

Bernhardt & Houston,

Washing Machine,

N^o 69,751.

Patented Oct. 15, 1867.

Fig. 1.

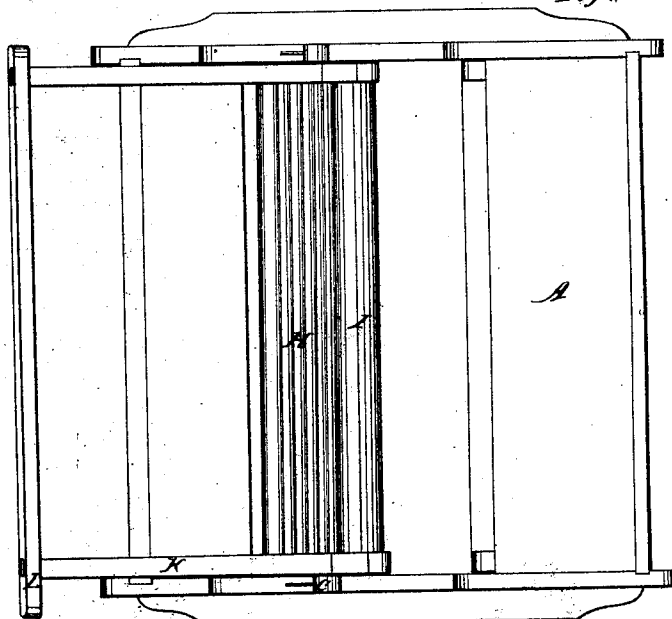
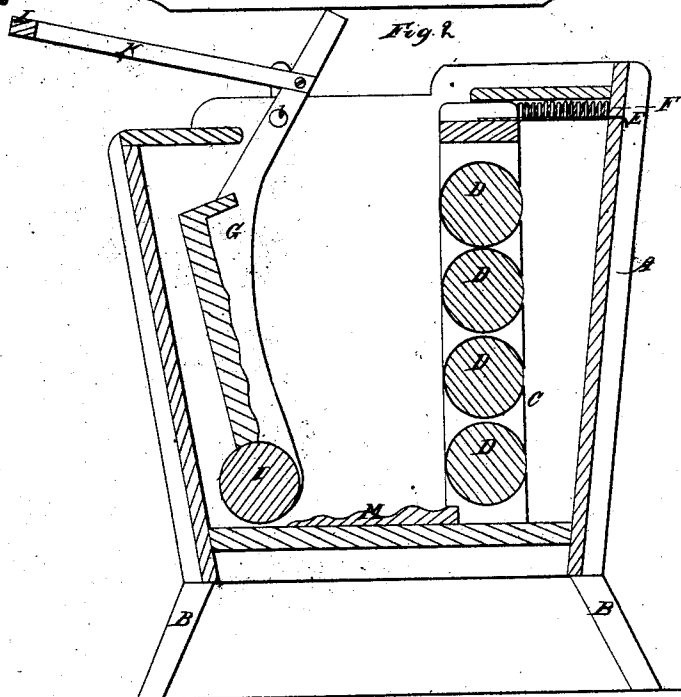


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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D. C. BERNHARDT AND S. F. HOUSTON, OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA.

Letters Patent No. 69,751, dated October 15, 1867.

IMPROVED WASHING MACHINE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, D. C. BERNHARDT and S. F. HOUSTON, of Charlotte, county of Mecklenburg, and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Washing Machines; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings; and to letters of reference marked thereon, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view, and

Figure 2 is a sectional view, clearly showing my invention.

The nature of my invention consists in so constructing a washing machine that the clothes throughout the entire operation are never brought in contact with a rigid or unyielding surface. To accomplish this object I substitute for the stationary wash-board now in common use a series of rollers supported in a frame, which is hinged or pivoted to the bottom of the tub or box, and which is supported by springs at its upper end in such a manner that, when the clothes are brought in contact with the same, the frame and rollers will yield sufficiently to permit of the operation being thoroughly performed without any of the disadvantages and injurious results so common in washing machines constructed on a different principle.

The foregoing, in connection with the beater, which I form by combining a corrugated plate and roller in the same frame, constitutes my entire invention.

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

The tub or box A, which is constructed in the usual manner, and in any of the ordinary forms, is supported by legs B B. These legs are secured to the tub by means of screws, or in any other convenient manner. To the bottom of the tub or box A I secure, by means of pivots, a frame, C. In this frame are secured four or more rollers D D D D. The frame C is secured to the top of the tub by means of a stay-rod, E. To the rear side of the frame C I secure two or more springs F. These springs are so arranged in connection with the frame C that it presents a yielding surface when the beater or other pressure is brought to bear upon the rollers D. G G are the side bars of the beater-frame. To the upper end of these side bars are secured two small rollers *b b*, which rest and work in suitable bearings *c c* in the sides of the tub A. Between these side bars G G a corrugated plate, H, is secured underneath this plate; and to the lower portion of the side bars G G there is also attached a roller, I. An oscillating motion is imparted to the beater by means of levers K K, which are secured to the side bars G G, said levers being attached at their outer end to a handle, L.

The articles to be washed are placed in the tub A, and rest on the fluted plate M. Motion is then imparted to the beater, the roller I of which, passing over the clothes, conveys them to the rollers D; where the principal rubbing necessary to clean the same is performed.

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

The frame C, having rollers D, and supported by the springs, when the same is in combination with an inclined beater-frame having a roller, and the whole is constructed, arranged, and operated substantially as described.

D. C. BERNHARDT,
S. F. HOUSTON.

Witnesses:

JAS. S. HENDERSON,
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