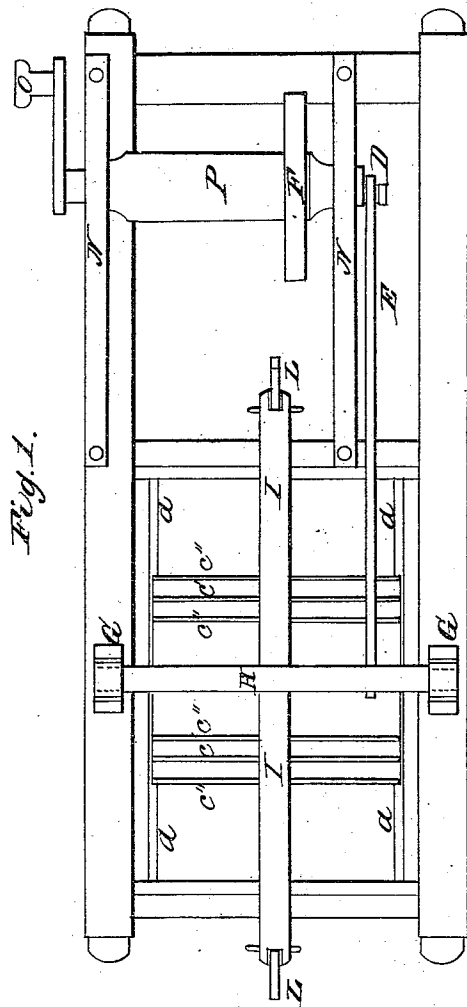


F. Fentress,

Washing Machine,

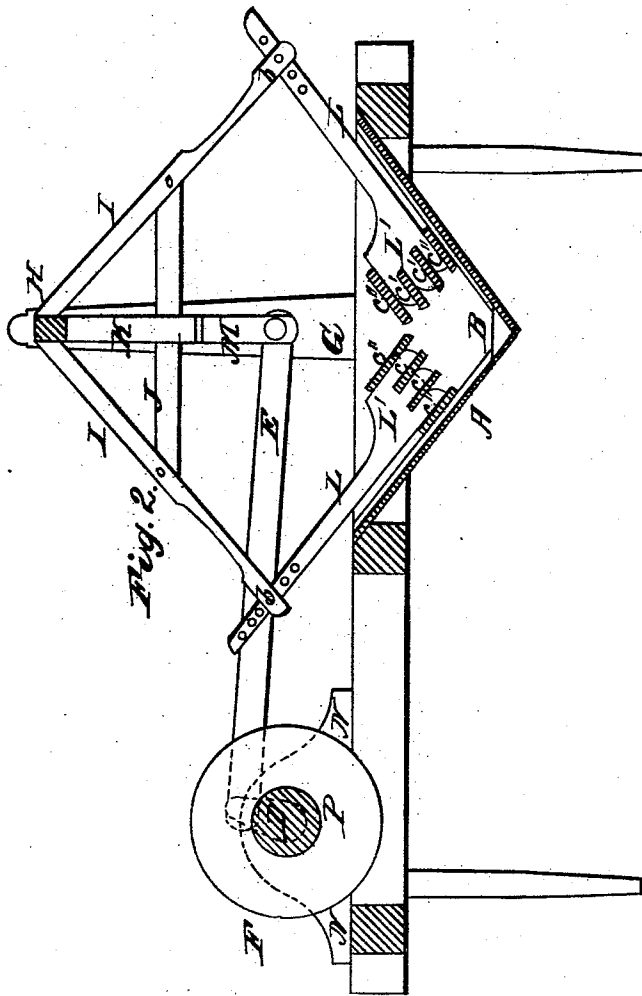
No. 2,884,

Patented Dec. 12. 1842.



Sheet 2-2, Sheets.

F. Fenriss,
Washing Machine,
N^o 2,884, Patented Dec. 12, 1842.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK FENTRISS, OF GUILFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

WASHING-MACHINE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 2,884, dated December 12, 1842.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK FENTRISS, of the county of Guilford and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and useful improvement in the mode of washing and cleansing wearing apparel, bed-clothes, and any and all fabrics whatever that are necessary to be washed, and that the following is a full description of the construction and operation of said improvement as invented by me.

