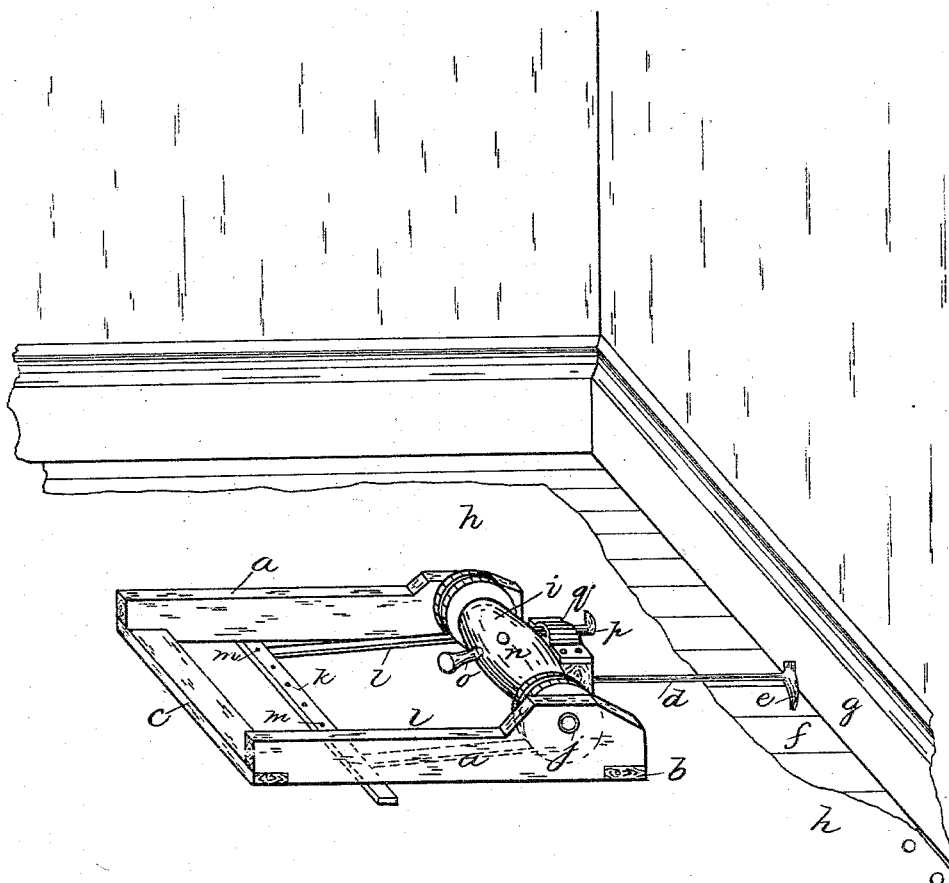


(No Model.)

S. MERCHANT.
CARPET STRETCHER.

No. 301,740.

Patented July 8, 1884.



WITNESSES.

W. J. Morgan
S. H. Morgan

INVENTOR.

Sheldon Merchant
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att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SHELDON MERCHANT, OF HOBART, NEW YORK.

CARPET-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,740, dated July 8, 1884.

Application filed April 28, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SHELDON MERCHANT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hobart, in the county of Delaware and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Carpet-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of improvements in the construction and arrangements of a stretcher, consisting of a frame adapted to rest on the carpet, and having an anchor-spike for driving into the floor at the base-board, for holding it, and also having a windlass, straps, and a hook-bar for drawing up the carpet, the said improvements being designed to adapt the machine for more efficient action, and so as to enable the carpet to be more conveniently handled, as hereinafter fully described, reference being made to the accompanying drawing, which represents my improved carpet-stretcher in perspective view and in position for use on a carpet to be stretched.

