J. M. Kern,

Washing Machine,

No. 26,996. Patented Jan. 31, 1860.

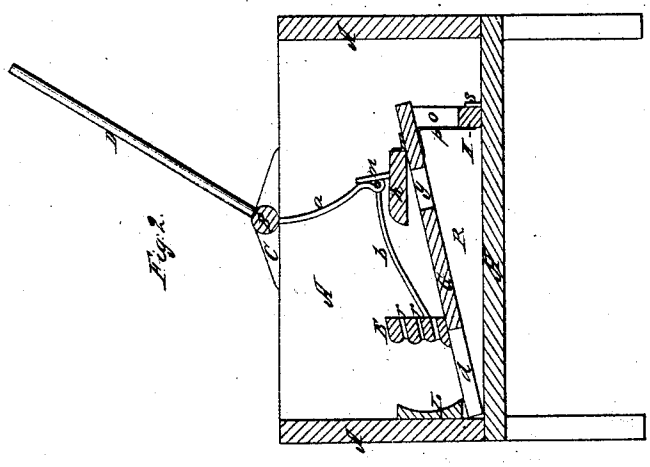

Fig. 2.

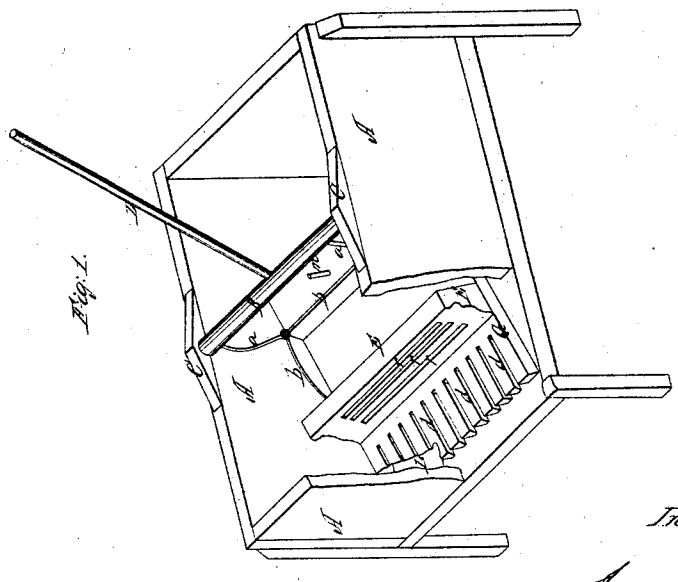

Fig. 1.

Witnesses:
A. Jenkins
P. Raymond

Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES M. KERN, OF MORGANTOWN, VIRGINIA.

WASHING-MACHINE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 26,996, dated January 31, 1860.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES M. KERN, of Morgantown, in the county of Monongalia and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1, represents a perspective view of said washing machine. Fig. 2, represents a longitudinal vertical section through the same.

The nature of my invention relates to the peculiar construction of a washing machine, by which the heavier parts of the dirt, which have been separated from the clothes, and which are kept suspended in the suds, are separated from said suds and are retained in a chamber of the machine, whereby they are prevented from coming again in contact with the clothes to be washed, thus materially shortening the operation of washing.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A, represents the box which contains the suds, and the clothes to be washed; B, is a rock shaft, which has its bearings within the brackets C, and which is worked by means of the lever D. E, is a dasher or plunger which is hinged to the rods, *a* of the rock shaft B, by means of the rod *b;* the rod *b*, is bent as represented in Fig. 1, and its ends are fastened to or near the ends of the dasher E.

G, represents an inclined board which is supported at one end, by the board H, while its other end rests on the bottom of the box A, and has notches *d*, cut into said end, the openings of which are narrow at the top, and wide at the bottom as represented in Fig. 1.

g, is an opening in the board G, which is opened and closed by a hinged valve *h*, which latter is operated by the action of the rod *b*, upon the pin *m*.

O, is an opening or passage in the board H, which is covered on the inside with coarse cloth *p*, through which the water or suds may pass, but which will not let through the coarser impurities suspended in the water.

r, are water passages in the dasher of the usual construction.

The boards G, and H, are held in their position, and prevented from moving on the bottom, by the pin *s*, against which the board H, bears, and together with the bottom of the box A, constitute a chamber or compartment R.

The operation of the machine is as follows: The suds having been poured into the box A the articles to be washed are placed upon the inclined board G, and between the dasher E, and the board L, and as the lever D, is operated, the rock shaft B, is turned and the clothes are subjected to the operation of washing in the usual manner. When the dasher E, carries the clothes against the board L, it presses the greater part of the suds through the slots *d*, and into the chamber or box R, the coarser particles settle in this chamber while the suds may pass through the cloth *p*, and opening *o*, into the box A, and operate again on the articles to be washed. When the dasher E, is moved from the board L, the rod *b*, comes in contact with and presses against the pin *m*, thereby raises the valve *h*, and the water is forced down in to the chamber R, where the coarser particles remain, and from which the clear suds may escape in the manner above described, by the repeated strokes of the dasher. Thus it will be seen that a continuous flow of the suds is effected through the triangular chamber R, in which the coarser dirt settles, and that the suds when again brought in contact with the clothes will more effectually cleanse them by the use of this arrangement, as in machines where all the dirt is kept suspended in the suds and brought in contact with the clothes at each operation of the dasher.

Having thus fully described the nature of my invention what I claim therein as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In combination with the dasher E, and inclined board C, the openings *d*, valve covered opening *g*, and filtering diaphragm *p*, communicating with the chamber R, the whole being arranged and operating substantially in the manner, and for the purpose herein described.

JAMES M. KERN.

Witnesses:

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A. JENKINS.