

D. W. PROSSER.

Improvement in Washing-Machines.

No. 131,460.

Patented Sep. 17, 1872.

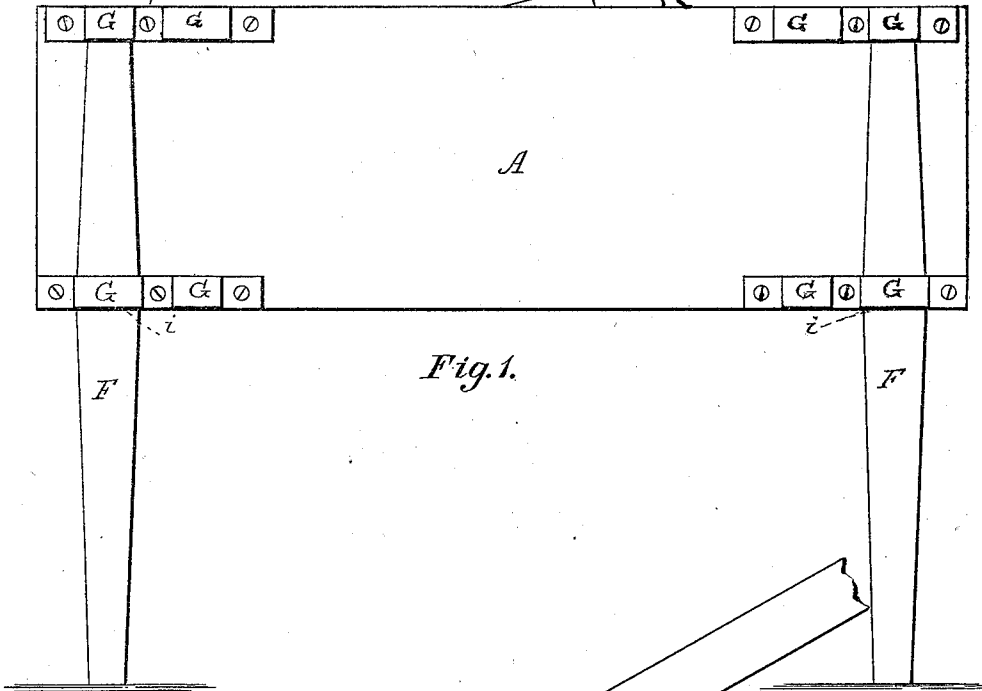


Fig. 1.

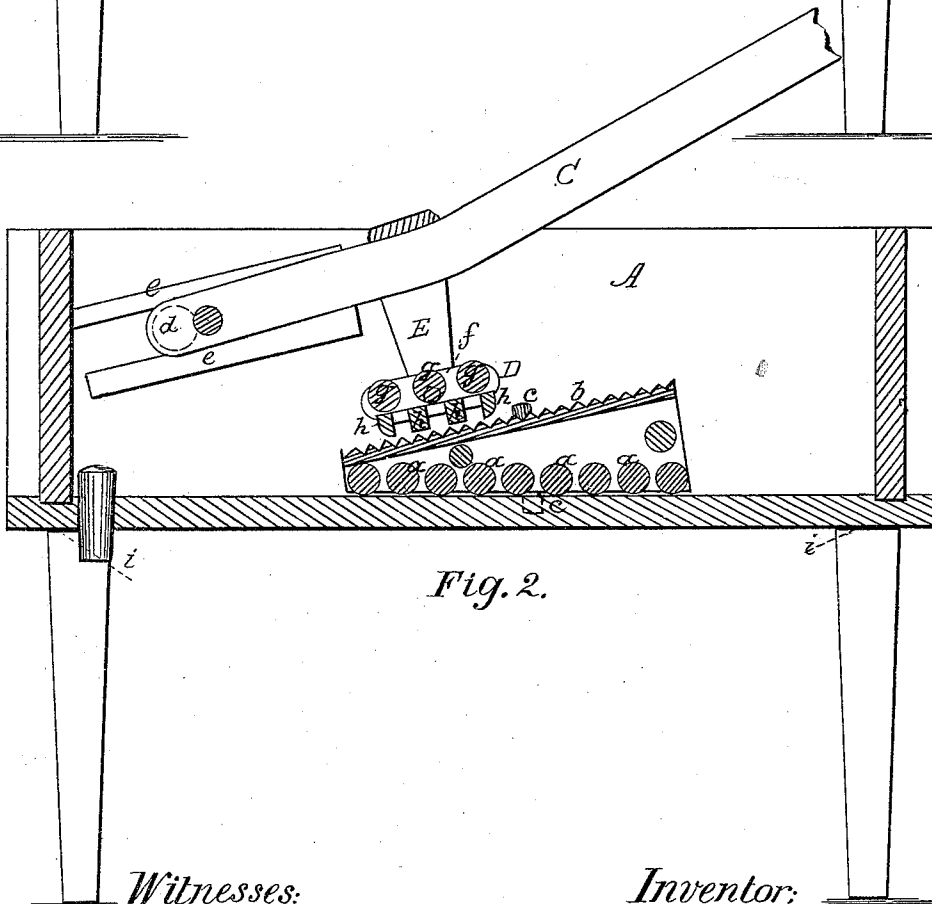


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

J. West Wagner
Augustus H. Girard.

Inventor:

