L. W. Colver,

Washing Machine,

No. 6,577, Patented July 3, 1849.

Fig. 2.

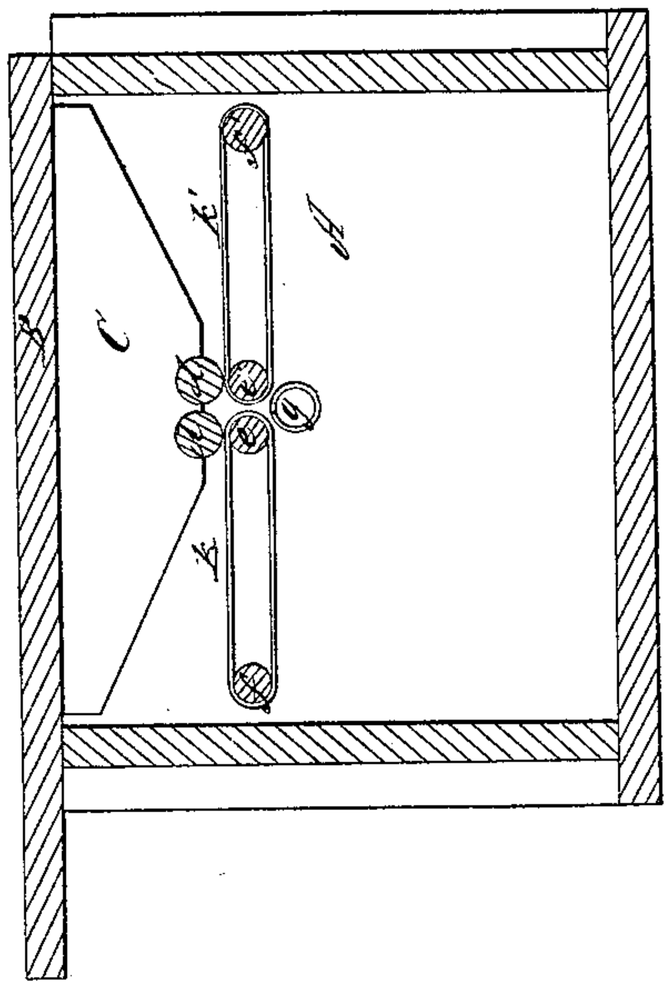


Fig. 3.

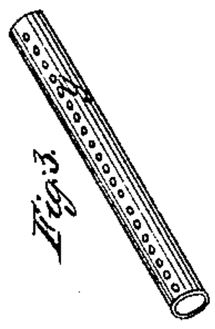
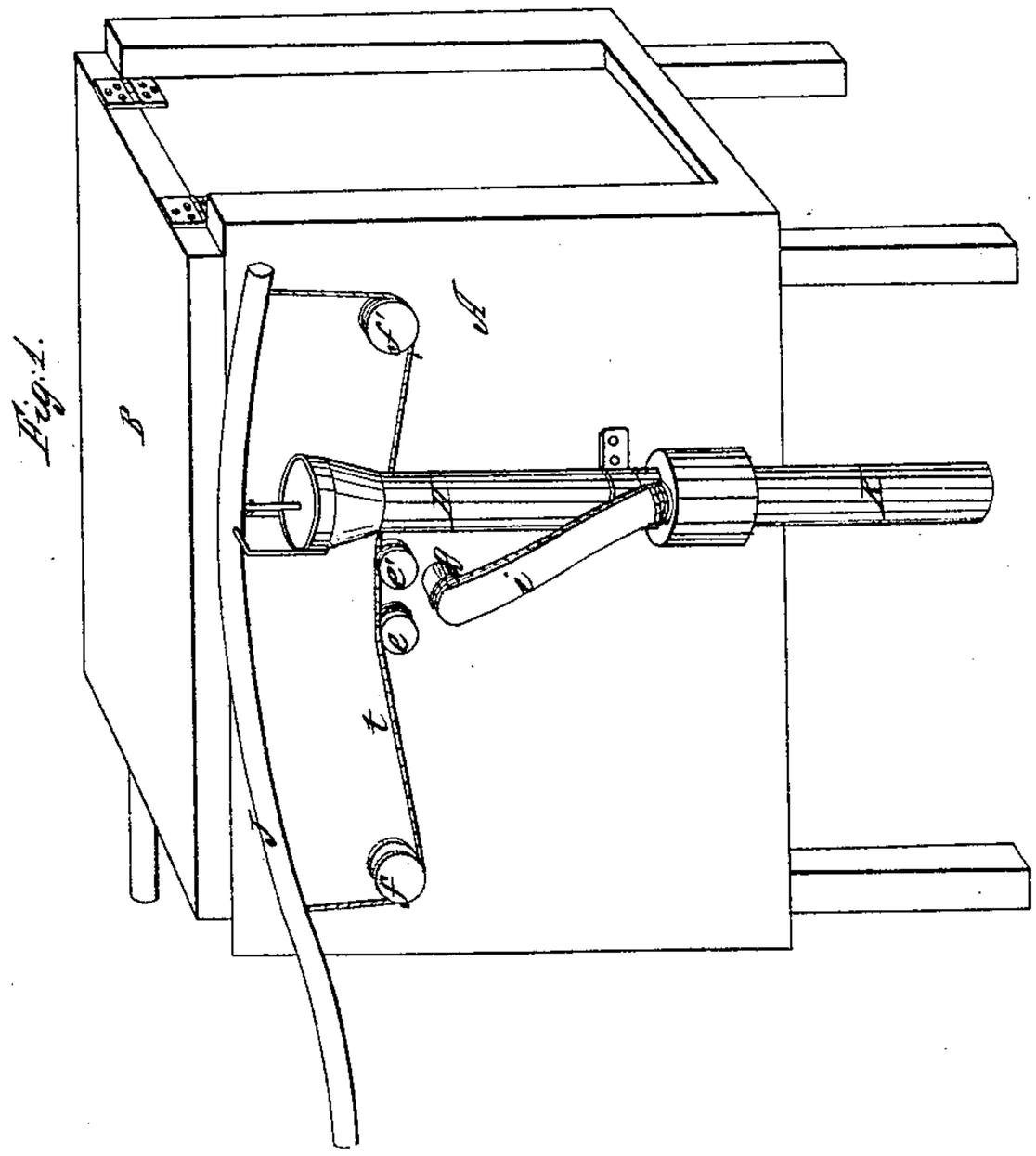


