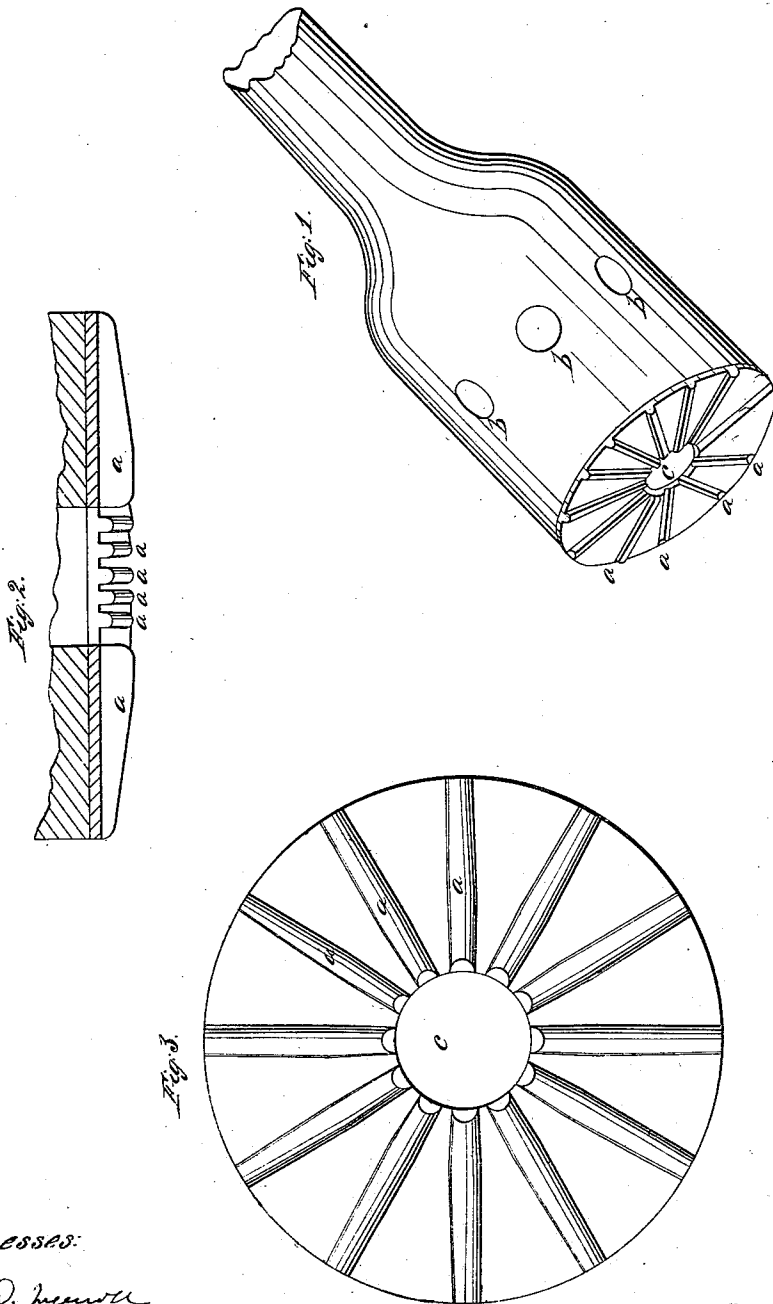


*P. A. La France,*  
*Clothes Pounder.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 84,633.*

*Patented Dec. 1, 1868.*



*Witnesses:*

*Charles D. Ingersoll*  
*John Pinney*

*Inventor:*

*P. A. La France*

# United States Patent Office.

P. A. LA FRANCE, OF ELMIRA, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF  
AND OSCAR B. GRAY, OF NEW YORK CITY.

*Letters Patent No. 84,633, dated December 1, 1868.*

## IMPROVED WASH-POUNDER

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

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, P. A. LA FRANCE, of Elmira, Chemung county, State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wash-Pounders, being an improved rubber bottom or pad for a wash-pounder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the pad attached to the pounder, with the elevated radii or ribs *a a a*, and the vent or orifice *b*.

Figure 2 shows the rubber pad disconnected from the pounder, it being a cross-section.

Figure 3 is a plan of the same.

The object of this invention is to provide a more effective means to cleanse clothing and fabrics without injury, which is the only objection ever urged against the ordinary wooden pounder, owing to its hard, sharp, and unyielding edges coming in contact with frail and delicate fabrics, and the tearing off and breaking of buttons, &c.

I remedy this objection by securing a rubber bottom or pad to the under side of a pounder, by any suitable means, provided with corrugations, grooves, or elevated radii, or with any irregular surface, calculated to rub or squeeze the dirt from the clothes, &c.

The rubber may be combined or not with cloth, or other fibrous material with which rubber is usually combined, to give it strength and durability.

I do not confine myself to any particular design or form of the pad. I provide one or more holes, as shown at *c*, for the upward passage of water, which escapes in suitable openings, as at *c c c*.

Having thus described my invention,

What I desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A rubber shield or pad-attachment to a wash-pounder, in general form and device substantially as and for the purposes described.

P. A. LA FRANCE.

Witnesses:

CHARLES D. INGERSOLL,  
JOHN PINGREY.