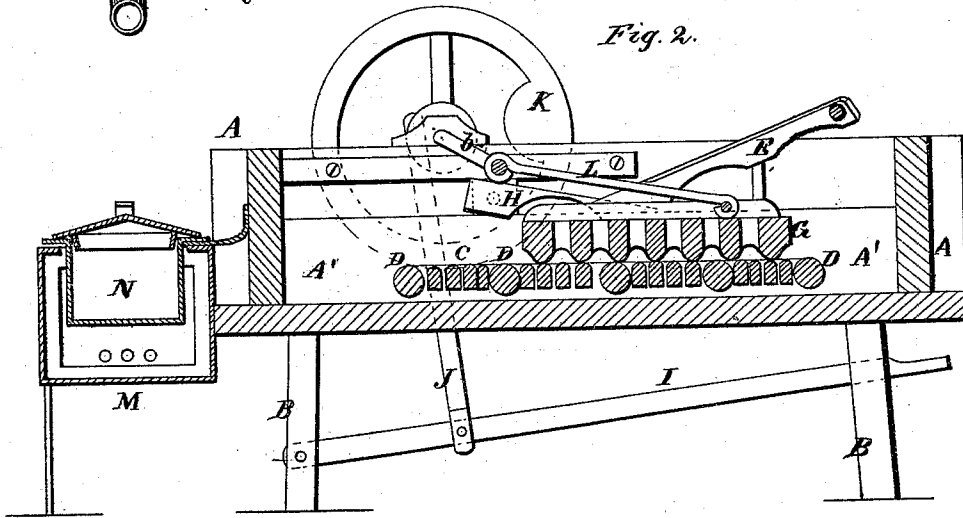
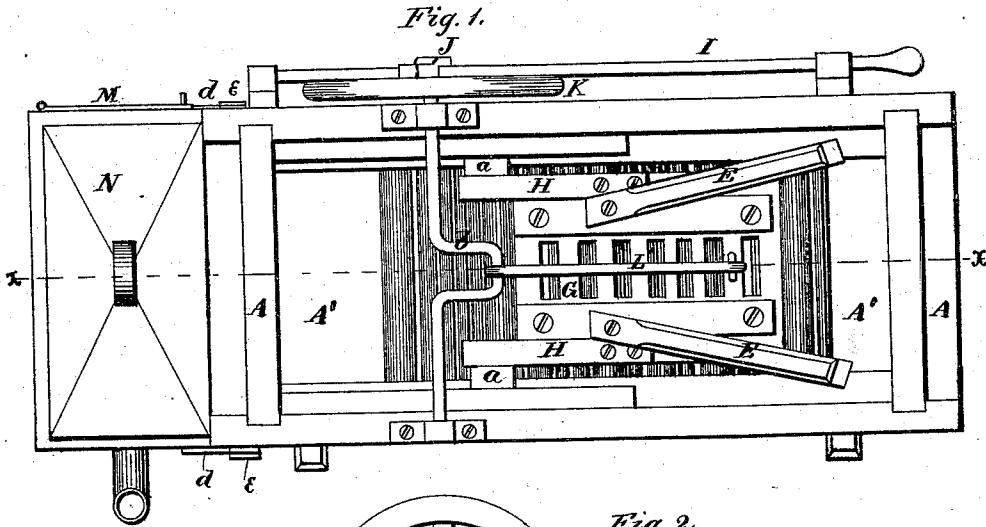


WASHING-MACHINE.

No. 171,965.

Patented Jan. 11, 1876.



Witnesses:
H. K. Duhamel
Henry N. Miller

Inventor.
John Thompson.
Per *H. S. Abbott.*
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN THOMPSON, OF TOPEKA, KANSAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN WASHING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,965**, dated January 11, 1876; application filed April 24, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN THOMPSON, of Topeka, county of Shawnee and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a washing-machine, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved washing-machine, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same through the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

A represents a rectangular box, of any suitable dimensions, supported upon legs B B. In this box is arranged a wash-board, consisting of transverse bars C C and rollers D D, substantially in the manner shown in Fig. 2—that is, between the rollers are placed a number of bars, more or less, as desired, and all having openings or small spaces between them. The wash-board, preferably, is made in sections, each section slotted to form a series of bars, and the rollers placed between the sections, to carry the clothes along. The wash-board, being open, permits the water to pass up through it; and it is, in a full-sized machine, set about an inch above the bottom of the box A, which allows the dirt to settle to the bottom, and not remain on the wash-board.

G represents the follower or rubber, provided with handles E E, and attached, by means of springs H H, to slides *a a*, moving in horizontal grooves formed in the sides of the box, a suitable distance above the wash-board C D. The rubber G is corrugated, and provided with a series of slots, as shown, the slots allowing the water to pass through the same and go through the clothes.

The rubber or follower fastens onto the clothes, and rubs them on the wash-board; and the springs H, being pivoted to the slides

a, permit the rubber to raise and lower, according to the amount of clothes under it. The springs H H will yield to the clothes, even though they may not turn out of the way on their pivots.

The operator can put as much or as little weight on the rubber as may be required by means of the handles E. The rubber may be raised to a perpendicular position, for putting in and removing the clothes. When it is desired to change after rubbing one part of the garment sufficient, the rubber is raised with the hand, when it runs back to the rear end of the machine, leaving the garment lying on the wash-board until the rubber is drawn toward the front and catches the garment in another place, and so goes on until it is washed through.

The rubber is operated by means of a treadle, I, connected by a pitman, J, with a fly-wheel, K, upon the end of a crank-shaft, *b*, which has its bearings on the upper edges of the box A, and this crank-shaft by a pitman, L, connected with the rubber. By this means the machine will work very easy and fast.

It will be noticed that there is a space or chamber, A', left at each end of the box A, not occupied by the wash-board. The space in the front end is convenient for preparing the clothes for the wash, and that in the rear end for the clothes after they have passed through the wash and ready for the wringer, which may be placed on the rear end of the machine.

M represents a sheet-iron furnace, provided with a boiler, N, which furnace is attached to the wash-box A by means of notched arms *d d* entering and catching in staples *e e* on the sides, at the rear end, of the box A. The clothes can thus be run from the wringer into the boiler.

If the furnace and boiler are not desired to be used they can easily be detached from the wash-box.

I do not claim, in a washing-machine, either the within-described wash-board or the rubber, broadly, but desire to confine myself to the combination claimed.

Having thus fully described my invention,

what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the corrugated and slotted rubber G, provided with the handles E, springs H, and slides *a*, with the wash-board, consisting of the bars C C and D D, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I hereunto affix my signature this 20th day of April, 1874.

JOHN THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

W. H. COCK,

GEO. T. GILMORE.