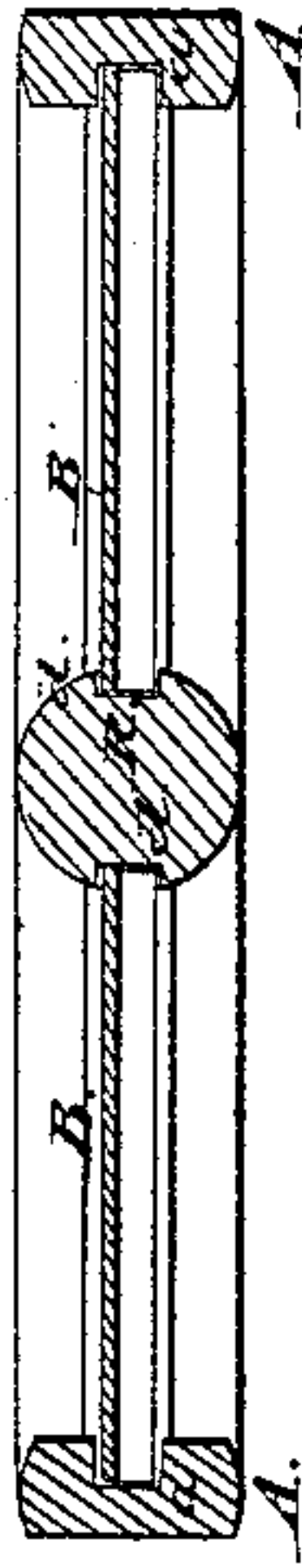


*J. Keech,  
Wash-Board,*

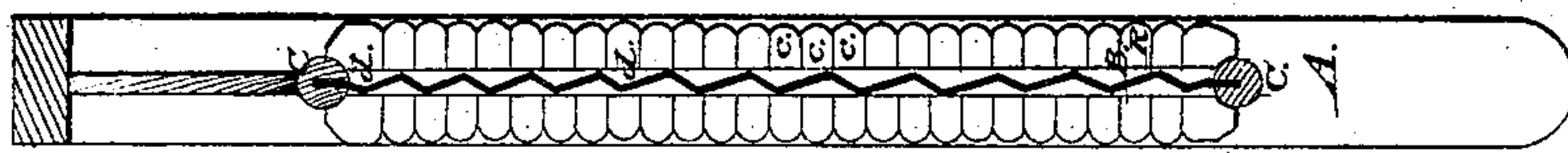
*N<sup>o</sup> 20,644.*

*Patented June 22, 1858.*

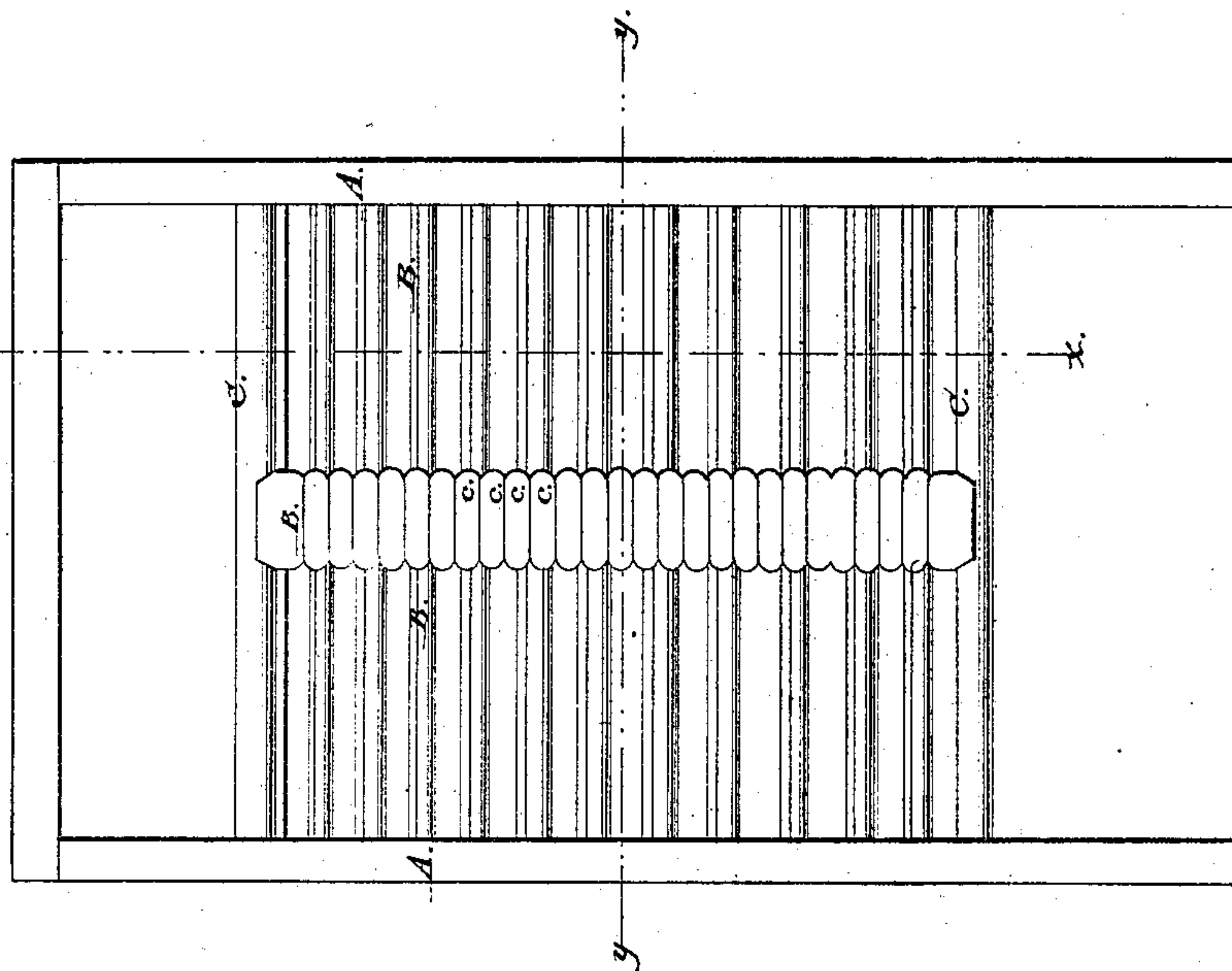
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 1.*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH KEECH, OF WATERLOO, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN WASH-BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **20,644**, dated June 22, 1858.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH KEECH, of Waterloo, in the county of Seneca and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wash-Boards; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming part of this specification, in the several figures of which similar characters of reference denote the same part.

Figure 1 is a face view of the board. Fig. 2 is a section on line *x x*, perpendicular to face of board. Fig. 3 is a section on line *y y*, perpendicular to axis of central rubber.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of wash-boards with a convex beaded rib running from top to bottom through the center of the board, said rib being grooved on each side for the reception of the corrugated washing-surface, and serving the double purpose of giving strength to the board and furnishing a surface of a different character on which to rub certain portions of the article operated upon, which, from being more soiled than the remainder, require particular attention, the details of construction and operation being as follows:

In the drawings, A A are the side pieces of the frame, grooved, as shown at *a a*, for the reception of the corrugated zinc plates B B. The cross-bars C C connect the pieces A, and extending between them is the central rib, R, convex in cross-section and beaded, as represented at *c*. This rib is grooved longitudinally, as shown at *d d*, for the reception of the plates B. The rubbing-surface is thus made to consist of two corrugated-zinc plates and the beaded rib R. The support given the plates by the rib renders the board much stronger than where but one plate is used, and the beaded convex surface of the rib gives a fine rubbing-surface for the parts of the garment requiring particular attention.

I claim—

The combination of the central beaded rib, R, with the corrugated plates B B, constructed, arranged, and operating substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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

JOSEPH KEECH.

Witnesses:

WM. KNOX,  
ELIAS DISBROW.