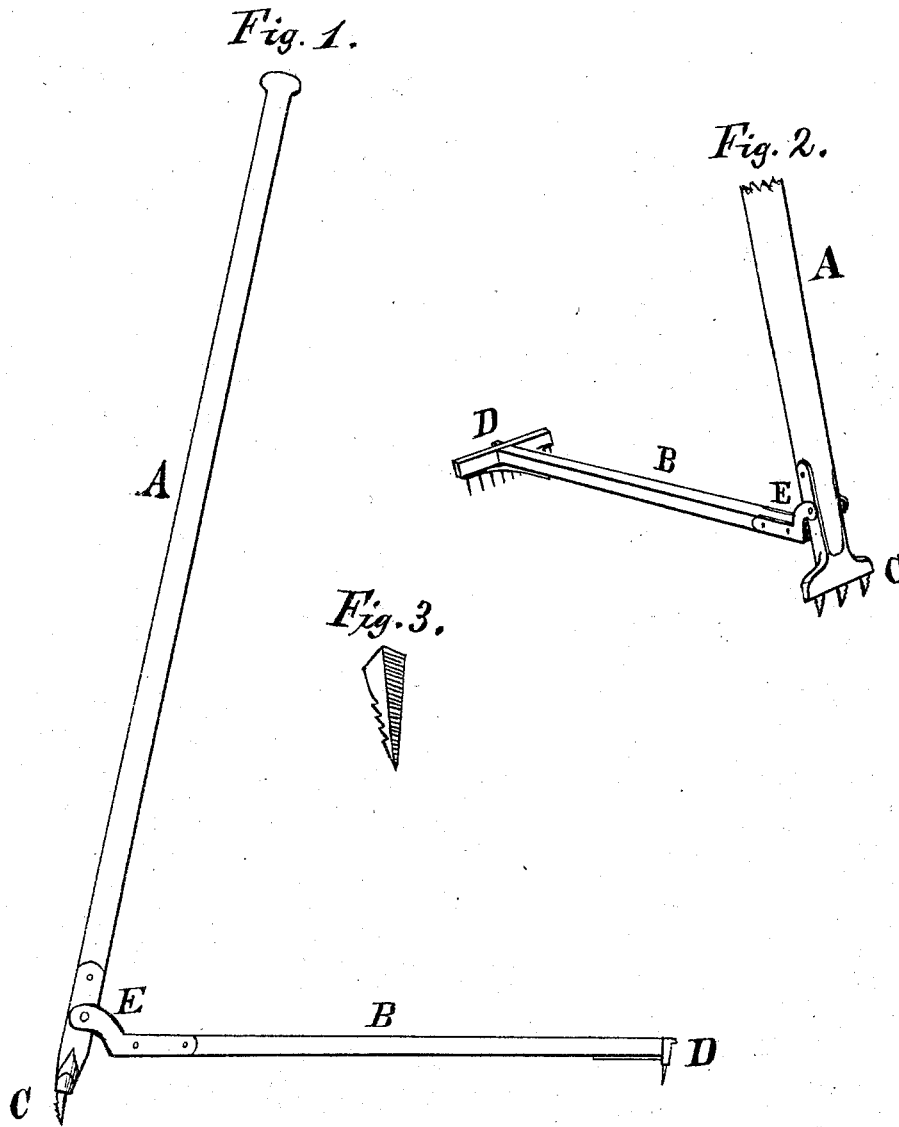


C. F. RAPP.  
CARPET-STRETCHERS.

No. 184,172.

Patented Nov. 7, 1876.



Witnesses  
*Fred W. Smith*  
*Albert C. Getten*

Inventor  
*Chas. F. Rapp*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES F. RAPP, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CARPET-STRETCHERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **184,172**, dated November 7, 1876; application filed February 7, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, CHAS. F. RAPP, of Chicago, in the county of Cook, State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Carpet-Stretchers, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to enable any one to rapidly stretch a carpet in any direction, and push the edges into corners and up to the walls while standing upright, obviating the uncomfortable stooping positions, or going down on the knees and hands.

The stretcher consists, principally, of a long upright lever, A, provided at its lower end with teeth C and arm B, having at its end a rake, D. Teeth C are triangularly pointed, Fig. 3, so they will, fluke-like, engage the floor when the lever is shoved forward, and will readily disengage themselves when lever is reversed. Small notches or barbs are cut in front edge of teeth, so as to make carpet adhere and be carried forward by them. Arm B is attached to the lever near its lower end by means of two curved hinges, E, bringing the arm nearly horizontal, giving sufficient

leverage without lifting the carpet. Rake D is provided with a number of sharp-pointed teeth, which penetrate the carpet, and draw it along when lever is thrown forward.

To work the stretcher it is placed on the carpet with lever A drawn back, as shown in Fig. 1, with teeth C thrust through the carpet, close to its edge, into the floor. The operator, standing on carpet between teeth C and rake, forces the lever forward, thereby stretching the carpet, by means of arm and rake, up to the rake; then, by pressing his foot on rake, its teeth penetrate the floor, and prevent the carpet from slipping back, and also forming a brace for lever, which is then drawn back, teeth C disengaging themselves from the floor, and carrying the carpet forward, and stretching it to its edge.

I claim as my invention—

The combination, in a carpet-stretcher, of a reversible lever, A, provided with teeth C, and arm B, provided with rake D, connected by hinges E.

CHAS. F. RAPP.

Witnesses :

FREDK. W. SMITH,  
ALBERT C. GETTEN.