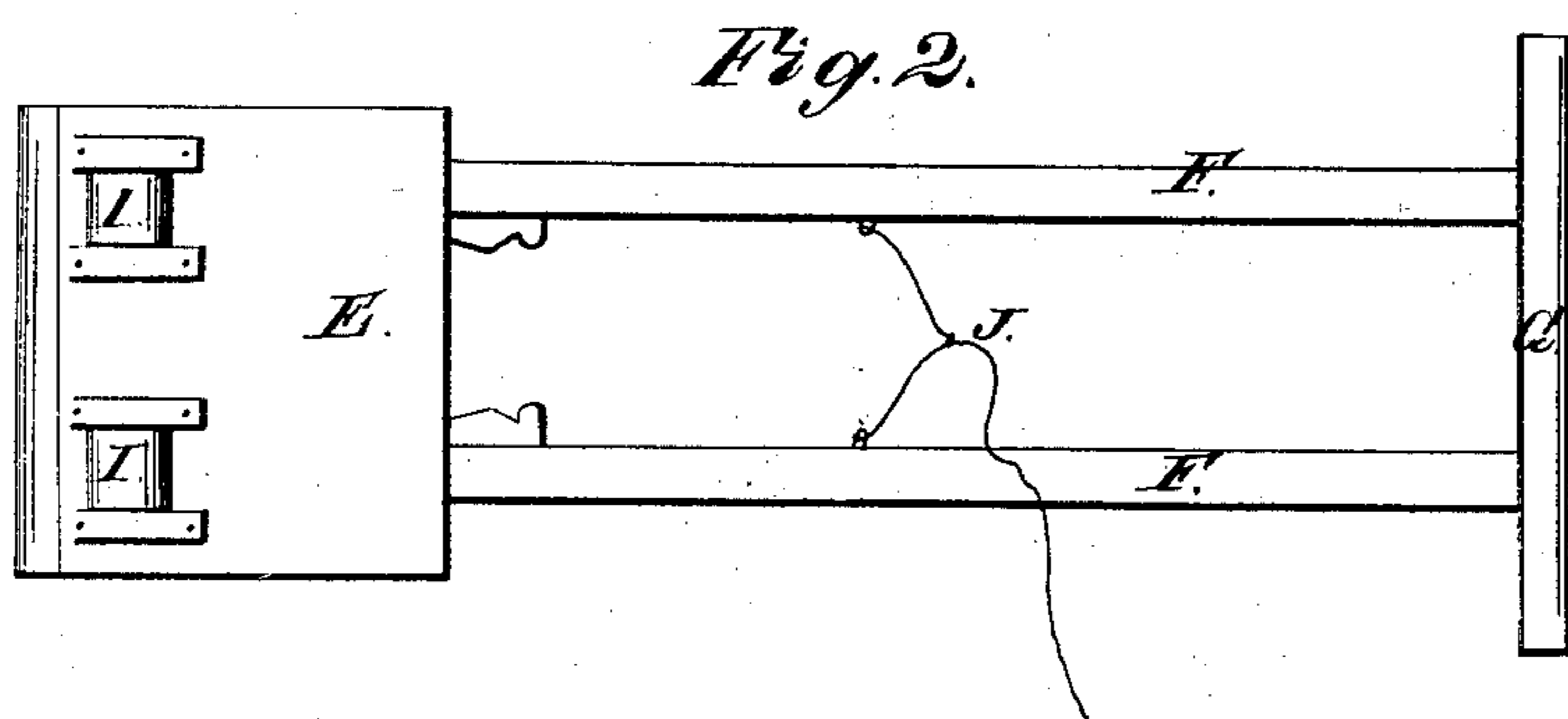
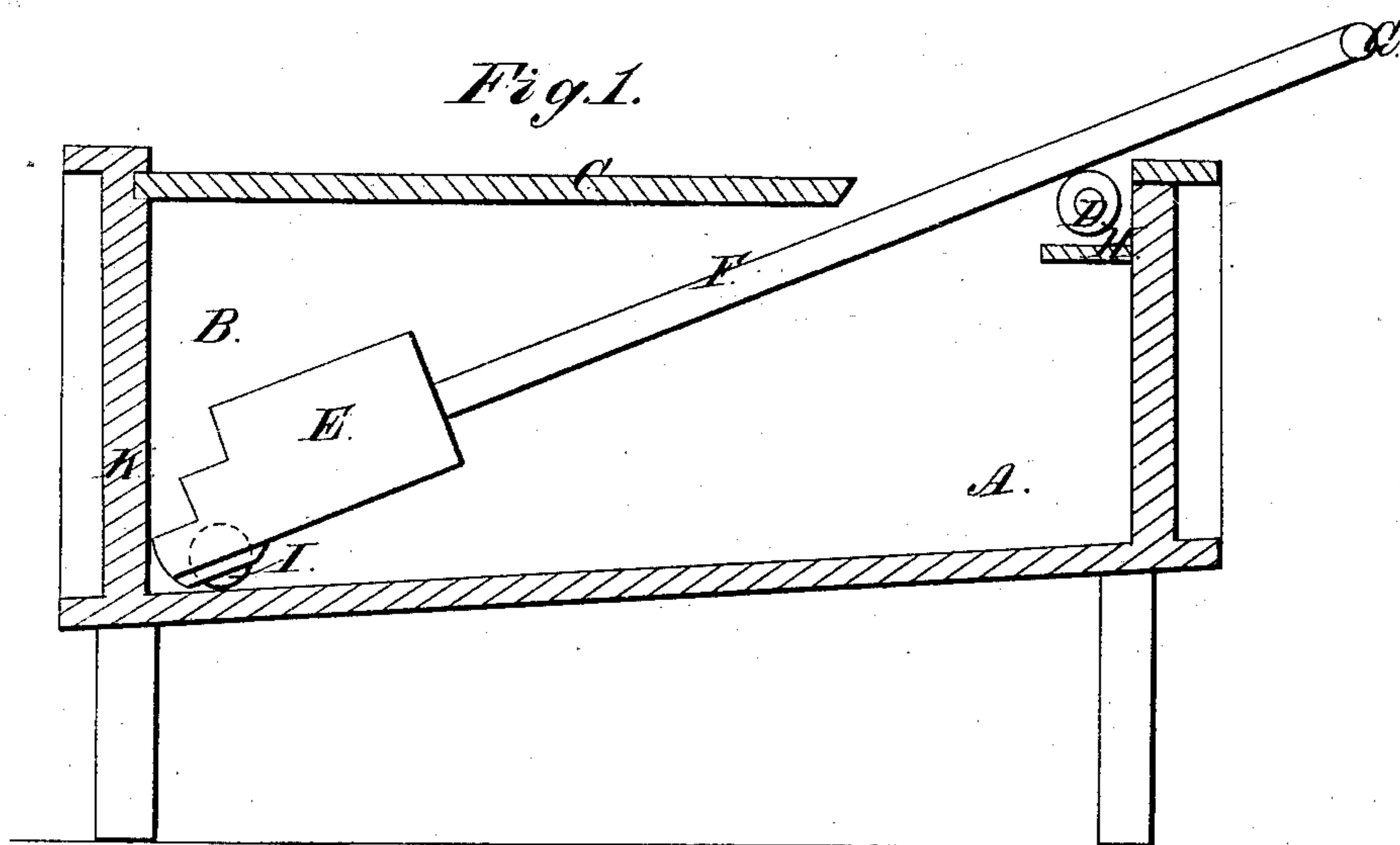


