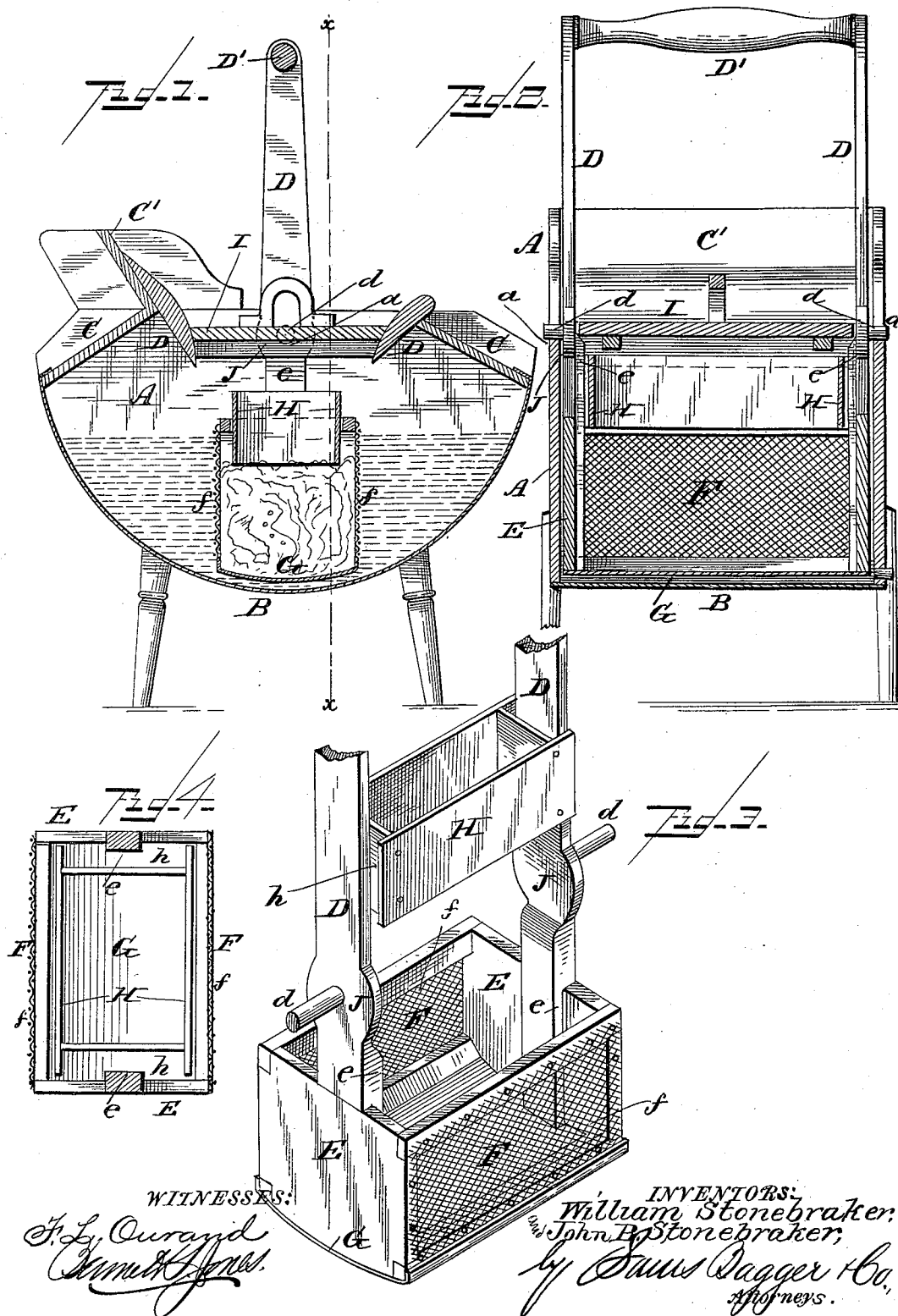


(No Model.)

W. & J. B. STONEBRAKER.
WASHING MACHINE.

No. 467,315.

Patented Jan. 19, 1892.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM STONEBRAKER AND JOHN B. STONEBRAKER, OF HAGERSTOWN,
INDIANA.

WASHING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 467,315, dated January 19, 1892.