David W. Prosser,
By Johnson, Klauke & Co
his Attys

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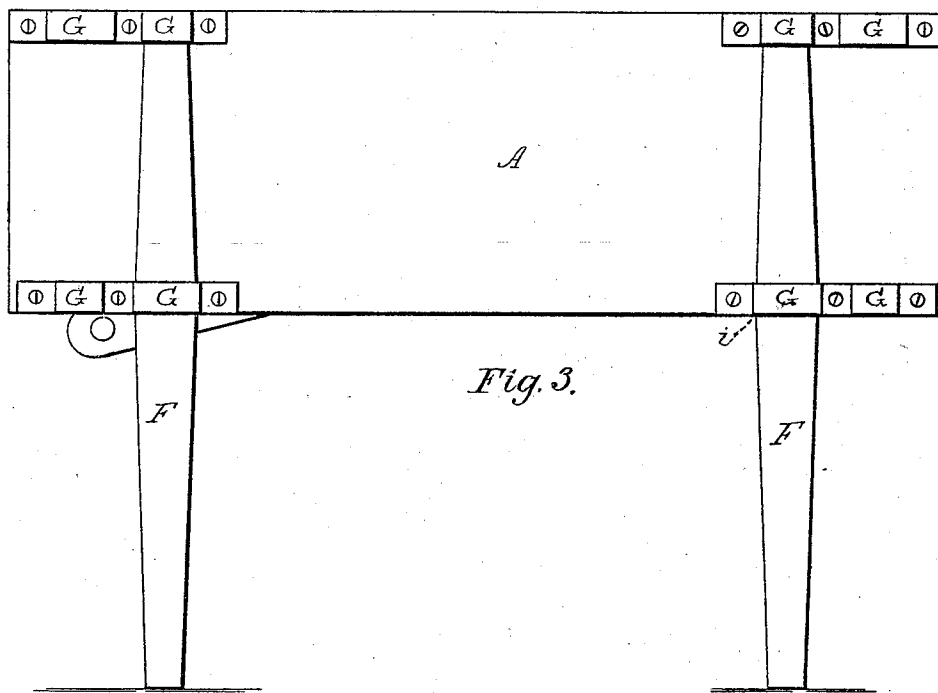


Fig. 3.

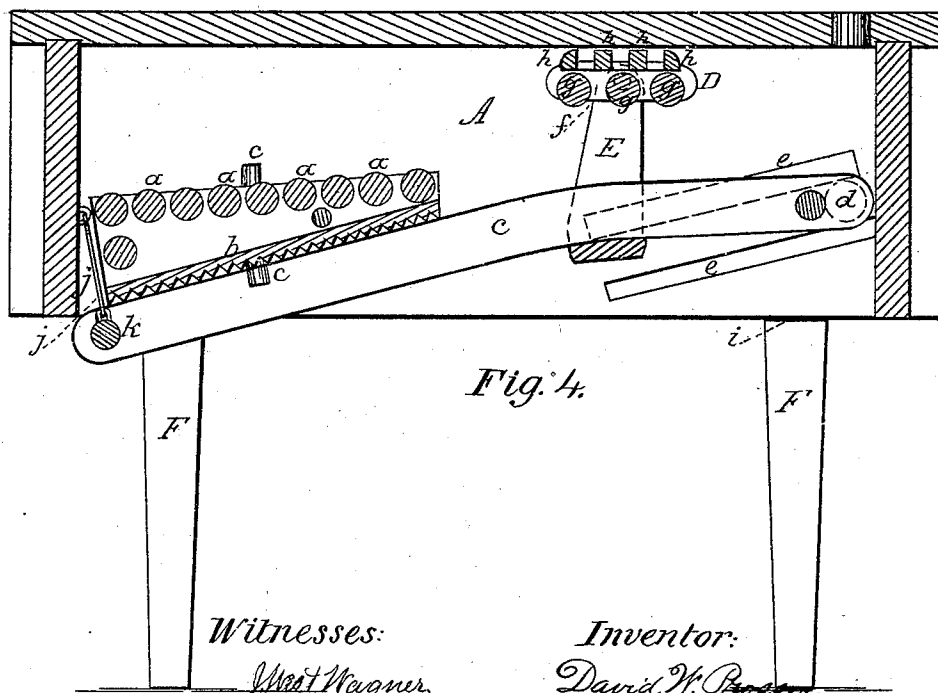


Fig. 4.