R. W. Oliphant,

Washing Machine.

N^o 769.

Patented June 7, 1838.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

R. W. OLIPHANT, OF NORTH GRANVILLE, NEW YORK.

WASHING-MACHINE FOR WASHING CLOTHES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 769, dated June 7, 1838.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT W. OLIPHANT, of North Granville, in the county of Washington and State of New York, have invented an Improved Washing-Machine; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof.

I construct a suitable trough to contain the soap suds, and the clothes to be washed; and within this trough I place a pounder or beater, by means of which the clothes are to be forced against one end of the trough, by which operation they will be effectually cleansed. The pounder, or beater, is to be worked back and forth by hand, instead of by such machinery as has heretofore been employed for that purpose; and in consequence of thus working it, the stroke will always be adapted to the quantity of clothes contained in the trough.

The accompanying drawing Figure 1, represents the trough and its appendages, one side of the trough being removed to exhibit the whole arrangement. The machine may be varied in size, but the dimensions which I shall designate are such as I have found to answer the intended purpose in a satisfactory manner. The trough A, B, may be three feet six inches long, and fourteen inches wide at the bottom; the sides are made to flare out, making it three or four inches wider at the top. The bottom forms an inclined plane lengthwise, it being twelve inches deep at the end A, and fifteen at the end B, thus giving it an inclination of three inches, which may be increased if desired. This inclination of the bottom will be found to facilitate the operation of the machine very considerably. A cover, or lid, C, extends along a considerable portion of the trough, leaving only sufficient opening at the upper end for the working of the beater. This cover rests on ledges, and may be removed at pleasure. A roller D, which turns easily upon gudgeons at each end, extends

across the upper edge of the trough, at the end A. This roller sustains the two shafts to which the beater, and the handle by which it is worked, are attached, or the shafts may be suspended by a cord, as shown at (J, Fig. 2) and the beater allowed to vibrate.

E, Figs. 1 and 2, is the beater which is nearly as wide as the bottom of the trough, and otherwise formed in the manner represented in the drawing. Under the front edges of this beater, I place two friction rollers, I, I, which rest on the bottom of the trough, enabling the beater to move backward and forward with but little resistance. F, F, are two shafts, attached at their lower ends to the beater, and at their upper to the handle G. A board H, extends under the roller D, to prevent the splashing of the suds from that end of the trough. In using this machine, the shafts rest upon the roller D, the operator takes hold of the handle G, and works the beater back and forth, causing the beater to press forcibly against the clothes contained between it and the end K of the trough.

The whole operation is performed with but little labor, in consequence of the aid afforded by the inclination of the bottom, and the diminution of friction by the rollers.

Having thus fully described my machine, and the manner in which it operates, I claim as my invention—

The particular arrangement of the operating parts, as above described; that it to say, I claim the combination of the beater, moved by hand, with the respective rollers or cord, and the inclined bottom of the trough, constructed and operating substantially as above set forth.

ROBERT W. OLIPHANT.

Witnesses:

LINTON THORN,
C. H. A. ALTBERGER.