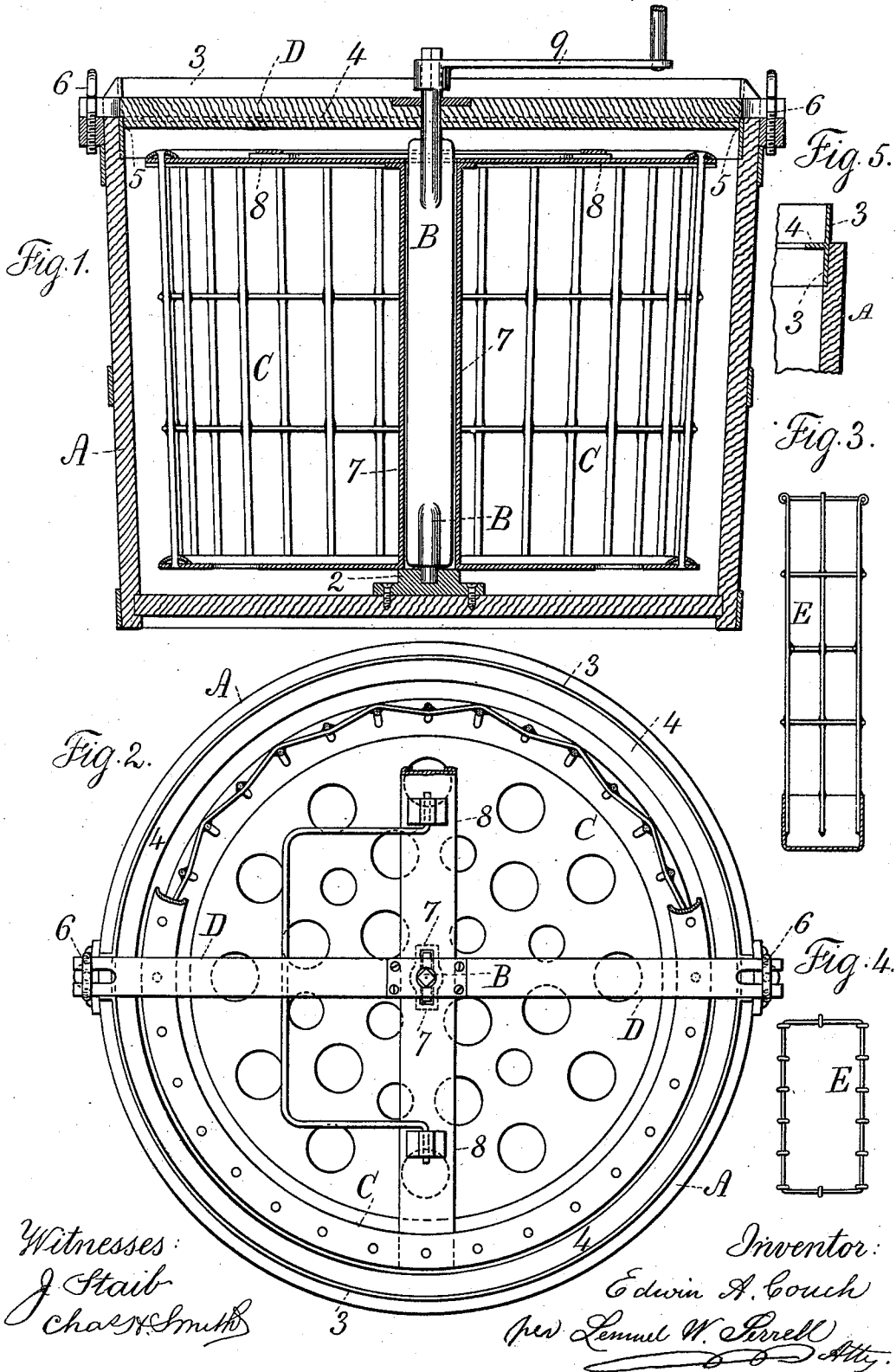


(No Model.)

E. A. COUCH.  
DISH CLEANER.

No. 523,426.

Patented July 24, 1894.



Witnesses:  
J. Staib  
Chas. Smith

Inventor:  
Edwin A. Couch  
per Lemuel W. Farrell Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN A. COUCH, OF PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY.

