

W. T. Barnes,

Wash-Board,

No 8,161,

Patented June 17, 1851.

Fig 1.

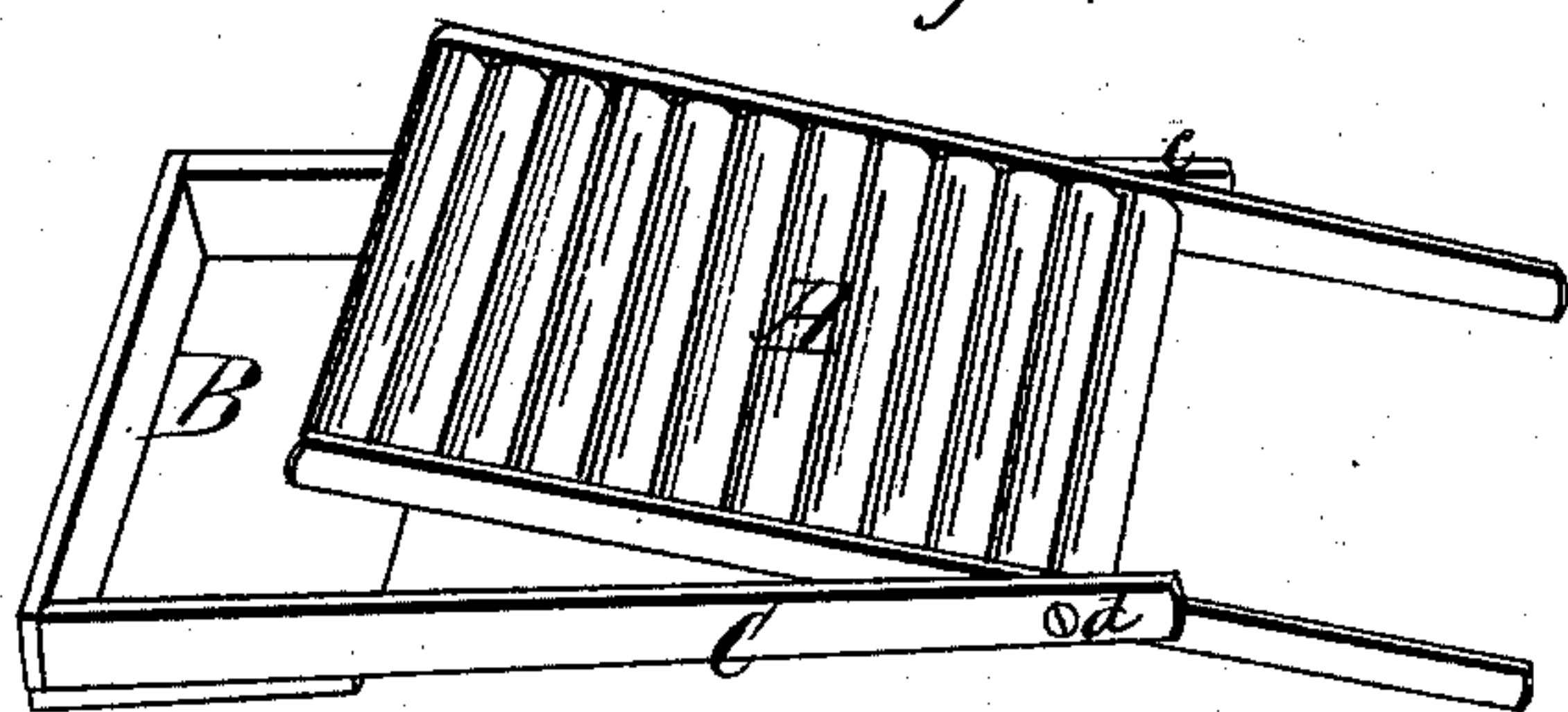


Fig 3.

