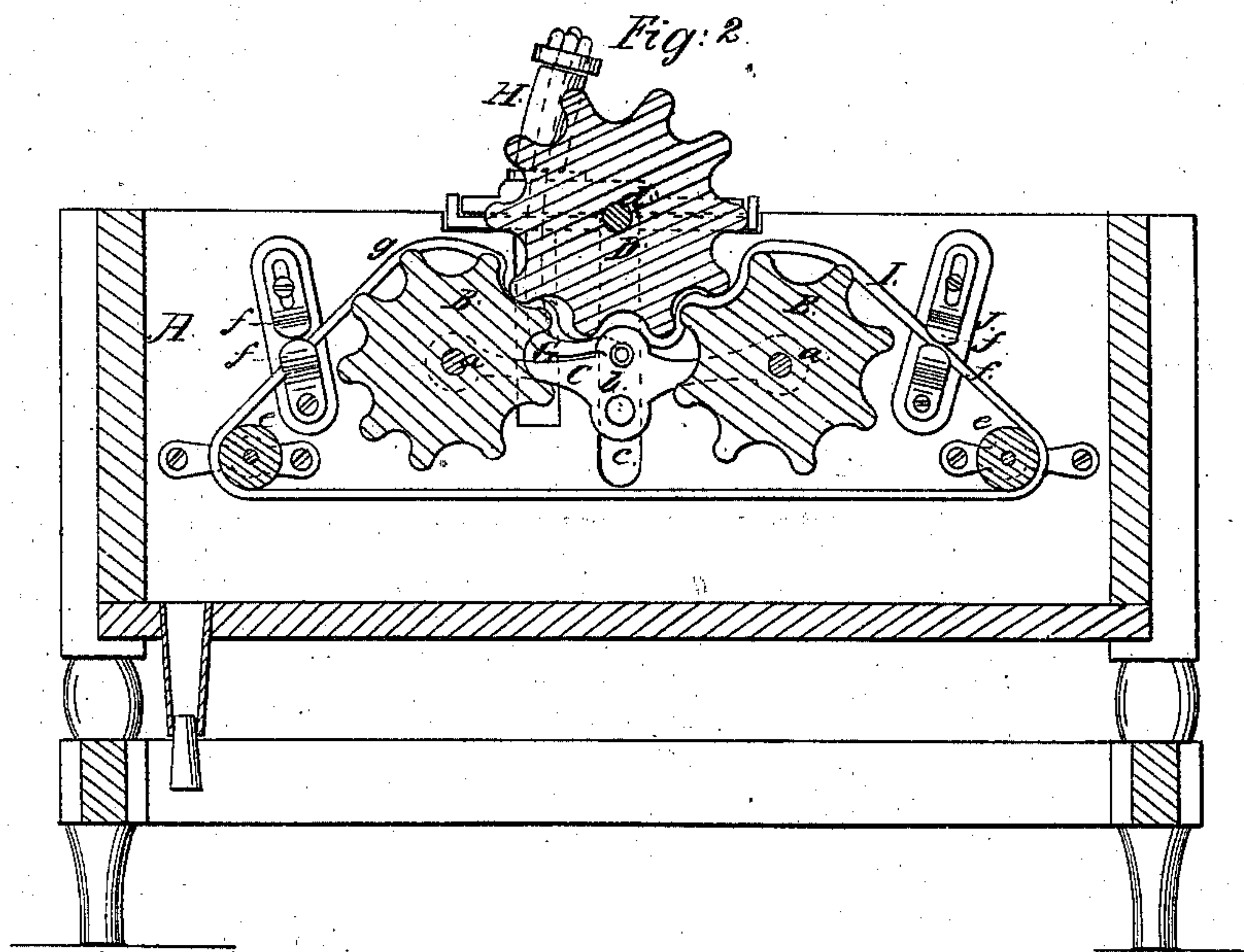
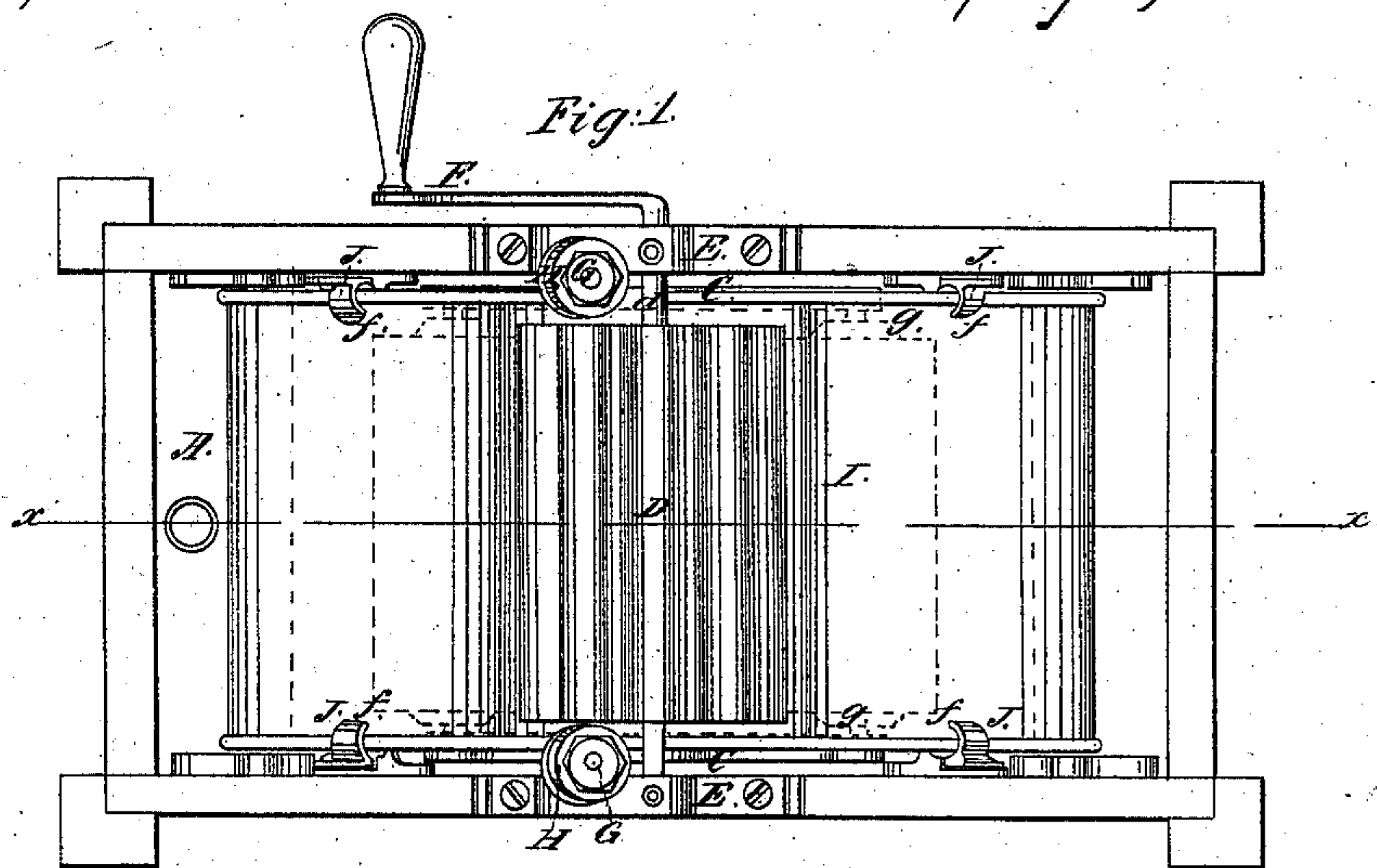