## DISH-CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 523,426, dated July 24, 1894.

Application filed February 2, 1894. Serial No. 498,828. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN A. COUCH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Plainfield, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Dish-Washers, of which the following is a specification.

This improvement is made with special reference to giving facility for packing dishes into a removable basket and for keeping the knives, forks and spoons separate from the dishes so as not to project from the basket and be liable to injury, and also for removing the spindle upon and by which the basket is rotated.

In carrying out my improvements I find it advantageous to make use of an ordinary tub with an upwardly projecting rim and inwardly projecting lip to prevent the agitation causing the water to splash over the edge of the tub, and the basket is made of open wire-work with a central cross-bar and a tubular sheath for the removable axis to pass through, so that such axis may be inserted or withdrawn without risk of injury to the crockery.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section illustrating the present improvement. Fig. 2 is a plan view, partly in section and Fig. 3 a detached section of the sheath into which the knives, forks or spoons are inserted. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the same, and Fig. 5 is a detached section of the rim.

The tub or vessel A is of suitable size according to the number of dishes that are to be washed at one time, and in the bottom of the tub is a socket 2 for the axis B of the basket C, and around the top portion of the tub is a rim 3 with an inwardly projecting lip 4. This may be of sheet metal; the tub or vessel itself preferably being of wood so as to give a firm support to the cross-bar D which rests upon the top edges of the tub and is provided with a shoulder 5 setting within the top edges of the tub; and there are slots for the buttons 6 that connect the cross-bar to the tub and allow for the easy removal of such cross-bar when the basket C is to be lifted out. This tub or vessel A may be of wood or metal. This basket C is preferably made of open wire-work to give free passage for the water in the washing operation, and there is a case 7, preferably of sheet metal, for the

axis B to pass through, and this case 7 is fastened at its upper end to the cross-bar 8 of the basket, which cross-bar forms or receives a handle for lifting the basket from place to place, and when the dishes are packed into the basket the case 7 aids in preventing them slipping and also forms an opening through which the axis B is easily inserted or withdrawn without the risk of breaking the dishes, and the axis B is made with wings, or polygonal, so as to set into corresponding openings in the bottom of the basket and in the cross-bar 8, so that the basket and axis rotate together; and there is a handle 9 at the upper end of the removable axis above the cross-bar D.

I provide a case or sheath E adapted to the reception of knives, forks and spoons, which sheath is of open wire-work, the meshes or openings in which are sufficiently small to prevent the articles within the sheath escaping, and this sheath is to be pushed down at any suitable opening between the articles that are set into the basket, the sheath being elastic to a greater or less extent serves to wedge or hold the plates and other articles so that they are not liable to be displaced or broken by the rapid rotation to which the basket and its contents are subjected in the washing operation.

It will now be apparent that the basket can be lifted out from the tub and carried to the place where the dishes are to be received, and such dishes are packed into the basket together with the sheath and its contents and then the basket is inserted into the tub, and the axis B inserted through the case within the basket, and the lower end of the axis rests in the socket 2 and the cross bar D put in place and hot water is supplied in the tub in sufficient quantity for washing the dishes, and the axis and basket are rotated by the handle 9, preferably in one direction and then in the other direction so as to cause the hot water to flow between the dishes and thoroughly wash the same, after which the cross-bar D and axis B are removed and the basket lifted out of the tub to allow the water to run off the dishes, and the dishes may dry in the basket or they may be removed and wiped as desired.

This apparatus is cheap and portable and

the dishes are not liable to injury, and the operation is rapid and easily performed and very little power is required to rotate the basket.

5 I claim as my invention—

1. The combination with a tub or vessel for holding hot water, of a basket of openwork having a cross-bar with an opening for the removable axis and a central case extending  
10 from the cross-bar to the bottom of the basket, a cross-bar on the top of the vessel and a removable axis passing through the cross-bars and through the case, and a socket in the bottom of the vessel for receiving the lower end  
15 of the axis, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination in a dish washer, of a

tub or vessel for holding hot water, having a socket in the bottom of the vessel, a removable cross-bar resting at its ends on the top edges of the vessel, a rim and lip around and  
20 projecting above the top edge of the vessel, a basket of openwork having a central case, a removable axis passing through the central case and through the cross-bar at the top of the vessel and resting at its lower end in the  
25 socket within the vessel, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 30th day of January, 1894.  
E. A. COUCH.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,  
A. M. OLIVER.