

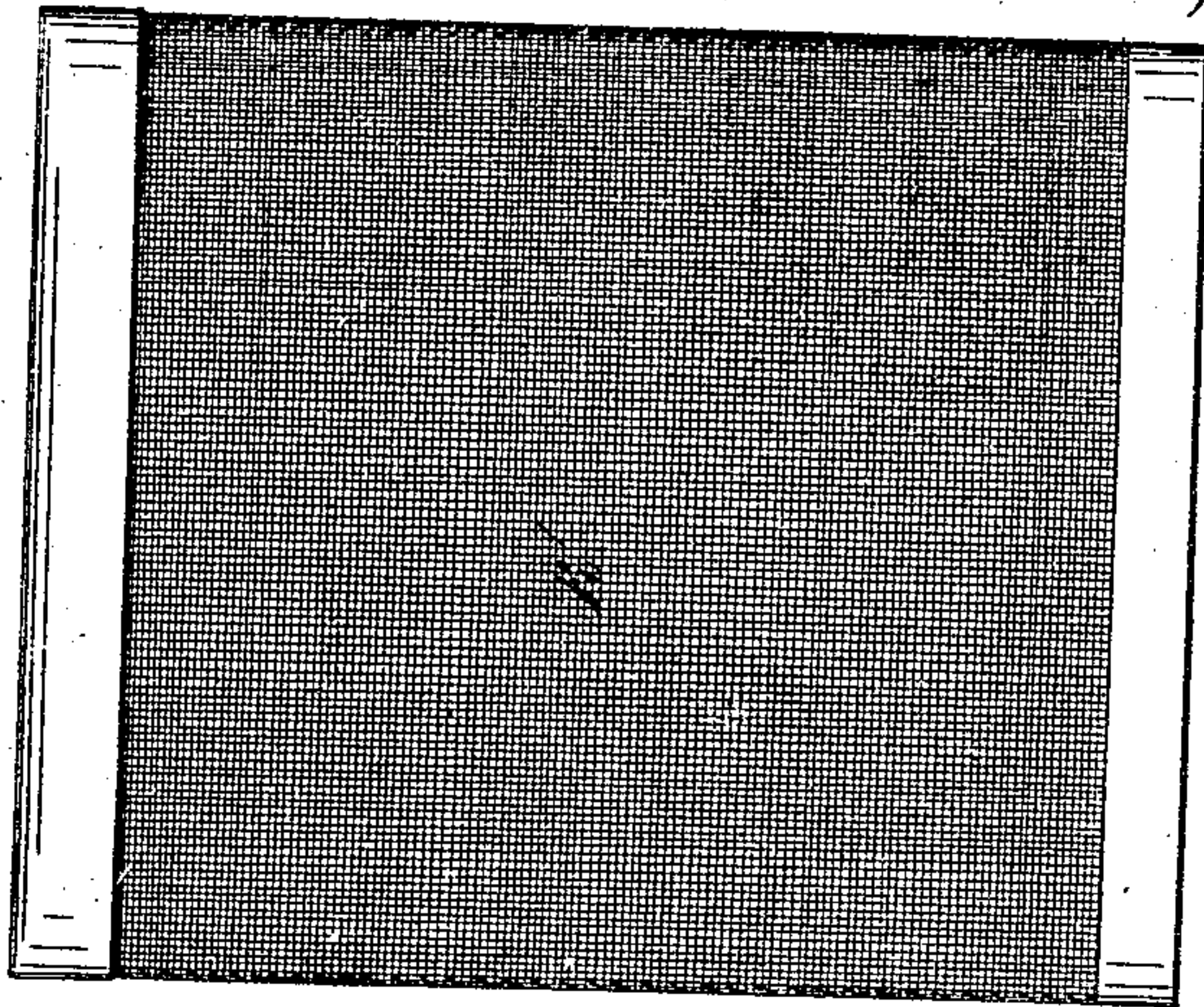
*J. Robb,*

*Wash-Board.*

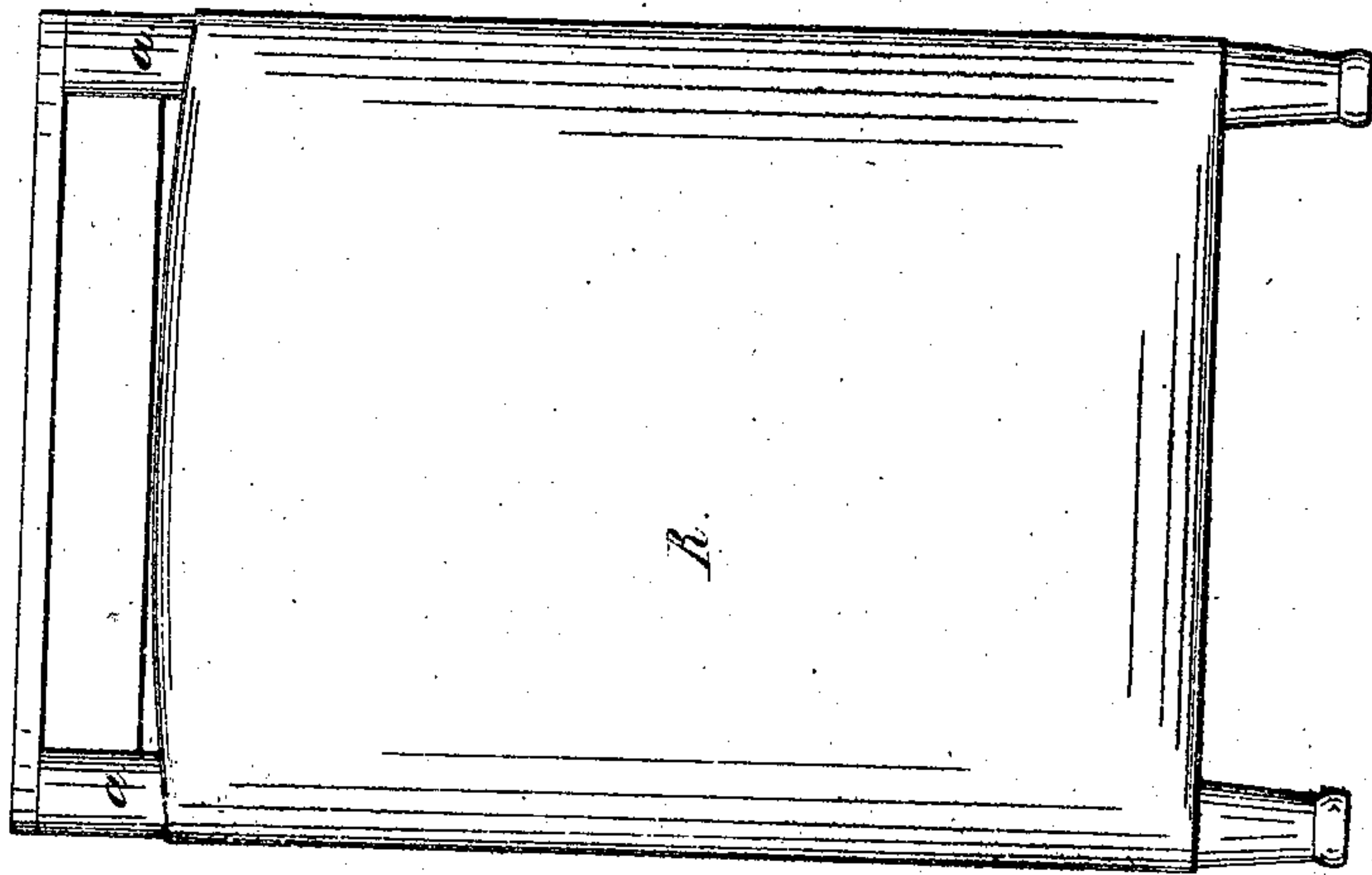
*N<sup>o</sup> 19653.*

*Patented Mar. 16, 1858.*

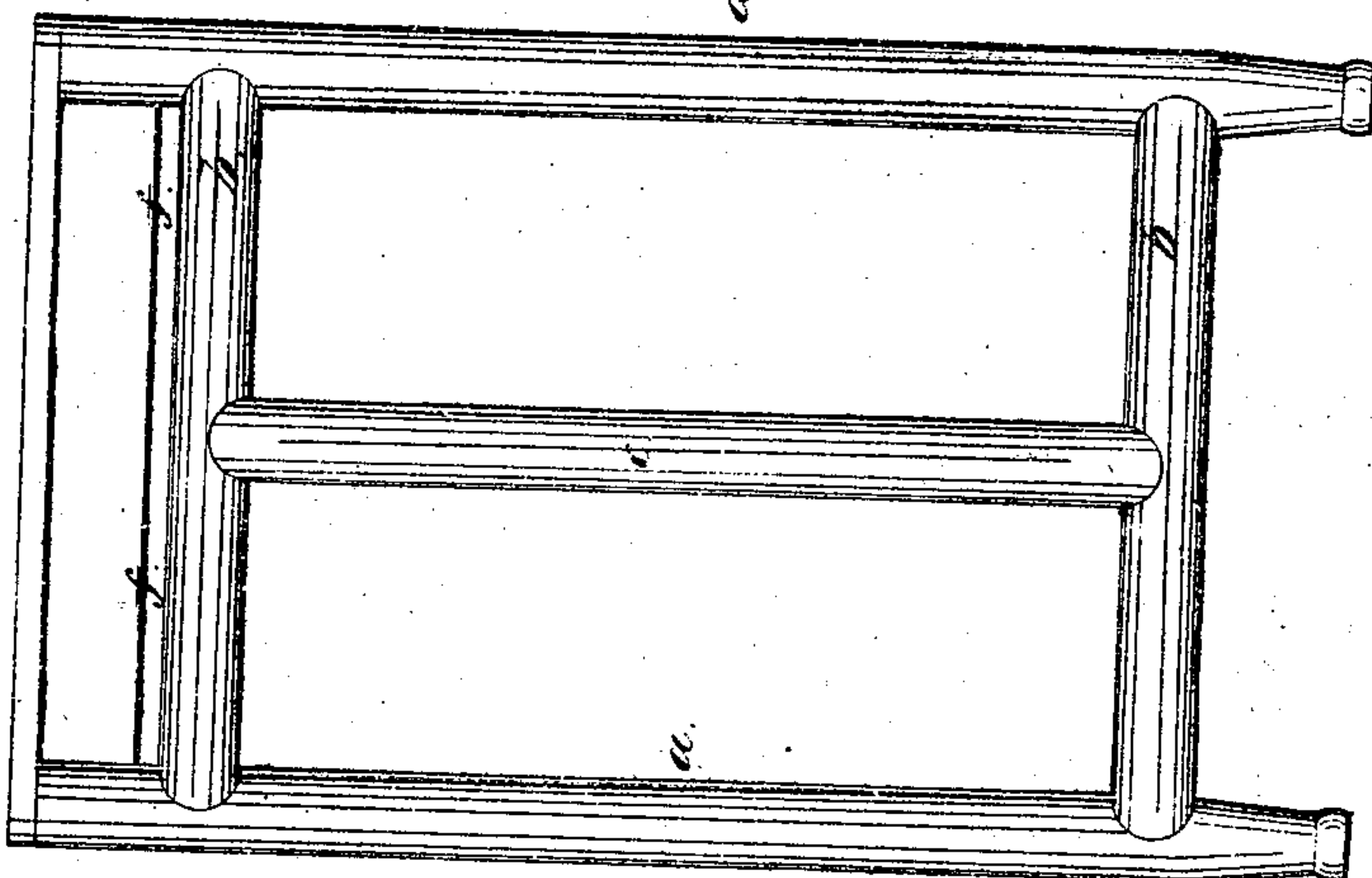
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 1.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES ROBB, OF LEWISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

WASHING-MACHINE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 19,653, dated March 16, 1858.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES ROBB, of Lewistown, in the county of Mifflin and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Apparatus for Washing Clothes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view showing frame with rubbing surface removed. Fig. 2 is a view of apparatus with cloth rubber drawn over the frame. Fig. 3 is a view showing reticulated metallic rubber.