Fig. 1.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS W. COLVER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

WASHING-MACHINE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 6,577, dated July 3, 1849.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEWIS W. COLVER, of the city and county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and Improved Washing-Machine; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a perspective view, and Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section of the machine, and Fig. 3, a perspective view of a part of the same detached.

Similar letters indicate like parts in all the figures.

Within the rectangular washing box A, (constructed in any suitable manner,) I place two pairs of transverse rollers *e*, *f*, *e'*, *f'*, in the positions represented in the drawings, and connect the rollers of each pair with each other by means of the endless aprons *k*, *k'*. The cover B, of the box is hinged thereto at one end, and has projecting pieces (C,) secured to and descending from its under side, that receive the journals of the rollers *d*, *d*, which, when the box is closed, press upon the central rollers *e*, *e'*,—that have their bearings in the sides of the box. Below the rollers *e*, *e'*, I place the tube *g*, which has a series of small perforations in its upper surface extending its entire length. To the front side of the washing box I secure a double acting pump H, and connect the discharging nozzle *i*, thereof with the perforated tube *g*. The rollers *e*, *f*, and *e'*, *f'*, project through the front side of the box (A,) as represented in Fig. 1,—or have grooved pulleys placed upon their projecting journals. The projecting ends of the rollers *e*, *f*, *e'*, *f'*, are all connected to each other and to the pump handle J, by means of the band *t*,—as represented in Fig. 1,—so that the motion imparted to the handle in working the pump, will impart a reciprocating movement to the rollers and endless aprons.

The operation of my improved washing machine is as follows: The pieces of clothing to be washed are placed upon the endless aprons *k*, *k'*, and the induction tube K, descending from the pump, is inserted into the hot suds prepared for cleansing the clothing; motion is then imparted to the pump handles, which causes the clothing to be carried back and forth between the rollers *e*, *e'*, and the pressure rollers *d*, *d*, at the same time that it forces jets of hot suds through the apertures in the tube *g*, up between the rollers and through the clothing, as it passes back and forth between the rollers from one endless apron to the other. After the impurities have been removed from the clothing by the use of hot suds, as above described, the induction pipe of the pump is inserted in pure water for removing the soapy matter from the clothing. The combined actions of the pressure rollers and the forced jets of hot suds or water as above set forth, will very speedily remove all impurities from clothing, and without exposing the most delicate article to the least danger of injury during the operation. An aperture is formed in the bottom of the box (A) through which the suds or water may be discharged therefrom.

It will readily be perceived that my improved washing machine is equally well adapted to the cleansing of small or large pieces of clothing.

Having thus fully described my improved washing machine, what I claim therein as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The cleansing of cloths or clothing by the combined action of conducting and pressure rollers with forced jets of suds or water, substantially in the manner herein set forth: not intending however, to limit myself to the precise mechanical arrangement and combination of parts for effecting this object as herein described and represented, but shall vary the same as I may deem expedient while I attain the same end by substantially the same means.

LEWIS W. COLVER.

Witnesses:

Z. C. ROBBINS,

NICHOLAS TALIAFERRO.