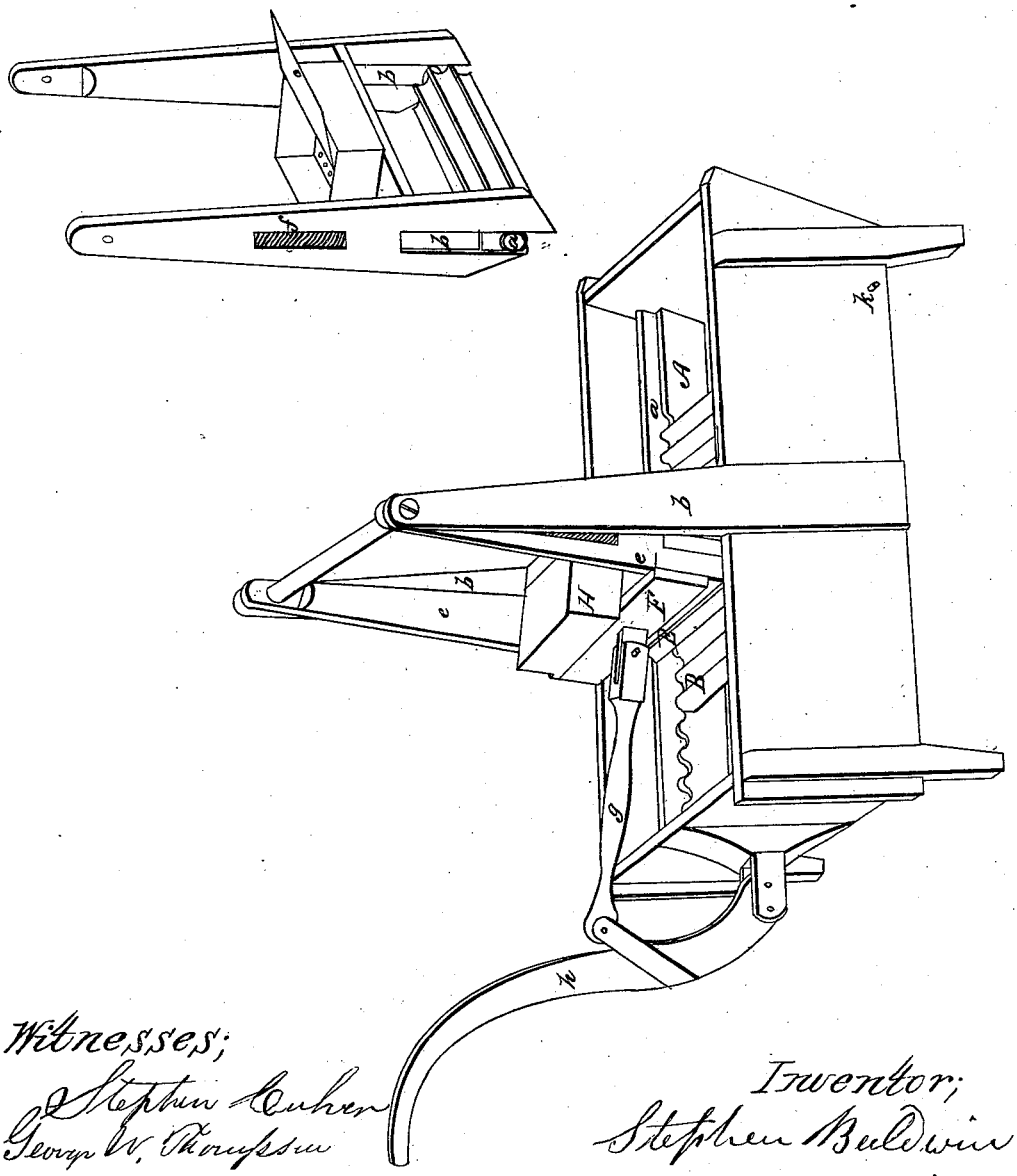
# S. Baldwin,

## Washing Machine,

No. 5,764. Patented Sep. 12, 1848.



Witnesses;
Stephen Cushen
Geo. W. Thompson

Inventor;
Stephen Baldwin

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN BALDWIN, OF WILLIAMSON, NEW YORK.