Similar characters of reference denote the same part of the apparatus.

The nature of this invention consists in the employment of a cloth or reticulated metallic rubber drawn over an open frame, to constitute the surface on which the rubbing operation is to be performed, the effect of this construction being such that this rubbing surface will rise around the points of pressure, as the hands move over it, giving thereby a greater amount of rubbing upon the clothes for any given pressure than if the operation was performed on a rigid board, the wear on the clothing being also greatly diminished.

In the drawing *a a* are the side pieces, *b b* are the cross pieces, and *c* the center brace of the frame, made of wood or other suitable material. Over this frame is stretched the rubber *R* of cloth, or the rubber *R'* of fine wire gauze, these rubbers being made like flat bags and the frame slipped into them. The pins *f* on the upper cross piece *b* serve to hold the rubber on the frame. The action of these rubbers is to sink inward between the sides *a a* and center brace *c* on application of pressure, so as to give the entire surface of the hand (around which the cloth rises) effect in removing the dirt from the article operated upon.

I do not claim broadly considered the employment of a flexible base on which to wash clothes, but

What I claim as new and of my own invention, is—

The combination of the open frame *a b c* with the removable flexible casing *R* or *R'*, constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name before two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES ROBB.

Witnesses:

GEO. PATTEN,  
JAS. D. CLARY.