

E. Chipman,

Washing Machine,

N^o 40,246.

Patented Oct. 13, 1863.

Fig. 1.

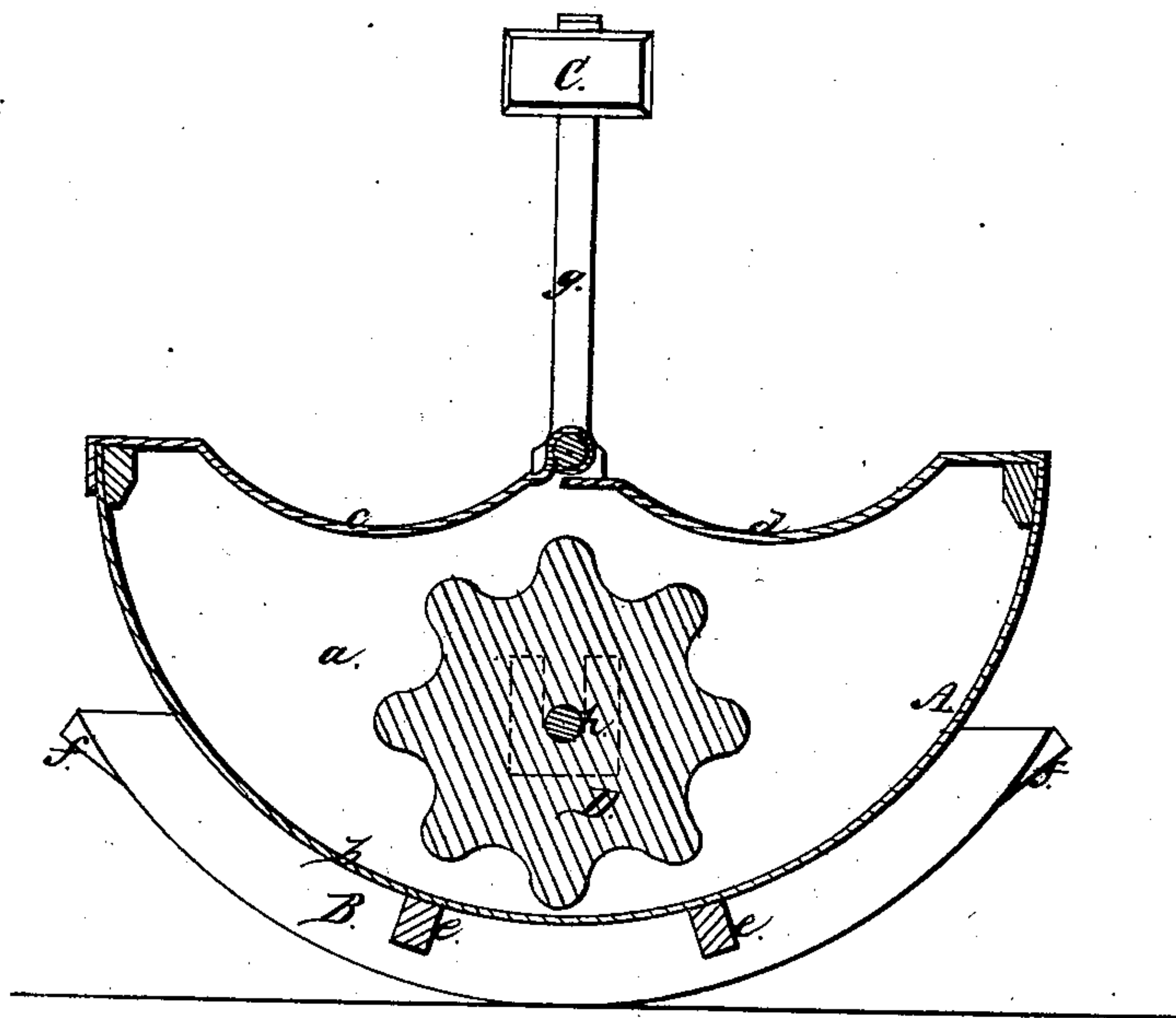
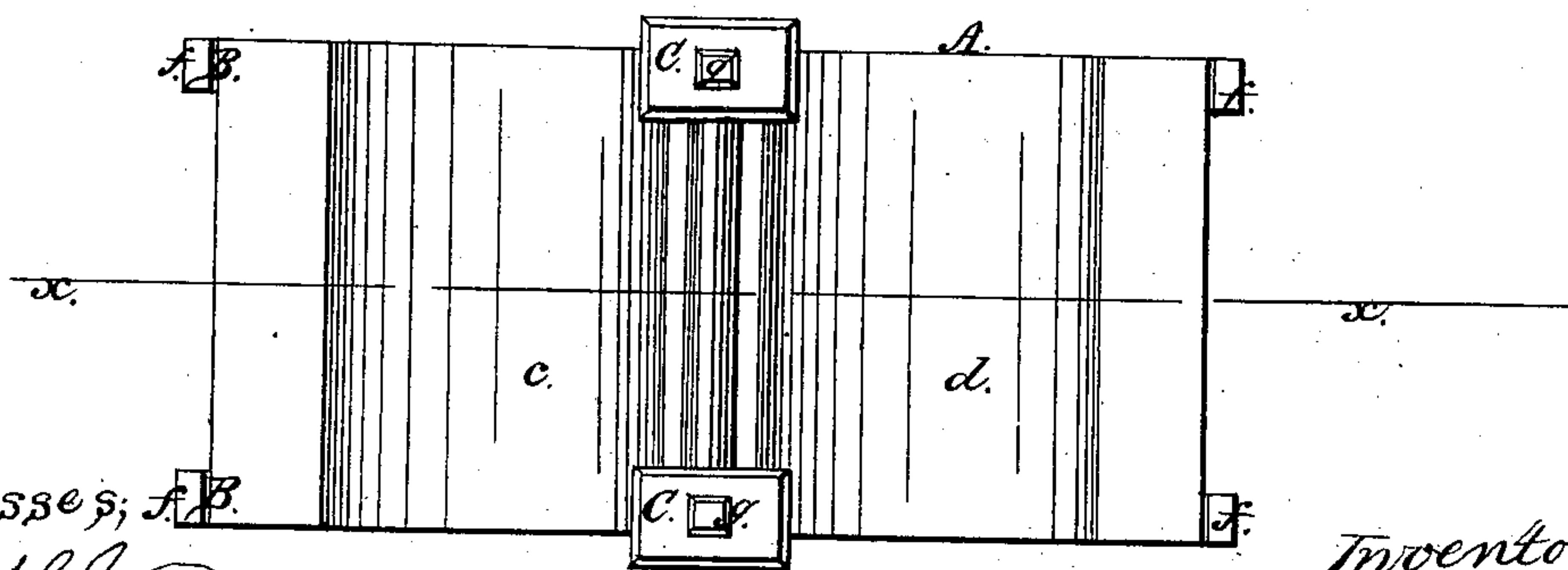