## WASHING-MACHINE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 5,764, dated September 12, 1848.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, STEPHEN BALDWIN, of Williamson, in the county of Wayne and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Machine for Washing Clothes and Fulling Cloth; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, Figure 1 being a perspective view of the whole machine. Fig. 2 a perspective view of the moving parts.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a washing machine having an oblong reservoir in which at a few inches above the bottom is placed horizontally a transversely fluted bedpiece on which the clothes and cloth are laid, and over which a correspondingly fluted roller is moved by means of a sweep attached to its axle; and the application of water to the clothes while in the machine in continuous small streams before and behind the roller from a tank above, attached to the sweep or dasher and moving coincidently therewith and with the roller.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention I will proceed to describe its construction and operation more particularly.

I make and rest upon legs of any convenient height an oblong reservoir of any convenient dimensions say four feet long two feet wide and one foot deep—vide Fig. 1. Within this reservoir some four or five inches above the bottom I place horizontally on two stringers—A Fig. 1—near the sides of the reservoir a bedpiece—B, Fig. 1—fluted transversely extending to within eight or ten inches of the ends of the reservoir. The flutes should be curved and should be from three fourths of an inch to an inch in depth so as to cause the roller to keep match when the clothes are on.

On the stringers next to the sides of the reservoir are flanges—*a* Fig. 1—raised an inch and a half or two inches for the purpose of preventing the roller slipping endwise. Sections of flutes should be made in the ends of the stringers not covered with the bedpiece that are at the end of the reservoir where the lever is placed—*m* Fig. 1—for the purpose of moving the roller out upon when the clothes are being put on or turned over.

On the bedpiece a fluted roller—E, Fig. 1—six or eight inches in diameter so fluted as to match the bedpiece is worked alternately backward and forward. Its length is equal to the width of the bedpiece. To move this roller a standard is erected on each side of the reservoir—*b b* Fig. 1—at equal distance from the ends three or three and a half feet high to the top of which are attached by a pin the upper ends of the arms of a sweep or dasher—*e*, *e*, Fig 1—; the lower ends of it extending down between the sides of the reservoir and the stringers supporting the bedpiece to near the bottom of the reservoir.

The axles of the roller are inserted in slots made in the lower ends of the sweep or dasher arms—as seen in Fig. 2—*a* Fig 2 an axle—Above the roller is a girt—F, Fig. 1—connecting the arms of the dasher. Over the axles and in the slots in which they are fixed are placed followers—*b b* Fig. 2—that are held down upon the axles by coiled wire springs—as seen at *f*, Fig. 2—so that when the dasher is moved backward and forward the roller is passed closely over the bedpiece between which and the roller the clothes are placed.

On the girt connecting the arms of the dasher is placed and made fast a water tank—H, Fig. 1—of any convenient capacity, in length equal to about two thirds of the distance between the arms into which is put the water for washing. The bottom of it near both sides is perforated with a row of small holes which are opened or closed with a slide—as seen in Fig. 2—and through which the water is admitted upon the clothes before and behind the roller when the machine is in operation. This tank may be made of tin or other material and should have a cover to prevent the water from spilling from it when in motion, and should be wider than the diameter of the roller so as to deliver the water beyond it. The slides covering the holes may be moved by a knob attached to them and projecting through the bottom below or in any other convenient way.

The roller is moved by a lever arrangement—as seen in Fig. 1. More particularly—a pitman—*g*, Fig. 1—is attached by a pin joint made in the usual way, to the center of one side of the girt connecting the arms of the dasher, and extends back horizontally to a little beyond the end of the

reservoir when the dasher is thrust forward, and is there attached by a like joint to a lever—*h* Fig. 1—which is itself attached at its lower end in like manner to the end of the reservoir which attachment is its fulcrum—the power being applied to the upper end. This lever stands nearly vertical when the sweep is vertical, and the movement of it backward and forward gives to the roller the same motion. The roller may be moved by a crank and wheel if preferred. An orifice is made in the side of the reservoir—*k* Fig. 1—or in the bottom at which the dirty water is drawn off.

When the machine is intended to be used for fulling it may be made of larger dimensions than above specified and may instead of hand power be propelled by steam or water power. The clothes to be washed are laid upon the bedpiece and the water from the tank being admitted the roller is moved backward and forward over them, which process works out the dirt and dirty water into the reservoir. During the process the clothes should occasionally be turned over. The water in the reservoir should never be allowed to rise so high as to reach the bedpiece.

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

The combining with the dasher of the washing machine a tank for holding and supplying the wash water substantially in the manner herein described.

STEPHEN BALDWIN.

Witnesses:

STEPHEN CULVER,

ERASTUS STEBBINS.