This machine is shown in top view in Figure 1, and Fig. 2, is a vertical section of it from front to back; it consists of a frame having two side sills about seven feet long and two end and one middle sill about three feet long made of timber four by six inches square either larger or smaller longer or shorter as occasion may require which frame should be raised from the ground about two and half feet either on legs or pillars the space from the middle or cross piece to one end is to be filled up with a box marked A, A, made of planks in the shape of a mill hopper sloping from each end and angling about fifty degrees the sides to be made square or straight down by and with the side sills with a plank marked B, laid flat in the angle of the bottom, about four inches wide to make it the more easy to force the clothes to turn over by being pressed with the wash boards or beaters marked *c c c c*. There should be 4 pieces or strips of timber, *a, a*, one at each side of the box running from the top to the bottom, or to the piece of plank B; these may be about one fourth or one half of an inch thick, and about one inch wide in order for the wash boards *c c c c* to slide up and down upon. At the other end of the frame should be fixed a shaft P, raised above the frame a few inches on two supports or posts, N, N. On the shaft P, there should be a crank D, at one end; it should have a handle O, to turn it by and at the other end it should be attached to a piece of timber about three inches square called a connecting rod, or driver marked E, which serves to vibrate the wash boards, beaters or paddles. The crank to work the paddles with may be four inches long; and in order to make the shaft run more steadily it should have a balance wheel at F. There should be two upright posts at G let into the side sills immediately opposite the center of the box, about four feet long, and in the top of the same there should be a round hole in each to

receive a piece of timber at H, called the horizontal beam; from the center of said beam there should extend two arms marked I, I, at an angle of about fifty degrees extending down nearly even with the side and end sills, which arms should be well secured together by a brace marked J, about their center, which brace should pass through a piece of timber marked K let into the horizontal beam H, immediately under the place from whence the arms are fastened. (It will do without this piece of timber.) These timbers should be about four inches square—less will do—except the upright posts; they should be as large or nearly so as the sills. There should be a slit or open ended mortise on the bottom end of each arm L, L, at *b, b*, to receive the ends of the timbers marked L L. The timber L L, may be made of three inch stuff, and should be about three by six at their bottom, L, L, to which the wash boards or paddles marked *c c c c* are attached, which are made as follows.

The timber to which the paddles are attached should be about four feet long or probably longer, owing to the distance from the end of the arms I, I, to the bottom of the box measuring from the end of the arms to the opposite side of the box. There should be let into the bottom end of said timber two pieces of plank *c', c'*, and there should be one more on each outside as shown at *c'', c''*, making four pieces of plank marked *c', c', c'', c''*, about one inch thick and from twelve to fifteen inches wide making a square front from the end of each beater of four pieces of plank the width of the box and from six to eight inches thick or by putting in more pieces of plank any thickness that may be wanting, the said arms and timbers on which are the paddles (the arms marked I, I, and the timber marked L, L,) forming nearly a square. Near one end of the horizontal beam H, and on the under side there should be let in a strong piece of timber marked M; this timber should be about four inches square and extend down nearly to the sill, and to the bottom end of the timber M. That marked E, and called the driver or connecting rod, should be attached by means of an open mortise with a pin, which should be connected at the other end with the crank at D, so that by turning the crank by means of the handle O, it will set the whole in motion and will run one set of the paddles down and draw the other up and so vice

versa so that by one revolution of the main shaft both the paddles alternately will reach the bottom of the box, pressing, squeezing and turning over the clothes in wash.

- 5 Near the ends of arms marked I, I, say within six inches then for one foot up there should be some of the timber shaved out in order to weaken them to make them spring in case of too many clothes being in the box
 0 and to prevent the same from breaking in that case. The upper end of the timbers marked L L, should have several holes in order to raise them higher out of the box or
 5 of clothes in the box at *a, a*. You will then soap your clothes well put in a sufficient quantity of hot water in your hopper or box, throw your clothes, cloth or anything you
 0 of your wash paddles commence turning at the crank by which operation your clothes will fall down between the ends of the wash paddles by the operation of which they will be pressed, squeezed and turned over and

over and in a few minutes will be ready to 25
 change the water. Two or three changes will make them entirely clean so that you can do the washing for a large family in a few minutes. At one end of the box at the 30
 bottom should be a hole in order to let the dirty water run out of the same. It should be stopped when the washing is going on.

I disclaim the invention of the crank, windlass, lever and driver, but

What I claim as my invention and desire 35
 to secure by Letters Patent is—

The manner of arranging and combining the paddles with the box, so that said paddles may have their alternate constant con-
 40 temporaneous motion up and down the sides of the open box, in the manner above set forth.

October 4th day A. D. 1842.

F. FENTRISS.

Witnesses:

JAS. M. GARRETT,

A. S. H. HUMPHREYS.