J. S. BROOKS.

Improvement in Wash-Boards.

No. 131,246. Patented Sep. 10, 1872.

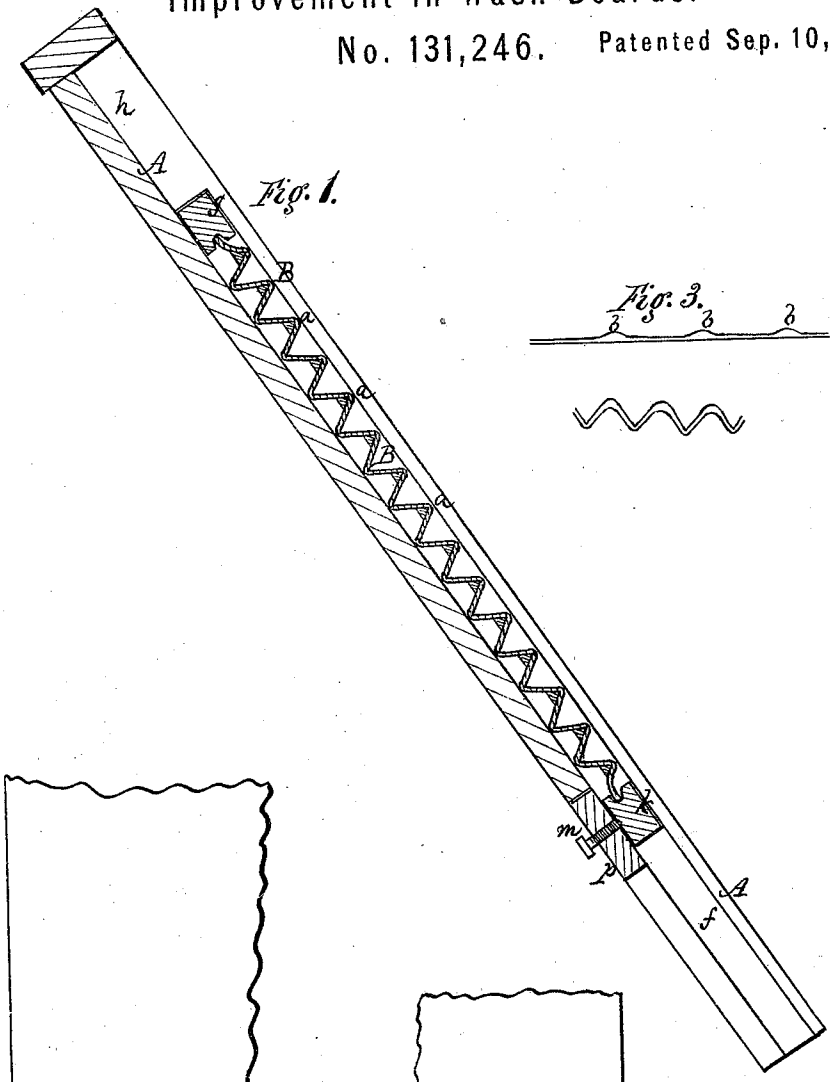

Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

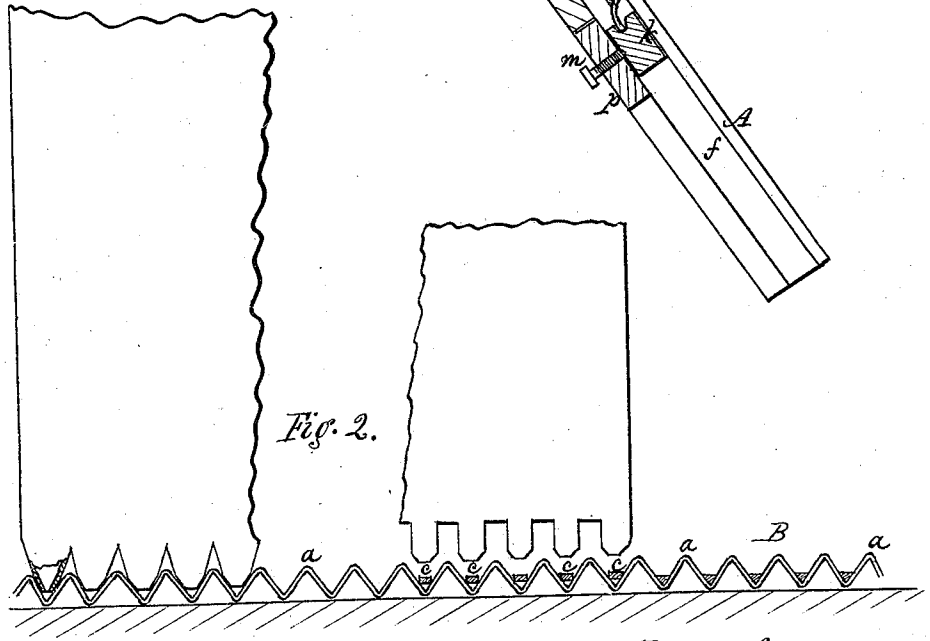

Fig. 2.

Witnesses.
Archibald Baird
Chas. A. Webb

Inventor.
John S. Brooks,
per Burke, Fraser & Osgood
attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN S. BROOKS, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN WASH-BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **131,246**, dated September 10, 1872; antedated September 7, 1872.

Specification describing a certain Improvement in Wash-Boards, invented by JOHN S. BROOKS, of the city of Rochester, in the county of Monroe, and State of New York.

This invention consists in thickening the corrugations of a metallic wash-board, in order to produce a better wearing-surface, and to prevent as much as possible the cracking and breaking of the metal.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of a wash-board showing my improvement; Fig. 2, a diagram, showing the method of filling the corrugations; Fig. 3, a view, showing a modified form of producing a thickening of the corrugations.

A represents the frame, and B the corrugated metallic plate which forms the rubbing-surface. The corrugations *a a* of this plate are stamped, rolled, or struck up of ordinary form. In order to produce a thickening of the apexes of the corrugations, to produce a better wearing-surface, and to prevent cracking and breaking, I have several methods of procedure: First, narrow strips of metal or alloy, *c c*, may be cut from a sheet and laid into the corrugations of the plate, which have been previously moistened with acid, and a hot stamp may then come down and melt the strips to solder them in place, as shown at the right hand in Fig. 2. The stamp, of course, is provided with a series of nipples or dies of proper form to strike into the corrugations. The strips in this case must be more fusible than the plate. Second, the plate, having been moistened with acid, may be fed under a large spout or hopper having a series of hollow nipples with small apertures or orifices in their ends which fit closely in the corrugations and feed a continuous stream