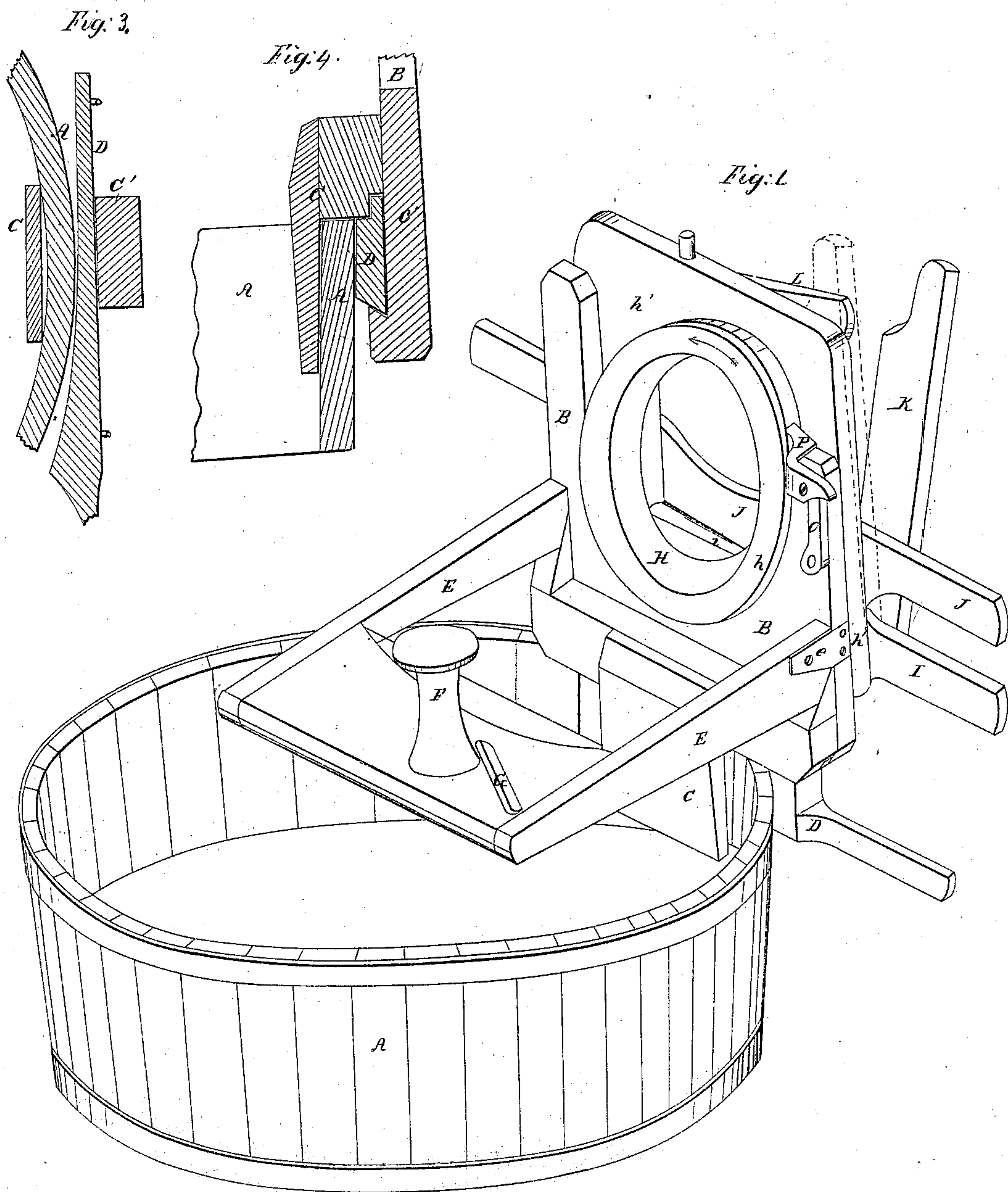


*I. A. Sergeant,*

Wringer,

*N<sup>o</sup> 21,029.*

*Patented July 27, 1858.*

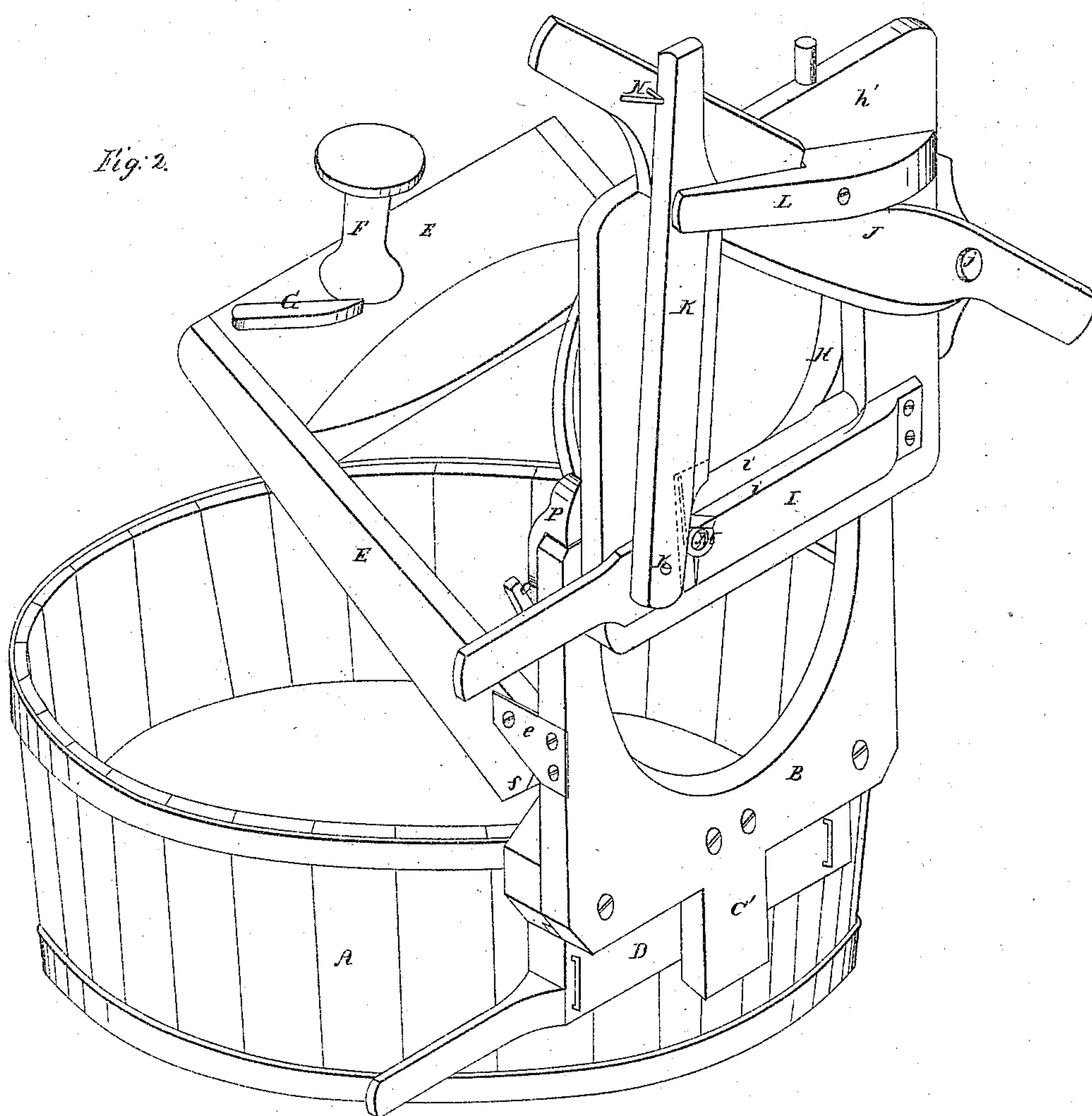


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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC A. SERGEANT, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

## IMPROVED CLOTHES-WRINGER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 21,029, dated July 27, 1858.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ISAAC A. SERGEANT, of Springfield, Clark county, Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Wringers; and I hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

This invention consists of an apparatus which is readily attachable to a common wash-tub and is specially adapted to facilitate the wringing of large articles of clothing, &c.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a rear perspective view of the machine as in operation. Fig. 2 is a front perspective view with the rotary clamp elevated and the hitching-arm partially so. Figs. 3 and 4 are respectively a horizontal and a vertical section through the part by which the apparatus is attached to the tub.