J. Osterhout,

Washing Machine.

N^o 8,674.

Patented Sept. 1, 1868.



Witnesses:
Am. A. Morgan
G. C. Cotton.

Inventor:
J. Osterhout
per Murray & Co.
Attorneys

United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH OSTERHOUT, OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 81,674, dated September 1, 1868.

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, JOSEPH OSTERHOUT, of Rock Island, in the county of Rock Island, in the State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clothes-Washing Machines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan or top view of my invention.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same, taken on the line *x x* of fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention relates to a new and improved clothes-washing machine, of that class in which corrugated rollers are employed in connection with an endless band or apron.

The object of the invention is to obtain a washing-machine of the kind specified, which will not injure or tear the clothes, and which will at the same time operate in the most efficient manner.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings—

A represents the suds-box of the machine, which may be of rectangular form, and supported by any proper framing.

In this suds-box there are placed transversely two corrugated or fluted rollers, B B, which are parallel with each other, and have their shafts *a* fitted in the ends of bars C C, each of which is provided with a central pin, *b*, to work in a vertical groove, *c*, the groove *c* being made in the inner surface of each side of the suds-box A.

These grooves and pins serve as guides for the bars C C in their up and down movement.

D is also a corrugated or fluted roller, placed parallelly above B B, and having its shaft, *d*, fitted in fixed bearings, E E, on the top of the suds-box A, one end of the shaft *d* being provided with a crank, F, by which the roller D is turned.

Each bar C has the lower end of a rod, G, attached to it, and these rods extend upward, and pass through India-rubber springs, H, which springs have a tendency to keep the rollers B B elevated in contact with the lower part of the roller D, as will be understood by referring to fig. 2.

I represents an endless band or apron, which passes between the upper roller, D, and the lower rollers, B B, and around rollers *e e*, one near each end of the suds-box, as shown in fig. 2.

This band or apron is nearly equal in width to the interior of the suds-box, and it is kept distended or stretched laterally by means of holders J J, composed of two lips, *f*, which extend or fit over a cord or rope, *g*, secured to each side of the band or apron.

These holders are an important feature of the invention, as they insure the proper working of the machine, preventing the band or apron from doubling up or gathering towards the centres of the rollers, a contingency which frequently occurs in the operation of machines of this class, and which causes considerable trouble, many of the clothes not being perfectly operated upon, in consequence of the great distension of the rollers B B from D, which is due to a thick mass of clothes collecting at the centres of the rollers.

The lower rollers, B B, in consequence of being fitted between the bars C C, and the latter connected with the springs H, are allowed to yield or give to varying thicknesses of layers of clothes, the latter being efficiently operated upon between the rollers B B and D, by rotating the latter first in one direction and then in the other.

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

The holders J J, secured to the inner sides of the suds-box, and applied to the band or apron I, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JOSEPH OSTERHOUT.

Witnesses:

ALBERT RILEY,
O. B. HUGGINS.