I make a small rectangular frame, of wood or metal, as may be preferred, consisting of two side pieces, *a*, and two cross-bars, *b* and *c*, the side pieces being set up edgewise on the cross-bars, and connected to them flush with the lower sides. The cross-bar *b* has a rod, *d*, connected to it at the middle, or thereabout, and extending horizontally a short distance therefrom, and terminating in a spike, *e*, suitably arranged to be readily driven in the floor *f* at the angle between said floor and the base-board *g*, for anchoring the machine to enable it to draw the carpet *h*, for which I mount a roller, *i*, on journals *j* in suitable bearings of the side pieces, *a*, a little back of the cross-piece *b*, and connect a hook-bar, *k*, to said roller by straps *l*, to be drawn toward the base-board *g* by turning the roller and winding up the straps on it, said hook-bar being provided with suitable hooks, *m*, for engaging the carpet, and being arranged parallel to the end bars, and extending under and beyond the side pieces, *a*, to draw the carpet along under them, and also to be pressed down and kept in connection with the carpet by the downward pressure resulting from the stress of the roller located higher than the plane of the spike's hold in the floor and the

hold of the hooks in the carpet; or the frame may be pressed down by hand to hold the hook-bar down, if preferred. The essential object of the arrangement of the hook-bar under the frame is to enable the carpet to be drawn closer to the base *g* than it can be with the hook-bar arranged back of the frame. For turning the roller *i*, I make a series of holes, *n*, in it circumferentially at the middle, for inserting a lever-handle, *o*, to be shifted from one hole to another; to turn the roller by successive movements, and I arrange a slide-bolt, *p*, in a suitable keeper, *q*, on the cross-bar *b*, so that it may be shifted into and out of the same holes, for a means of retaining the roller against the stress of the carpet while shifting the handle. The roller *i* is arranged low down in the frame, as it can thus be well made to operate, in order that, with the direct arrangement of the straps from the roller to the hook-bar, the stress will be very nearly in the plane of the carpet, by which the machine operates better than if so connected with the roller located higher up, and it makes the machine simpler than with guide-rollers for changing the direction of the straps from the plane of the carpet to a roller in a higher position. I construct the roller *i* with collars *s*, between which the straps coil on the roller to be properly controlled laterally.

It will be seen that, besides the simplicity of the construction and cheapness of the cost of my machine, it possesses two essential qualities of importance in a carpet-stretcher—viz., the contrivance of the roller-straps and hook-bar to draw the carpet well along under the frame and up to the base-board, and the arrangement for space between the end bar, *b*, and the base-board *g*, in which the edge of the carpet may be handled to adjust and tack it while held by the stretcher.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, in a carpet-stretcher, of roller *i*, straps *l*, hook-bar *k*, and an anchor-spike, *e*, said roller being mounted in a supporting-frame arranged to rest on the hook-bar, and the hook-bar extended under and beyond the side bars of the frame, substantially as described.

2. The roller *i*, located near the end of the supporting-frame, having the anchor-spike attached to it, also located low down in the frame, to draw in about the plane of the carpet
5 by a direct connection with the hook-bar *k*, in combination with the hook-bar *k*, arranged under the frame, connecting-straps *l*, lever-handle *o*, and the slide-bolt *p*, substantially as described.

10 3. The combination, with the frame, of a carpet-stretcher having means, substantially as described, for stretching the carpet, and an anchor-spike, *e*, connected to said frame by a

rod, *d*, extended beyond the frame, for maintaining free space between the frame and the
15 base-board to facilitate the adjusting and tacking of the carpet between the machine and the said base, substantially as herein set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing
20 witnesses.

SHELDON MERCHANT.

Witnesses:

H. HANFORD,
LEVANDER HAGER.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 301,740.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 301,740, granted July 8, 1884, upon the application of Sheldon Merchant, of Hobart, New York, for an improvement in "Carpet-Stretchers," errors appear in the printed specification requiring correction, as follows: In line 10, page 2, the commas should be omitted; in line 12, same page, the word "and" should read *of*; and that the Letters Patent should be read with these corrections therein to make it conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed, countersigned, and sealed this 22d day of July, A. D. 1884.

[SEAL.]

M. L. JOSLYN,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

Countersigned:

BENJ. BUTTERWORTH,
Commissioner of Patents.