into each as the plate is fed along, as shown at the left in Fig. 2. This produces the same soldering action as at first described. The spout or hopper which contains the molten metal must have connection with a furnace, either forming a part or detached, which will prevent cooling of the contents. If desired, a faucet or faucets, or other graduating device or devices, may be employed to gage the flow of the material, or a force pump may be employed to force air into the receptacle to exert pressure to feed the material downward. Third, in the primary process of rolling the sheets, enlargements *b b* may be formed upon the same at suitable intervals apart, which, when the plate is stamped or struck up, come at the apexes and form extra thicknesses, as shown in Fig. 3. Fourth, narrow strips of metal more fusible than the plate may be cut and laid in the cavities after being moistened with acid, as at first described, and the plate itself may then be placed in an oven and heated till the strips melt and solder in place. All these plans accomplish the same result—viz., they thicken the apexes of the corrugations and stiffen and strengthen the plate, prevent cracking or breaking, and furnish a greatly-increased wearing-surface. One or both sides of the plate may be treated in this way; and as zinc and lead are very cheap, the cost is but slightly enhanced. The frame A has grooves *f f* in the sides, in which slides a head-block, *g*, to a suitable height to leave the soap receptacle *h*. The corrugated plate is then slipped in place and is followed by a follower, *k*, held by set-screws *m* passing through fixed cross-piece *p*. By this means the corrugated plate may be inserted either side outward, and may be removed at pleasure. I contemplate, in some instances, filling the whole back of the corrugated plate with plastic material of any kind, so that it will form a solid flat surface, resting on the wooden back of the wash-board.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, a wash-board, in which the apexes of the corrugations are made thickened on one or both sides of the metallic plate, for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN S. BROOKS.

Witnesses:

A. MANDEVILLE,

C. C. CARPENTER.