

J. BENNETT.
Washing-Machines.

No. 143,869.

Patented Oct. 21, 1873.

Fig. 1

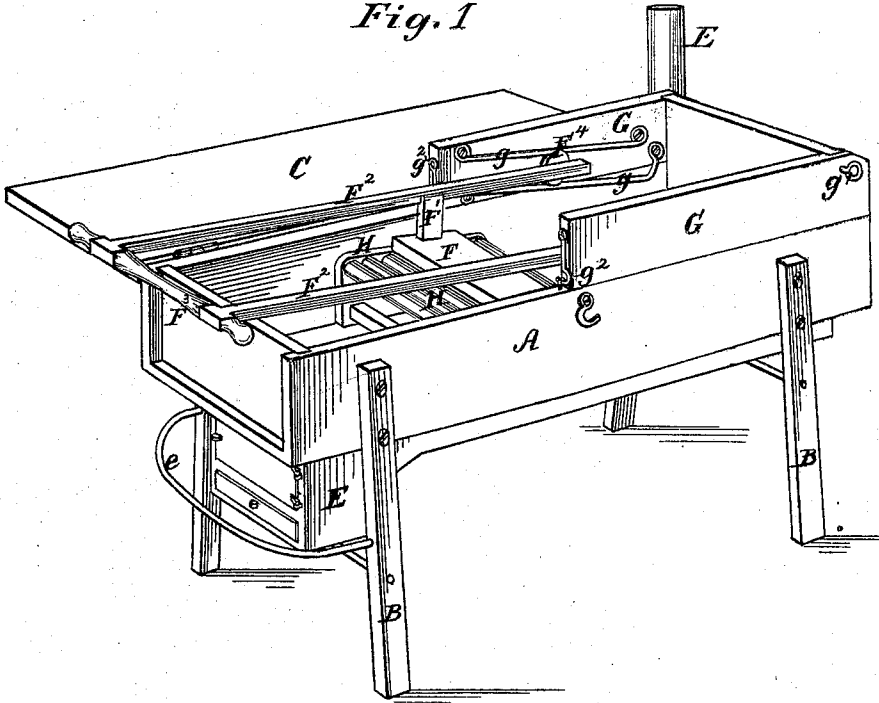
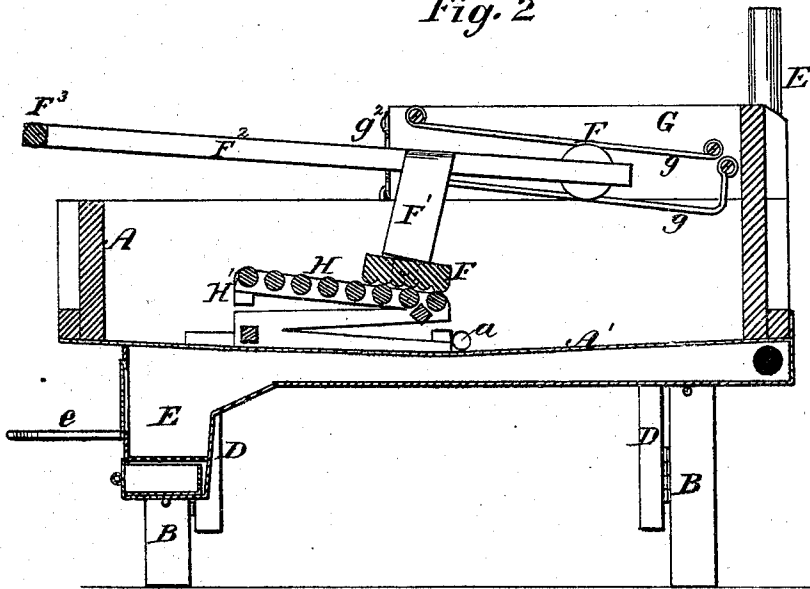


