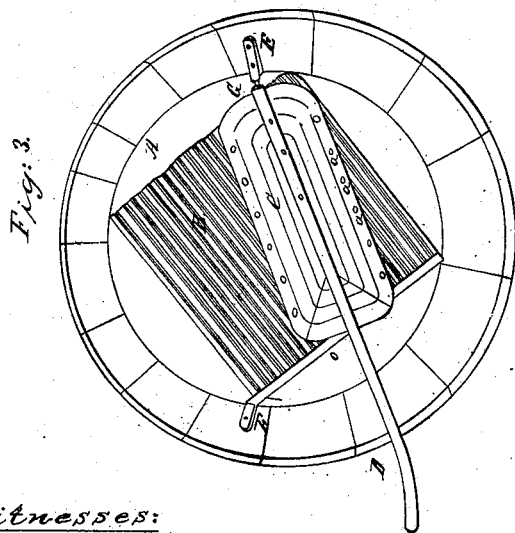
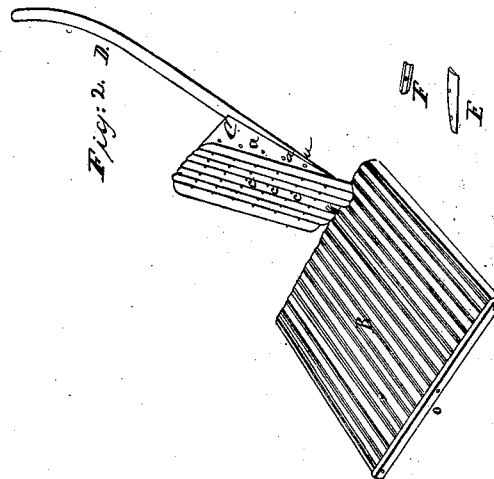
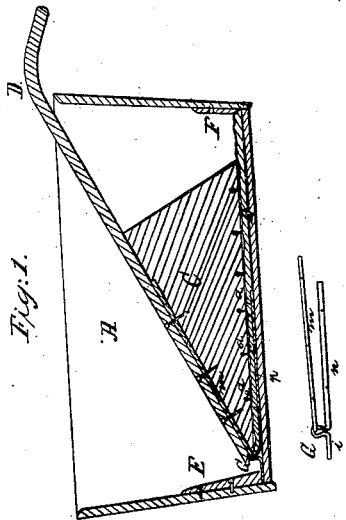


*J. E. Briggs,*  
*Washing Machine,*

*Nº 55,049,*

*Patented May. 29, 1866.*



Witnesses:

*Charles Holman,*  
*Ernestus Holman*

Inventor:

*J. E. Briggs*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. E. BRIGGS, OF WEST RANDOLPH, VERMONT.

## IMPROVED WASHING-MACHINE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 55,049, dated May 29, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, J. E. BRIGGS, of West Randolph, in the county of Orange, in the State of Vermont, have invented a new and Improved Washing-Machine; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a section taken in the vertical plane running from the center of the standard E along the center of the handle D and pressing-block C, and diagonally across the fluted board B and through the button F. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the machine as disconnected with a tub. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a common wash-tub containing a machine properly fastened into it for use.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

The object of this invention relates to that class of washing-machines which wash clothes by alternate soaking and pressing or forcing water through the texture of the fabric, and is also to produce a machine capable of combined pressing and rubbing when desired, all to be accomplished with a great saving of labor and space.

The nature of my invention consists of combining with a square board of convenient size, fluted on its upper surface like a common wash-board, a pressing and rubbing block of peculiar construction, as hereinafter described, operated by a handle provided for the purpose, of proper length to give any desired amount of power as a lever of the second class, said block being attached to the board by a common loose link-joint, all of which is fastened into any common wash-tub by standard and button, as hereinafter explained.

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

In Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings, A represents any common wash-tub, and in all the figures B a square board, fluted on its upper surface with parallel equidistant channels and rounds, and cleated at one or both ends.

C is an irregular block for pressing or rubbing, attached to one end of the board, at the distance from one corner of half the width of the block, by the common joint G, and provided with a bent handle, D, which is made to pro-

ject up over the side of the tub from the end opposite to the joint attachment to the board, the same of length sufficient to give any desired amount of power. The said pressing-block C is also provided on its under surface with channels and rounds similar to those of the board, only wider, and with a space left flat on either edge of the said surface to prevent the rounds of the one shutting into the channels of the other. The said block is also perforated with parallel horizontal holes *aaa* near its under surface, with which smaller perpendicular holes *ccc* communicate, the said series of holes of such size and number relative to each other and to the size of the pressing-block that the operation of the machine is comparatively free from suction.

G is the loose link-joint with which the board B and pressing-block C are connected. Said joint is made of round iron by flattening sufficient length for fastening to the under surface of the board B. It is then bent up at right angles through the edge of the board, and bent forward and down again, thereby forming a link or loop at proper height for the joint. It is then bent forward again at right angles to form the projection *i* on a level with the arm *n*, said arm being let into the board so that their lower surfaces are even.

The arm *m* is a simple straight piece of the same kind of iron, flattened and perforated for the fastening-screws, and bent into a hook at one end for completing the joint.

The lower arm, *n*, is fastened diagonally across the board B, both for the purpose of strengthening the board and of protecting the fastenings from strain when the machine is operated for rubbing.

The upper arm, *m*, is secured to the block C by the fastenings of the handle D, which pass through it, as shown in Fig. 1.

The fastening of a machine into a tub is secured by a standard, E, with an opening in its foot, which is screwed to the inside of the tub near the bottom, and as the machine is lowered into the tub the projection *i* from the joint G is slid under it, thereby not only fastening down that corner of the washer firmly, but also transferring to said standard a large portion of the strain which comes in the operation of the machine upon that part which acts as a fulcrum. The opposite corner is kept in place by a small button, F, screwed to the

side of the tub just over the end of the cleat o, which is made to project more or less, according to the size of the tub.

Now, from the foregoing description it will be seen that the handle D may be operated up and down for soaking and pressing, and, the joint being loose, nearly the whole contents of the tub may be included in the operation. It will also be seen that the downward pressure of the block C upon the clothes included between it and the board B has the effect to force the water contained up through the layers above and out through the series of holes *c c c* and *a a a*.

When it is desired to give certain extra solid parts of garments an extra amount of washing they may be exposed for the purpose, and for rubbing a lateral motion of the han-

dle given, with a slight pressure downward. Raising the handle and rubbing all one way has the effect to turn over and change the position of the clothing, thereby doing away with the necessity of manipulation otherwise occasionally needed.

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

The combination, with the grooved board B, of the perforated irregular pressing-block C, joint G, and handle D, when the parts are constructed and applied to a tub, A, in the manner and for the purpose specified.

J. E. BRIGGS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. HEBARD,

ERASTUS HEBARD.