

W. Price,

Washing Machine,

N^o 46,701.

Patented Mar. 7, 1865.

Fig. 1.

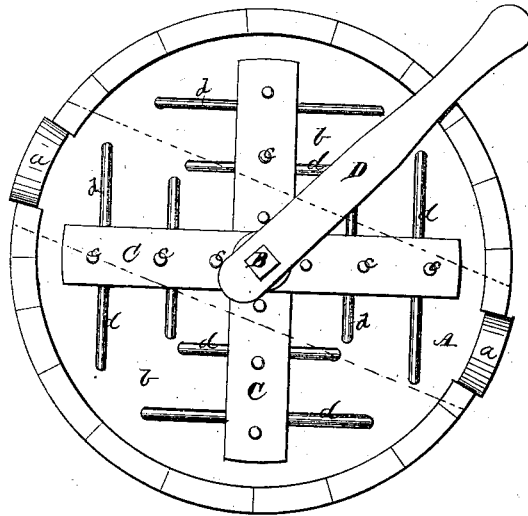
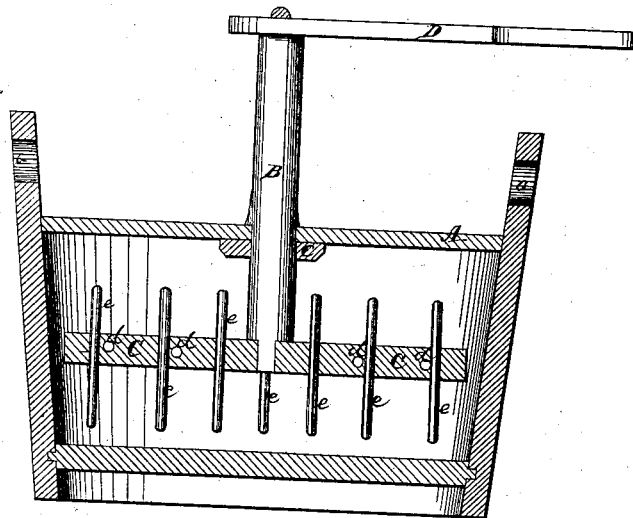


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Woodruff

Inventor

William Price

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM PRICE, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

IMPROVED MACHINE FOR WASHING AND CLEANSING CLOTHES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 46,701, dated March 7, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM PRICE, of the city of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton, in the State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Apparatus for Cleansing and Rinsing Clothes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a top view of the working parts of the apparatus placed in the tub. Fig. 2 shows a vertical section through the same.

My invention consists in the construction and arrangement of two bars crossing each other at right angles to a vertical shaft which has its bearing in a piece of plank, so that it can move up or down in its center, the bars having pins put through them horizontally to form a division for the larger and smaller pieces or articles put into the tub to be cleansed or rinsed as they are agitated in the suds or water by the vertical pins.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe it and its operation and effects more fully, referring to the drawings, and to the letters marked thereon.

To any common wash tub having handles *a a* extending up above the level of the top of the tub I fit in between and against the handles a narrow piece of plank, *A*, to which I hinge two wings, *b b*, of semicircular form, which form the lid or cover, to close up the tub when the operation of cleansing and rinsing clothes is being performed. Through the center of the plank *A* and a cleat, *c*, I make a round hole, into which I fit a vertical shaft, *B*, on the lower end of which is fitted two bars or arms, *c c*, they being halved together, crossing each other at right angles and extending out far enough to nearly fill the diameter of the inside of the wash-tub. Through the arms *c c* are placed horizontally two or more pins, *d d d d*, so that they serve the purpose of a rack or support to keep up off the bottom of the tub all the large pieces, such as sheets, pillow-cases, table-cloths, and such garments as are not soiled in one place more than another.

Through the bars or arms *c c* are also fitted three or more vertical pins, *e e e*, which extend down about one-half their length below the bottom of the arms *c c*, and about one-fourth of their length above the top of the arms, the ends of all of the pins being turned off round and smooth, so as not to chafe the fabrics.

On the top of the vertical shaft *B* is framed a single-handed horizontal lever, *D*, by which the apparatus is operated in the following manner:

The smaller pieces—such as socks, hose, collars, shirts, and drawers, and all articles that get much soiled, or very dirty in streaks—are put into a common wash-tub, with hot water and soap, in the usual manner.

The above-described apparatus, being fitted to suit the size of the tub, is placed in the tub, the pins *e e e* resting on the clothes and forcing them down on to the bottom of the tub. This being done, the tub may be filled up with larger articles—such as bed and table linen—they resting on the arms *c c* and the horizontal pins *d d*, so that they do not become entangled with the smaller and more soiled pieces underneath the lids being closed down to keep in the vapor, and the suds from overflowing. The mass is then put in motion by taking hold of the hand-lever *D* and vibrating it back and forward. The clothes, being carried mostly with it, agitate the suds to a considerable degree, and rub them in the tub, the smaller and most soiled articles being underneath the arms and pins, where they get the largest amount of chafing. The position of the pins upon the clothes may be changed once or twice during the process of cleansing by just lifting the apparatus up a little in the tub and turning it one-eighth of the circle, letting down again. As the process of washing and rinsing clothes does not require a rapid motion or violent agitation, the operation is not laborious, the lever being moved an arm's length is quite sufficient, and can be worked right or left in changing hands as often as one pleases. The smaller articles and most soiled pieces being separated from the larger, all of the clothing that can be conveniently put into the tub at one time are most thoroughly washed out, and may be

wrung out in time not exceeding fifteen minutes. The suds being then removed from the tub, the clothes put back with fair water, the rinsing is performed in the same manner, not requiring more than two minutes' operation.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the arms *c c* with the horizontal pins *d d*, the vertical pins *e e e*, and hand-lever *D*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

WILLIAM PRICE.

Witnesses:

J. B. WOODRUFF,
D. H. CROSS.