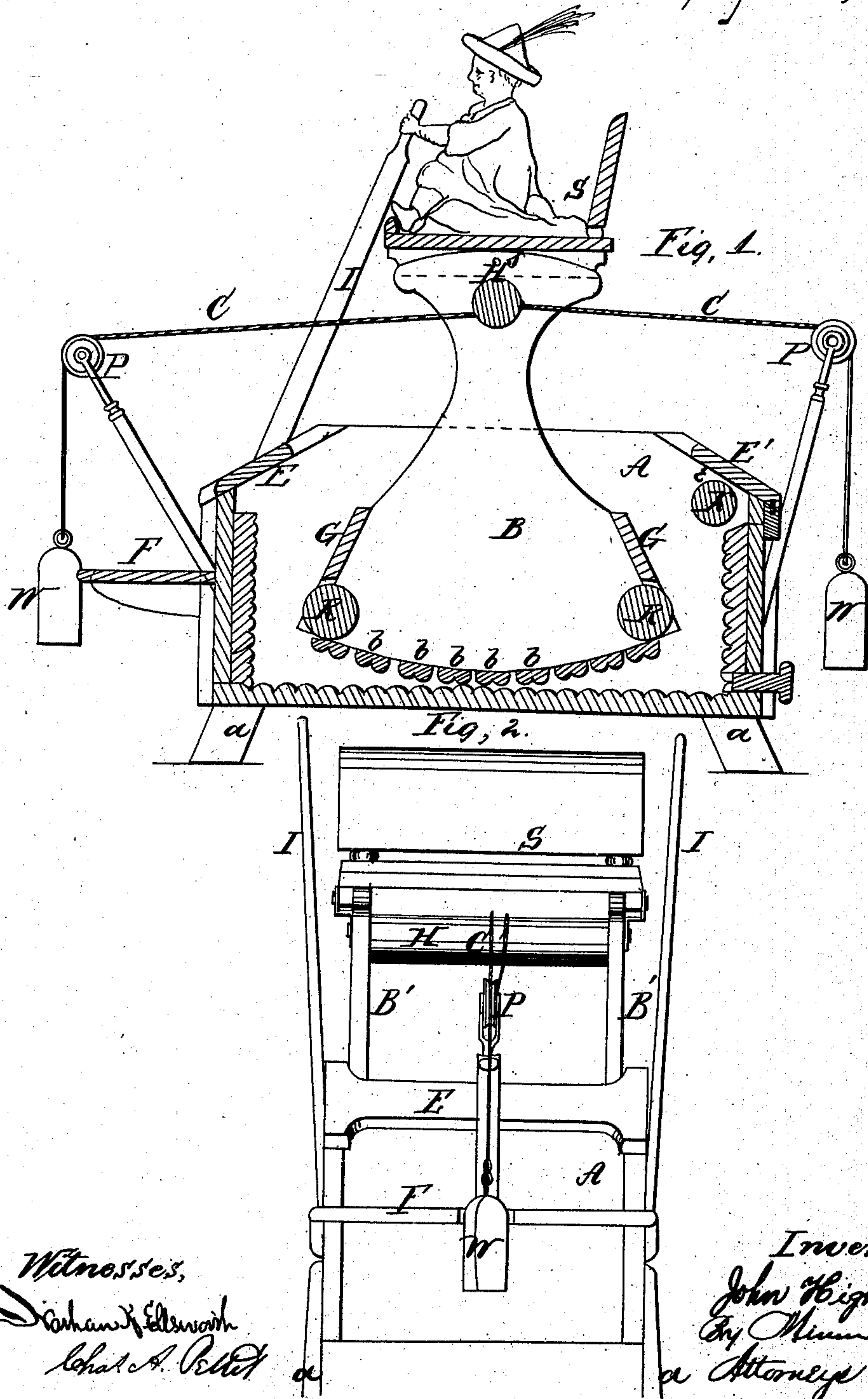


J. Highbarger,
Washing Machine,
No 68,626, *Patented Sept. 10, 1867.*



Witnesses,
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JOHN HIGHBARGER, OF SHARPSBURG, MARYLAND.

Letters Patent No. 68,626, dated September 10, 1867.

IMPROVED WASHING MACHINE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN HIGHBARGER, of Sharpsburg, in the county of Washington, and State of Maryland, have invented a new and improved Washing Machine; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section through the centre of my improved washing machine.

Figure 2 is a front elevation of my invention.

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

The main feature of this invention is a rocking seat, upon which the operator sits, and, by rocking himself back and forth, works the machine.

In order that others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may be enabled to make and use the same, I will proceed to describe it in detail.

In the drawings, A A represents the tank or wash-tub resting on legs *a a*, and having its inner surface corrugated, as is usual in machines for this purpose. B is a rocker, constructed of two vertical side pieces B' B', connected together at their bottom by slats *b b*, and on each side by a roller, R, and a stout brace or guard, G, the whole rocker forming a kind of cradle which fits loosely in the wash-tub, and rocks back and forth in it. The side pieces B' B' support a seat, S, hinged at its centre, *s*, to allow it to accommodate itself to the position of the operator. The side pieces may be further connected together and strengthened by braces or rounds H. Within easy reach of a person sitting in the seat are two nearly vertical bars I I, their tops shaped into handles, which the operator may grasp to assist himself in rocking. The foot-rest F is provided for the same purpose. A cord, C, is attached to the seat or cross-bar, and passes over a pulley, P, at the end of the machine, where it is attached to a weight, W, the operation of which is to steady and regulate the motion of the rocking-seat and to assist the operator in working it.

The wash-tub may be covered more or less, as desired. In the drawings I have shown one partially covered by the inclined pieces EE'. Either of these pieces may be hinged and fastened with a hasp, as at *e*, for convenience in lifting out and inserting the rocker B. An additional roller, K, may be placed in the upper corner of the tub A to further facilitate the removing and inserting of the rocker. The clothes are placed in the tub A, which is partially filled with water; the rocker B is then inserted, and the operator seats himself on the seat S, grasps the handle I, and rocks himself back and forth. The motion of the rocker pressed down on the clothes by the weight of the operator quickly and thoroughly cleanses them.

It is evident that the rocker may be operated by hand, if desired, from a point alongside of the machine. In general I dispense with the cord, weight and pulley when the machine is worked by a person sitting in the seat, and attach them to facilitate the working of the rocker when the seat is unoccupied.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The rocker B, having the side pieces B' B', slats *b b*, rollers R R, and seat S, in combination with the corrugated wash-chamber A, substantially as and for the purpose specified.
2. The combination of the rocker B with the cords C, weights W, and pulleys P P, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JOHN HIGHBARGER.

Witnesses:

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