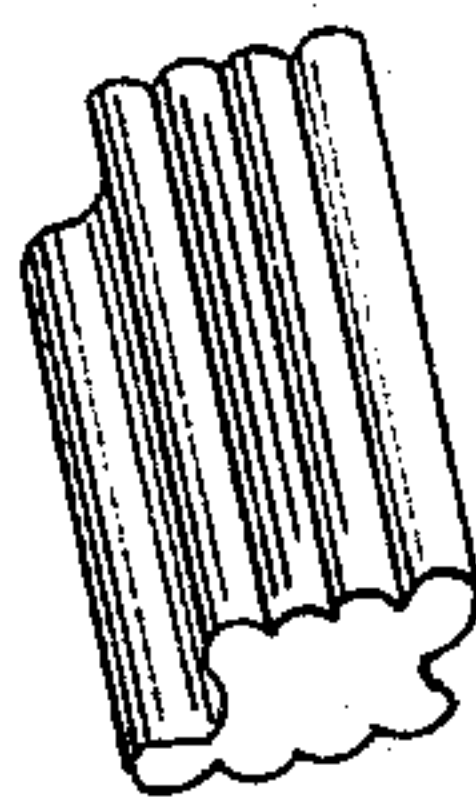
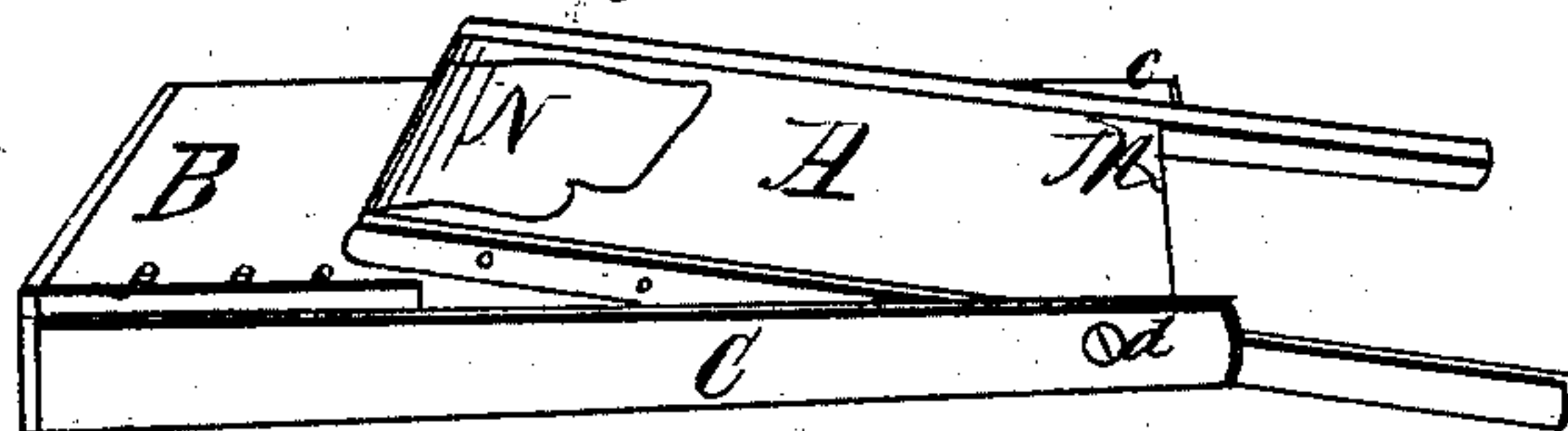


Fig 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WM. T. BARNES, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

WASHBOARD.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 8,161, dated June 17, 1851.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. BARNES, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Washboards or Washing-Machines, and do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the fluted side of the board. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the board reversed. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the hand rubber.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention; I will proceed to describe its construction and operation; I construct my wash-board in two parts the lower part (as represented by the letter A in Fig. 1 in the annexed drawing) is made with hollows and rounds on one side and a smooth surface on the other as shown at A, in the reversed view Fig. 2 similar (with the exception of the cloth I fasten on the smooth surface, as represented at A, (the corner of which for the sake of description) is turned up at M) to the common tub washboard. The upper part (as represented by the letter B Fig. 1) is also made similar to the upper part of the common board with an extension (C C) through which a screw or rivet (d) passes on either side into the lower part of the board (A) forming a point, so that the lower part (A) may be turned round until it is checked by the top part (B) and the smooth or even surface (as represented by A Fig. 2) used for washing fine fabrics.

My rubber is an oblong square piece of wood fluted all around (as represented by Fig. 3) and is made of any convenient size to hold in the hand.

In operating my wash-board I place it in a tub (or otherwise) in which the clothes are to be washed and draw the clothes up and raise the top of the lower part (A) separating the upper and lower part at this point so as to allow a portion of the clothes to be placed between, and then closes holding them by the pressure from slipping off the board (as seen at N, Fig. 2) while using the rubber, and the same with both the

fluted and smooth side of the board. This mode of holding the clothes is of great importance, and the want of which is the great defect in all washboards and washing machines, and is intended to be applied to washing machines of whatever construction.

The lower part (A) may be used independent of the top (B) by using a board or back, but is not as good as when used as represented in the drawings. When the clothes are placed on the board the rubber may be used with one or both hands. Much time and labor is saved by the use of the rubber as it covers a greater extent than the hand in rubbing, and presses on the clothes, its whole length, and its position is shifted and changed with great facility thereby rendering the rubbing more effectual and saves lifting the clothes, and also saves the hands from being worn or blistered as when clothes are rubbed in the usual way, it also admits of the position of the operator being changed, making the labor less tiresome.

From the peculiar manner in which it is necessary to apply manual force to wash clothes with a common machine the hands of the operator are in general very soon blistered and in all cases rendered sore. To avoid this difficulty, and also at the same time to facilitate the use of the machine and lessen the labor of performing a given amount of washing with it, is the object of my present invention.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. I claim fastening cloth (or its equivalent) on the board to prevent fine fabrics from slipping and from being torn or rubbed too much, but I do not claim lining the grooved wash-board with india rubber or other equivalent material.

2. I claim hinging the wash-board A to the frame B, C, for the purpose of holding the clothes while being washed and at the same time allowing the board to be turned over substantially as herein set forth.

WILLIAM T. BARNES.

Witnesses:

JAS. G. DAVIS,
A. B. WARNER.