M. WALKER.

Improvement in Washing-Machines.

No. 129,073. Patented July 16, 1872.

Fig. 1.

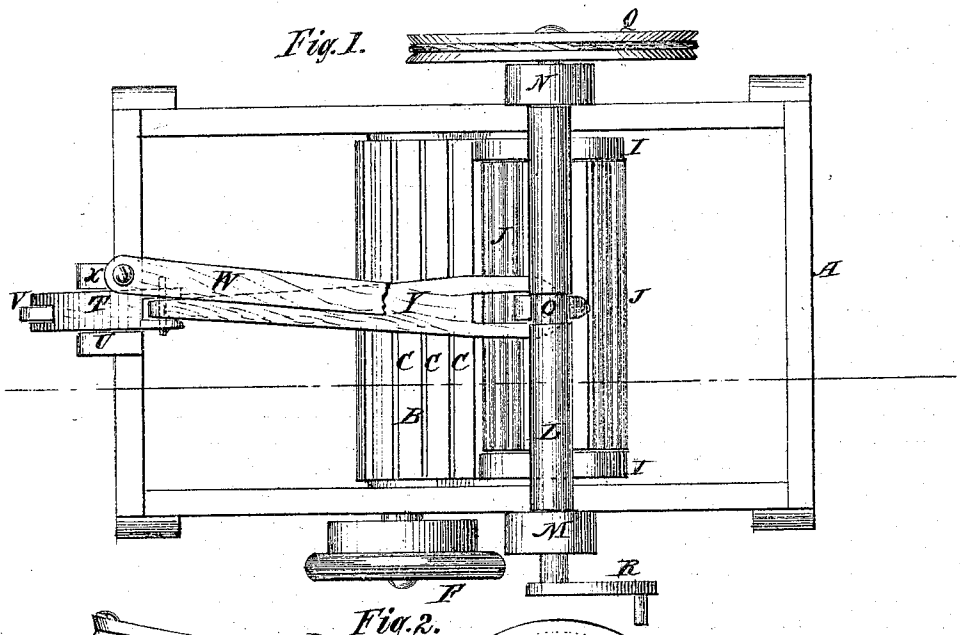
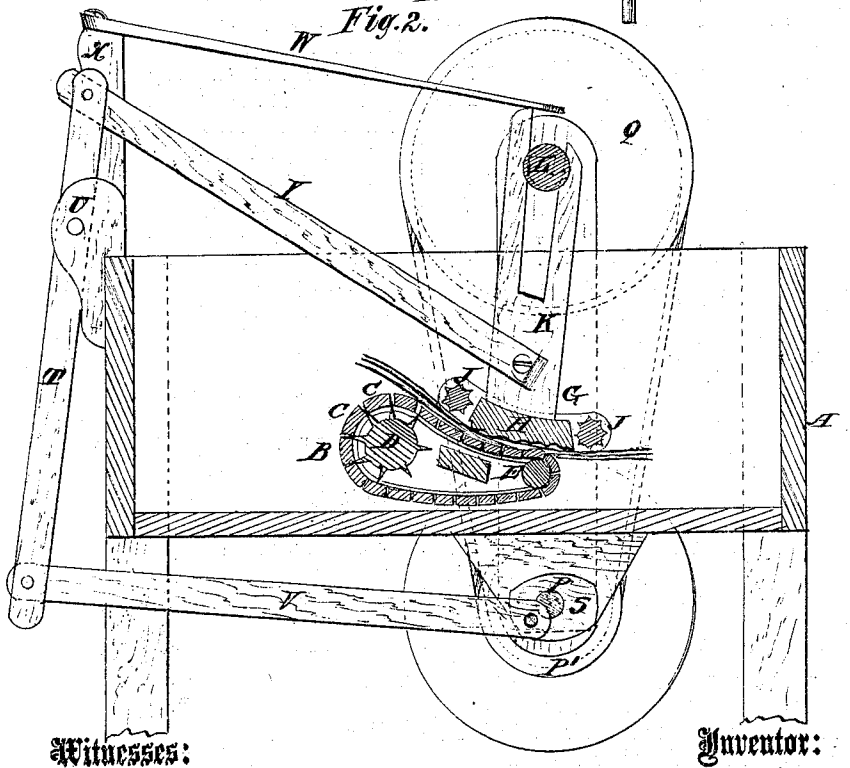


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MOSES WALKER, OF KEESEVILLE, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN WASHING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 129,073, dated July 16, 1872.

Specification describing a new and useful Improvement in Washing-Machines, invented by MOSES WALKER, of Keeseville, in the county of Essex and State of New York.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in machines for washing clothes; and consists in an endless revolving washing-board, and in the construction of the rubber and mode of operating the same, and in the general arrangement and combination of parts hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a top or plan view of my improved machine. Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the wash-box, of any suitable size and proportions, made water-tight. B is the wash-board, consisting of an endless apron formed by connecting fluted wooden slats C with canvas or other straps, or in any similar manner, supported on the finger-shaft D (by means of which shaft the apron is revolved) and on the roller E. One end of the finger-shaft D passes through the side of the box A, upon which is a hand-wheel, F, for revolving or changing the position of the wash-board and clothes thereon. G is the rubber, consisting of the fluted piece H, upon the ends of which are end pieces I I. J J are fluted rollers which revolve on pivots in these end pieces when the rubber is vibrated back and forth on the endless wash-board B. K is a slotted stand on top of the rubber piece H, rigidly attached thereto. L is a horizontal driving-shaft supported on stands M N over the machine, in a groove, O, in which the slotted stand K works, as seen in the drawing. Beneath the box A is a short horizontal shaft, P, upon the outer ends of which is a pulley which receives a band, P, from the wheel Q, which latter is on the end of the driving-shaft L. R is a crank on the outer end of the driving-shaft by means of which the rubber is operated. The inner end of the lower shaft P has a pulley, P′, and a crank-plate, S. T is an upright vibrating-lever, whose fulcrum is at U. The crank-plate S is connected with the lower end of this lever by the bar V, and the upper end of the lever is connected with the stand K of the rubber by the bar Y. When the driving-shaft L is revolved a vibrating motion is communicated to the rubber by this arrangement. The clothes to be washed are placed on the wash-board beneath the rubber, and the position of the clothes on the wash-board may be varied at pleasure by turning the latter by means of the hand-wheel F. W represents a spring attached to the upright post X, the end of which spring bears upon the top of the rubber stand K. By this means a constant down pressure is given the rubber in the process of washing; but the spring is readily slipped one side and off the stand when it is desired to raise the rubber for introducing or removing the clothes.

By means of the endless wash-board it will be seen that any particular portion of the clothes may be retained on the wash-board and rubbed as long as desired.

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

1. The loose flexible stationary wash-board B, combined in a washing-machine with a vibratory arc-shaped wash-board, H J J, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The hand-wheel F combined with a shaft, D, having fingers that fit into the interstices of slats, so as to enable the clothes to be moved forward by hand whenever sufficiently rubbed.

3. The mechanism for operating the rubber, consisting of slotted stand K, shaft L, spring W, lever T, connections V Y, and crank-plate S on a revolving shaft, P, all arranged as described.

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