Fig. 2.



Witnesses; J. B.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDGAR CHIPMAN, OF NEW YORK. N. Y.

IMPROVED WASHING-MACHINE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 40,246, dated October 13, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDGAR CHIPMAN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Clothes-Washing Machine; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side sectional view of my invention, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a plan or top view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

This invention consists in constructing the suds-box of semi-cylindrical form, with rockers attached to it, and also provided with arms on which adjustable weights or counterpoises are placed, the above parts being also used in connection with a fluted roller placed within the suds box, and all arranged in such a manner that the machine may be operated with the greatest facility, but little manual labor being required, and the clothes operated upon in the most efficient manner.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents a suds-box, which is of semi-cylindrical form, its sides *a* being of wood, and its bottom *b* of sheet metal, zinc being a good material. The top of the suds box may also be of zinc, and one half, *c*, of the top may be connected to the other half, *d*, by a joint to form a lid, the half *d* being permanently attached to the suds-box.

To the bottom of the suds-box A there are attached two rockers, B B, one at each side. These rockers are connected by cross-bars *ee*, and at each end of each rocker there is attached a strip, *f*, of india-rubber or other suitable elastic material. These strips *f* serve as stops and limit the distance or extent of the rocking motion of the box A, and at the same time prevent jars or concussions, which would otherwise occur at the termination of each movement of the suds-box. Each side *a* of the suds-box is provided with an arm, *g*, which extends upward from the center of its upper part. These arms *g* have each a sliding or adjustable weight or counterpoise, C, fitted

on them. These weights or counterpoises may be so arranged as to be retained by friction only on the arm *g*, or any suitable catches or fastenings may be employed.

Within the suds-box A there is placed a fluted roller, D, the journals of the shaft *h* of which are fitted in bearings at the inner surfaces of the sides *a a* of the suds-box. This roller is allowed to turn freely, and its lower part is within a short distance of the center of the bottom *b* of the suds-box. The journals of the roller-shaft *h* are allowed to rise to a certain extent in their bearings in order to admit of a vertical play or movement of the roller D, and, if necessary, springs may rest upon the journals of said shaft in order to prevent the roller from rising too readily.

The operation is as follows: The suds-box A is provided with a requisite quantity of suds and the clothes to be washed placed into it. The weights or counterpoises C are then placed on the arms *g* and adjusted or raised or lowered on said arms so as to counterpoise the box A and its contents. The box is then rocked, an operation which may be performed by a very trifling expenditure of power, on account of being counterpoised, and the clothes, by their own gravity, are moved back and forth in the box A and underneath the roller D, and are subjected to the necessary pressure, rubbing, and friction to cleanse them perfectly, and without injuring them.

I do not claim, separately, a rocking suds-box for clothes-washing machines, for that has been previously used; but

I do claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The semi-cylindrical rocking suds-box A, in combination with the arms *g g* and adjustable weights or counterpoises C C, arranged to operate in the manner substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The fluted roller D, hung or placed within the suds-box A, so as to rotate freely therein, when said roller is used in connection with the counterpoised suds-box A, as set forth.

EDGAR CHIPMAN,

Witnesses:

THOS. S. J. DOUGLAS,
J. W. COOMBS.