Fig. 2



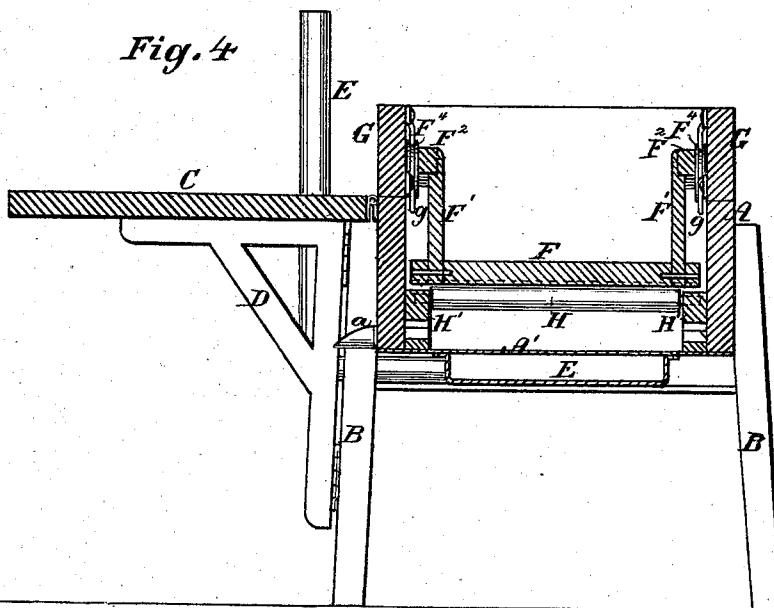
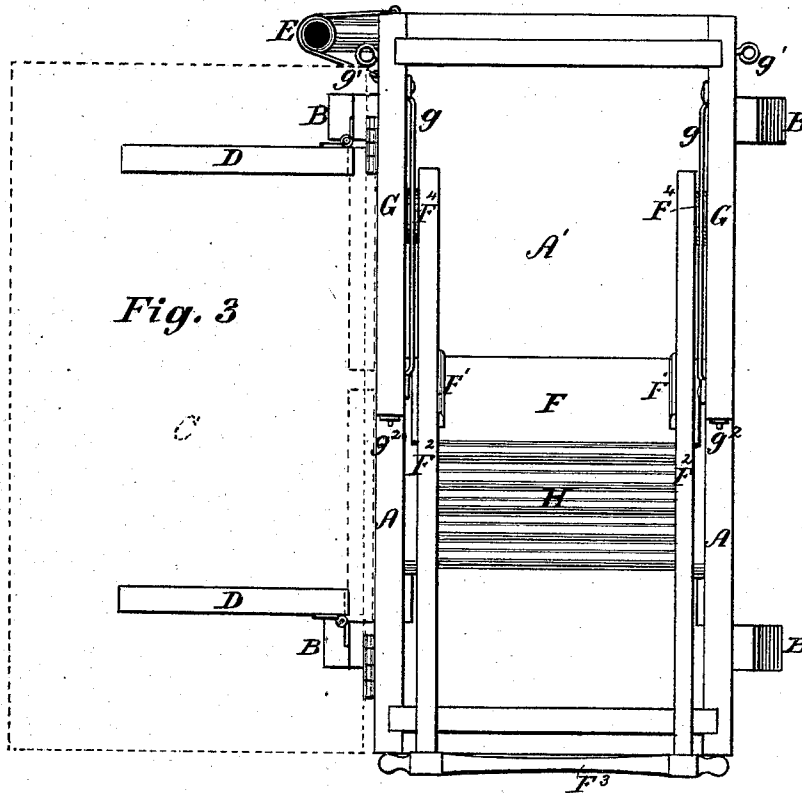
Witnesses:-
Clark S. Fuller
C. C. Poole.

Inventor:-
John Bennett
by his atty
Wm. H. Rome

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN BENNETT, OF EL PASO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN WASHING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **143,869**, dated October 21, 1873; application filed May 27, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN BENNETT, of El Paso, in the county of Woodford and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of machines which employ a reciprocating rubber-head and a stationary wash-board, over which the clothes are scrubbed, and worked from place to place by the action of the rubber-head; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a machine embodying my improvements; Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section of the same; Fig. 3, a plan view, with the cover removed to show the hinged supports; and Fig. 4, a transverse vertical section in the line *x x* of Fig. 3.

A rectangular box, A, of suitable dimensions, is supported upon the legs B B, and is provided with a hinged cover, C, which, when open, rests upon brackets or supports D, hinged to the legs. When the cover is closed the brackets may be folded back against the sides of the box, and placed out of the way. The bottom A' of the box is made of galvanized iron, copper, or other suitable plate metal; and a furnace, E, is placed directly beneath it, and extends under its entire surface. The bottom of the box is sloping or depressed toward the middle, so that the sediment accumulating at that part of the box may be readily run off through the vent *a*. The rubber-head F is of suitable form, and, preferably, notched or corrugated on its face to better hold the material to be worked. The rubber-head is pivoted to brackets F¹ F¹ at either end in such manner that it will have a limited rocking movement, in order that it may adapt itself to the varying surface over which it moves. The brackets F¹ F¹ are secured to rails F² F², that are connected together, at one of their ends, by the handle F³, and are provided with friction-rollers F⁴ F⁴, that are guided and held in place by, and travel freely between, guide-rods *g g*, secured to the box in a peculiar manner. The rods *g g* are connected to detachable leaves or guide-boards G G, which fit upon, and project above, the upper edge of the box at its rear end, and extend about half-way of its length, so that the water and suds

thrown up by the worker will be prevented from splashing out over the sides of the box.

By placing the guide-rods upon the leaves G G, arranged above the box, they are, in a great measure, prevented from swelling by the water saturating the wood, which would impede the working of the rollers; and, when iron is used, are prevented from corroding, which would discolor the water and injure the clothing.

The leaves are held in place by suitable pins *g¹ g¹* and hooks *g² g²*, which permit them to be removed, so that the lid may be closed, and the box converted into a boiler, when desired.

The face of the wash-board H is formed of rollers freely journaled in the side pieces H' H' of its frame. The side pieces are connected together by cross-braces, and are formed in a peculiar manner to permit the face of the wash-board to yield and adjust itself beneath the rubber to prevent the clothes from being injured thereby, and also enable the machine to be operated with greater ease.

The side pieces are formed of hickory, or other suitable elastic material, and are Z-shaped, to permit the face of the board to yield uniformly over its entire surface, as will be readily understood.

I thus secure a simple, cheap, and effective spring mechanism without the use of metal or other corroding material.

The operation of the device will be readily understood from the foregoing description, as it does not differ in principle from other machines of this class.

By means of the improved construction and arrangement of the various parts I am enabled to handle the clothes with great convenience and expedition, and also secure a durable and easily-operating device.

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

The combination and arrangement of the wash-board H, having the Z-shaped side pieces, rubber-head F, brackets F¹ F¹, rails F² F², guide-rods *g g*, attached to the removable guide-boards G G, and the wash-box A, all constructed and operated substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN BENNETT.

Witnesses:

JOS. T. K. PLANT,
CLARK S. FULLER.