Application filed March 16, 1891. Serial No. 385,262. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM STONEBRAKER and JOHN B. STONEBRAKER, both residents of Hagerstown, in the county of Wayne and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of our improved washing-machine on a vertical plane through its middle. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view through the vertical plane denoted by the broken line marked *xx* in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the reciprocating beater or clothes-basket removed from the suds-box and showing the follower raised above the basket; and Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view of the basket and inside follower or plunger, showing the latter in its operative position.

Like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures.

Our invention relates to washing-machines of that type in which a reciprocating beater swung on trunnions having their bearings in the sides of the suds-box works within a stationary suds-box having a semi-cylindrical bottom; and our improvement has for its object to provide a machine of that class in which the clothes may be thoroughly washed without rubbing, and which at the same time shall be simple in construction and easy to operate.

With these objects in view our invention consists in the construction and combination of parts of the machine, which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Reference being had to the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the stationary suds-box, which has a semi-cylindrical bottom B (preferably of zinc or other suitable sheet metal) and inclined end pieces C C, the inner ends of which are provided with deflectors D D for throwing the suds and water, which dashes up against the end pieces C during the operation of the machine back into

the box. One of these inclined end pieces C is provided with a ledge or bearing C', adapted to form a support for a wringing-machine, if desired.

The parallel sides of the suds-box A are notched or recessed at *a* to form bearings for the trunnions *d*, appertaining to the handle D D' of the reciprocating beater or clothes-receptacles. The latter consists of a rectangular box of a length corresponding to the interior width of the suds-box, so that it will fit loosely in the same, and having solid heads or ends E and open sides F, covered by coarse wire-netting *f*. The bottom G of this box or basket is curved to conform to the curvature of the bottom B of the suds-box, and, like it, is preferably made from sheet-zinc or other suitable sheet metal. Inside of this box or basket is placed loosely a follower or plunger H, which is simply a rectangular frame of wood, the parallel sides of which extend somewhat beyond its ends, so as to form end recesses *h h*, straddling loosely the vertical guides *e e*, which project inwardly from the solid heads E, and, extending up above the same, converge with the inner sides of the handles D D. This permits the follower H to play loosely up and down within and above the basket, it being retained in position by the guide-strips *e* and recesses *h*. To remove this follower from the basket, it is only necessary to lift it between the parallel side pieces or handles D D until it clears the upper ends of the inner projections or guide-strips *e e*. In order to prevent the suds from splashing out through the trunnion recesses or bearings *a a*, the handles D are enlarged to form guards J at the point where on each side the trunnion *d* projects from the handle, so that these guards J, which are integral with the handles, will cover the recesses *a* on the inside.

To use this machine, the box A is filled with hot soapsuds, as usual, and the articles to be washed are placed in the basket or receptacle E F G, after which the follower H is placed over them, so as to partially compress them by its weight and prevent them from being thrown out of the basket. Next, the basket thus charged with a batch of clothes is hung in the suds-box by placing its trunnions *d* in their bearings *a*, after which the cover I is

placed over the box, and the operator taking
hold of the cross-bar D' of the handle swings
the same forward and back. This oscillating
motion of the basket within the closed box
5 forces the suds through the open sides F f' of
the basket and through the clothes contained
therein, the current of suds flowing through
the basket and its contents being reversed at
each stroke or reciprocation of the handle.
10 In this manner the contents of the basket are
subjected to a thorough washing and cleans-
ing process without rubbing, and may be
rinsed afterward without removing them from
the basket, if so desired, simply by drawing
15 off the suds and filling the suds-box with clear
water.

Having thus described our invention, what
we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Pat-
ent of the United States, is—

The combination, in a washing-machine, of 20
the stationary suds-box, the oscillating clothes
receptacle or basket having open sides and
solid ends, the vertical side pieces or handles
connected with said basket and having in-
wardly-projecting guide-strips and outwardly- 25
projecting trunnions journaled in the suds-
box, and the vertically-movable plunger or
follower located within and oscillating with
the basket, all constructed and combined to
operate substantially as described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as
our own we have hereunto affixed our signa-
tures in presence of two witnesses. 30

WILLIAM STONEBRAKER.
JOHN B. STONEBRAKER.

Witnesses:

ED. E. BOWMAN,
WILL H. PORTER.