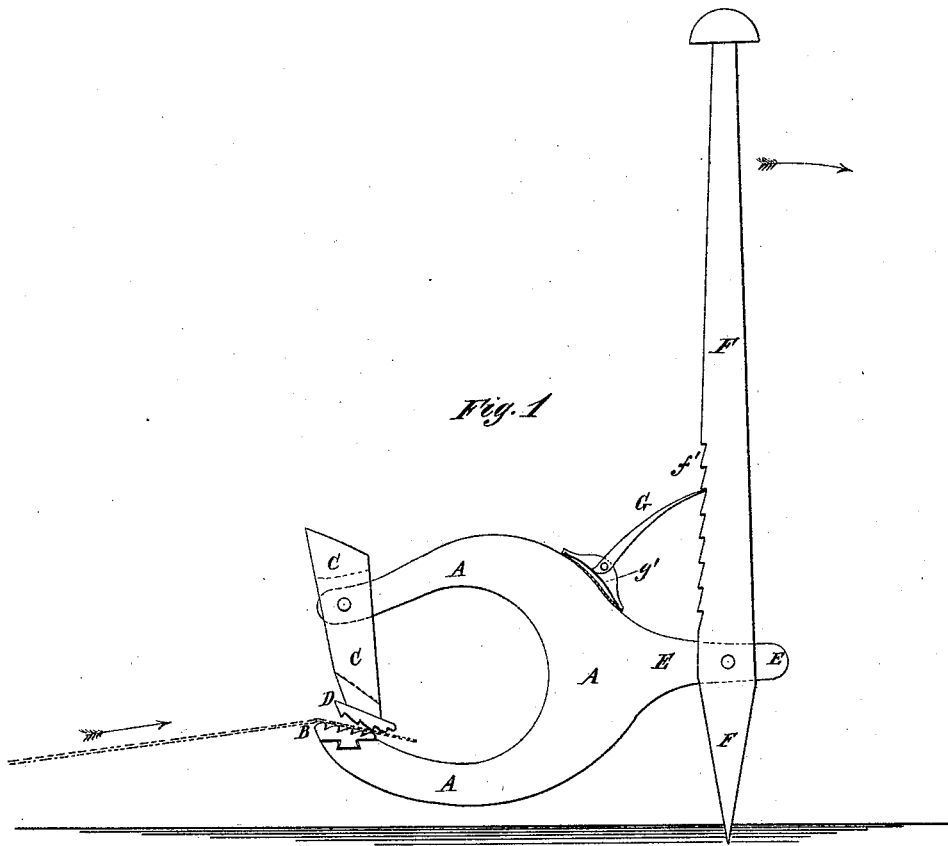


Fig. 1

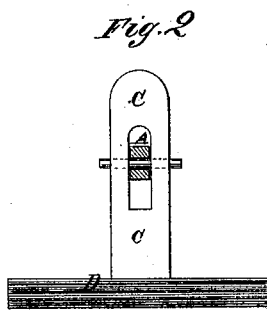


Fig. 2

WITNESSES:

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INVENTOR:

*L. W. Rivers*

BY

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ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS W. RIVERS, OF SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH TERRITORY, ASSIGNOR TO  
HIMSELF AND HANSON J. RIVERS, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CARPET-STRETCHERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,272**, dated July 25, 1876; application filed  
June 12, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEWIS WALDO RIVERS, of Salt Lake City, in the county of Salt Lake and Territory of Utah, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Carpet-Stretcher, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved machine. Fig. 2 is a detail rear view of the swinging arm and jaw.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts:

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved carpet-stretcher which shall be simple in construction, light, strong, durable, convenient in use, and effective in operation, stretching the carpet tightly, and holding it securely until stay-tacks can be driven.

The invention consists in an improved carpet-stretcher, formed of the U-bar, the stationary jaw, the swinging arm and jaw, the arm or lug, the lever provided with a sharp lower end and with ratchet-teeth, and the spring-pawl, constructed and operating as hereinafter fully described.

A is the U-shaped bar of steel, to the lower arm of which is attached a wide jaw, B, by a dovetailed tongue and groove or other suitable means. To the other arm of the U-bar A is pivoted an arm, C, to the lower end of which is attached a jaw, D. The faces of the jaws B D are grooved or corrugated to enable them to take a firm hold upon the carpet without tearing it, and the arm C is made of such a length that the strain upon the carpet will draw the said jaws more firmly together.

Upon the bend of the bar A is formed an arm or lug, E, which is slotted to receive the

lever F, which is pivoted to it by a pin or bolt. The lower end of the lever F is made sharp to cause it to enter the floor, so that it will not slip. Upon the forward side of the upper part of the lever F are formed ratchet-teeth  $f'$ , to receive the engaging end of pawl G, which is pivoted to the bar A, and is held against the lever F by a spring,  $g'$ , that bears against its lower end.

In using the device, the carpet is placed between the jaws B D, and the lever F is arranged with its sharp lower end resting upon the floor, and its upper part inclining forward over the bar A. The upper end of the lever F is then forced back or from the carpet, which draws the said carpet to its place. When the carpet has been strained sufficiently the pawl G holds the lever in place until the stay-tacks can be driven, the tension of the carpet tending to force the sharp end of the lever F into the floor as soon as the upper end of said lever has been moved past a vertical line.

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

An improved carpet-stretcher, formed of the U-bar A, the stationary jaw B, the swinging arm and jaw C D, the arm or lug E, the lever F, provided with a sharp lower end and with ratchet-teeth  $f'$ , and the spring-pawl G  $g'$ , constructed and operating substantially as herein shown and described.

LEWIS W. RIVERS.

Witnesses:

S. T. LONGSTREET,  
R. E. AYLESWORTH.