A represents a common wash-tub.

B is a yoke whose inner margin is of U form. From the lower end of the yoke B project two jaws, C C', the latter of which contains within a dovetail groove a wedge or key, D, whose exposed side is made slightly concave, as shown. The office of the above-described jaws and wedge is to hold the apparatus in position on the side of the tub, in reference to which service I term them collectively the "vise."

H is a ring fitting the yoke B and confined therein against lateral displacement by flanges *h h'*.

I and J are a pair of jaws, the former of which is attached rigidly in front of the ring H and is furnished on its upper edge with two ridges or lips, *i i*. The jaw J is hinged at *j* to the ring H, and is so formed on its lower edge as to fit between the lips *i i*, in conjunction with which it holds the clothes tightly without danger of tearing. A latch, K, hinged at *k*, forms a guide for the jaw J, or holds it firmly and instantly in any desired position by being forced behind a wedge-shaped hook, L.

M is a spring which retracts the latch K when liberated, such retraction being limited by a projection, N, on the jaw J.

P is a pawl which, in conjunction with notches arranged at intervals around the ring H, pre-

vents the retrograde motion of the latter, and in conjunction with a dog, O, holds it down within the yoke.

E is an arm or frame nearly equal in length to the diameter of a small wash-tub and extending horizontally from the lower part of the yoke B, to either side of which it is so hinged, *e*, as to admit of its being turned up to a vertical position, as shown partially in Fig. 2, at the same time that it is held against depression by shoulders *f*.

F is a hitching pin or knob rising vertically from the end of the arm E.

G is a ledge to assist in holding the clothes around the pin F, as hereinafter explained.

The operation is as follows: The apparatus being attached to the side of the wash-tub, as represented in the drawings, and the clamps H I J K L confined within the yoke B, one end of a garment is passed through the ring H, and the jaw J being closed down upon it, the latch K is placed behind the hook L, as shown in red in Fig. 1, so as to secure the parts in position. The other portion of the garment is then bent around the hitching-pin F and held fast with the left hand, the thumb resting against the ledge G, and the clamp is rotated with the right hand in the direction of the arrow until the portion of the garment between the clamp and the hitching-pin is sufficiently wrung out. The jaw J being then released and elevated, the wrung portion is drawn through the clamp into a basket, and, another hitch being taken, the succeeding portions are treated in like manner. This arrangement affords great facility for successively rinsing and wringing out the clothes from several waters in as many tubs, the wringer being readily changed from tub to tub. When it is desired to have free access to the tub, the arm E is folded up compactly against the clamp, so as to be entirely out of the way, by which means the operations of washing or rinsing and wringing may succeed each other without trouble or delay. Either the rotary clamp or the whole apparatus may be instantly detached for the purpose of cleansing parts where dirt is apt to lodge—a common necessity to avoid soiling the next batch after dealing with colored or much soiled garments.

It will be seen that the duty of the vise C

C' D is merely to support the wringer, and neither it nor the tub is required to sustain any part of the severe tensional strain produced in wringing, such strain occurring almost wholly in the direction of the hitching-arm E, which arm is held down with more or less force or instantly released, if need be, to "humor the work" or graduate the stress on the clothing, as may be desired.

Wringers may be constructed by wholesale on this plan at a very moderate cost and admit of packing for transportation with as great facility as the common wash-board.

I claim as new and of my invention herein—

1. The yoke B, provided with a suitable hitching-arm, the said yoke being adapted to be temporarily attached to a wash-tub or readily disconnected therefrom, as explained,

and employed as a bearing for a rotary clamp for wringing clothes.

2. In the described connection with the yoke B, the movable clamp H I J K and pawl and dog P O, by means of which the said clamp is retained within the yoke or may be readily removed therefrom at will to be cleansed or dried.

3. In the described connection with a rotary clamp for wringing clothes, the hinged and yielding hitching-arm E, for the purposes explained.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

ISAAC A. SERGEANT.

Attest:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,  
C. STEEMER.