

(No Model.)

J. PITTIGAN.  
WASH BOARD.

No. 470,594.

Patented Mar. 8, 1892.

Fig. 1.

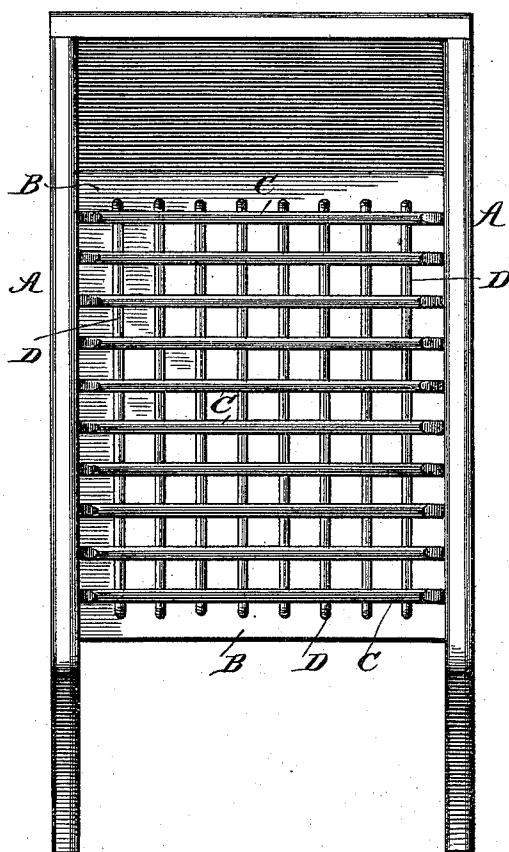


Fig. 2.

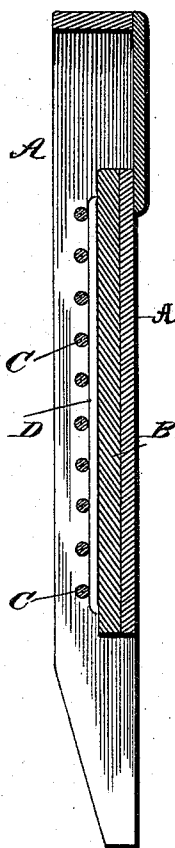


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES PITTIGAN, OF GOODLAND, INDIANA.

## WASH-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 470,594, dated March 8, 1892.

Application filed August 5, 1891. Serial No. 401,795. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES PITTIGAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Goodland, in the county of Newton and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wash-Boards, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a wash-board of great durability—one cheaply and easily constructed and well adapted for washing the clothes in an effective manner and without risk of tearing the same.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the wash-board, and Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a transverse section.

A is the outer frame of the wash-board, and B is the base-board, to which are secured the two series of cross-hatched wires C D. The outer series of wire are horizontal and the inner series are vertical, the two series forming a cross-hatched surface. The outer series are somewhat larger than the inner series, the outer series being about No. 9 wire and the inner series No. 10. These wires are secured to the base-board B by having their ends bent at right angles, the ends of the vertical series being entered into holes in the base-board at the top and bottom and the ends of the horizontal series being bent around the sides of the base-board and secured by a tack, screw, or any other suitable means. The base-board with the series attached is fitted into the frame A and is secured in place by nails or other equivalent means.

At the points where the horizontal series of wires cross the vertical series the wires are connected together by being soldered by the molten metal used in galvanizing or tinning the wire, which process will be necessary to prevent the wire from rusting and soiling the clothes. This connection of each wire of one series to every wire of the other series causes them to firmly maintain their position without being bent out of place by the rubbing action.

The wires are preferably spaced about five-eighths of an inch apart, but may be arranged closer together or farther apart.

In practical operation the horizontal wires sustain the rubbing strain and wear an indefinite length of time without tearing the

clothes, as is liable to occur where corrugated sheet metal is used and becomes worn through. The cleansing action is very much more effective also than in the usual construction, since the horizontal wires are held up above the base-board, and the water has a chance to run under the same and down between the subjacent vertical wires.

In defining my invention with greater clearness, I would state that I am aware that it is not new to form the rubbing-face of a wash-board of a sheet of woven wire in which the strands are not straight, but are woven by the interlocking of the woven texture and pass alternately from the outer surface of the board to the inner surface. In my invention the outer or horizontal series of rods are of comparatively large size and are straight stout rods that lie in a single plane, while the underneath or vertical rods are also straight and occupy a single plane. This construction secures the following distinctive advantages: First, a series of unobstructed vertical channels are formed under the rubbing-surface, which allows the water to quickly descend and prevents any lodgment of dirt or gummy matters; second, the rubbing-surface is in the nature of continuous horizontal ridges that are elevated a considerable distance above the board, which gives a better rubbing-surface and a freer clearance of water, and, thirdly, any one of the outside layer of rods may be taken out and renewed without disturbing the other.

I am also further aware of a wash-board composed of a series of horizontal rods with ends entered into the side pieces and with the rods stayed or supported in the middle by a vertical subjacent strip. In my invention the horizontal rods are supported all along their length by a series of vertical rods, so that the upper series of rods cannot be bent between their points of support, and the horizontal rods are also bent at right angles and secured by a tack or screw to the base B before being inserted between the side frames, which greatly facilitate the construction and avoid the splitting of the side pieces.

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

A wash-board consisting of the combination of outer frame A, the base-board B, the series of vertical rods D, attached to said base-board in parallel position, and the series  
5 of horizontal rods C, applied at right angles to the outside of the rods D and having their ends bent inwardly at right angles and se-

cured to the edges of the base-board, substantially as shown and described.

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