Witnesses:

Wm Wagner
Augustus H. Girard.

Inventor:

David W. Prosser
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID W. PROSSER, OF JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN WASHING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 131,460, dated September 17, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID W. PROSSER, of Jamestown, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines, which I call the Reversible-Table-Washing-Machine, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to machines for washing clothes; and the several new features which form the subject-matter of my invention consist, first, in constructing the machine with removable legs and providing the wash-box with suitable sockets or devices for the reception and clamping of the legs in its reversed or turned-over position, whereby the washing-box may be utilized as a table without the expense and trouble of the employment of covers for that purpose, as hitherto constructed; also, in the combination of the reversible clothes-presser for fine or coarse clothes, as may be desired; also, in the arrangement and securing of the several parts within the wash-box when the latter is turned upside down to be used as a table.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a washing-machine embracing my invention. Fig. 2 represents a vertical longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 represents the wash-box turned upside down and the position of the legs reversed to render the machine available as a table; and Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of Fig. 3, showing the washing devices suspended within the box.

Any suitable oblong box, A, will answer to receive the washing devices, which consist of a washing-bed, B, placed upon the bottom of the box A, and a reciprocating frame, C, carrying a reversible rubbing-presser, D. The washing-bed B is provided with a double washing-surface, one of which is formed by a series of rollers, *a*, and the other by a fluted or ribbed board, *b*. Either may be used at pleasure by reversing the washing-bed B; and this provision is made to adapt the latter for light and heavy work, requiring more or less rubbing, the fixed ribbed surface being designed for the coarser work, the bed containing these two working-surfaces being highest at its rear end so as to give an inclined surface, and is held in place by pins *c* projecting from either side into

depressions in the bottom of the tub. The reciprocating presser D is carried by a hand-frame, C, of two connected side bars, the front ends of which are provided with rollers *d*, which move within guides *e* secured to the inner sides of the box A to hold the presser D at work. The presser is mounted in arms E projecting downward from the side bars C, and is secured thereto, by suitable pivots *f*, so as to allow the presser to yield or roll slightly in passing over the clothes, and to adapt it to be reversed to bring either of its faces into action with the clothes upon the bed. These two surfaces of the presser are not both alike, one being formed by a series of rollers, *g*, and the other of fixed ribs *h*, and they may be used with the corresponding surfaces of the reversible bed, or otherwise. The two acting parts of the machine are thus provided with two separate and distinct rubbing-surfaces, which may be used to suit the clothes being washed, as may be desired, and they thereby very greatly increase the capacity of the machine for different kinds of work. If desired, the upper guide *e* for the reciprocating presser-frame may be pivoted at its rear end and provided at its front end with a spring to allow the presser-frame to yield slightly when at work. The supporting-legs F of the box are made removable, and for this purpose are fitted into socket-clamps G secured to each side of the box at the top and bottom thereof, and in the example shown being made double to admit of the attachment of the legs when the box is turned upside down. The legs are fitted with shoulders *i*, upon which the box is supported, either in its position as a washer or table, the said legs being securely clamped to the box, by passing through the sockets, at the top and bottom thereof. Any other convenient way, however, of attaching the legs so as to render them reversible for the purpose stated may be adopted. When the machine is turned upside down for utilization as a table, the bottom being made smooth for that purpose, the washing-bed is removed to the front end of the box, which allows the pressing-rubber to rest upon the bottom thereof, in which position the frame is held, nearly concealed by the guide-ways *e* at the rear end and a hook, *j*, at the front end of the box, hooking into an eye in the hand-bar of said frame.

The presser is operated upon the clothes by

moving it back and forth over the bed, the front bar *k* of the frame serving as the handle for the operator.

In turning the box upside down it is a very great advantage to hold the washing parts in place, as it saves trouble and keeps them all together for use when required. The box is provided with an opening in the bottom to let out the suds, and is closed from the inside by a plug in the usual way.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination, in a washing-machine, of a reversible rubbing-presser with a reversible washing-bed, essentially as described.

2. The washing-tub, provided with removable legs and suitable sockets for the reception and security of said legs when the wash-tub

is turned upside down for utilization as a table, substantially as described.

3. In a wash-box capable of being turned upside down for utilization as a table, I claim the operating parts, separated, arranged, and secured therein so as to keep them intact for use, as described.

4. The washing-machine, constructed in all its parts for use substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses this 22d day of August, A. D. 1872.

DAVID W. PROSSER.

Witnesses:

A. E. H. JOHNSON,

J. W. HAMILTON JOHNSON.