

J. M. GORHAM.

WASH-BOARDS.

No. 184,611.

Patented Nov. 21, 1876.

Fig. 1 -

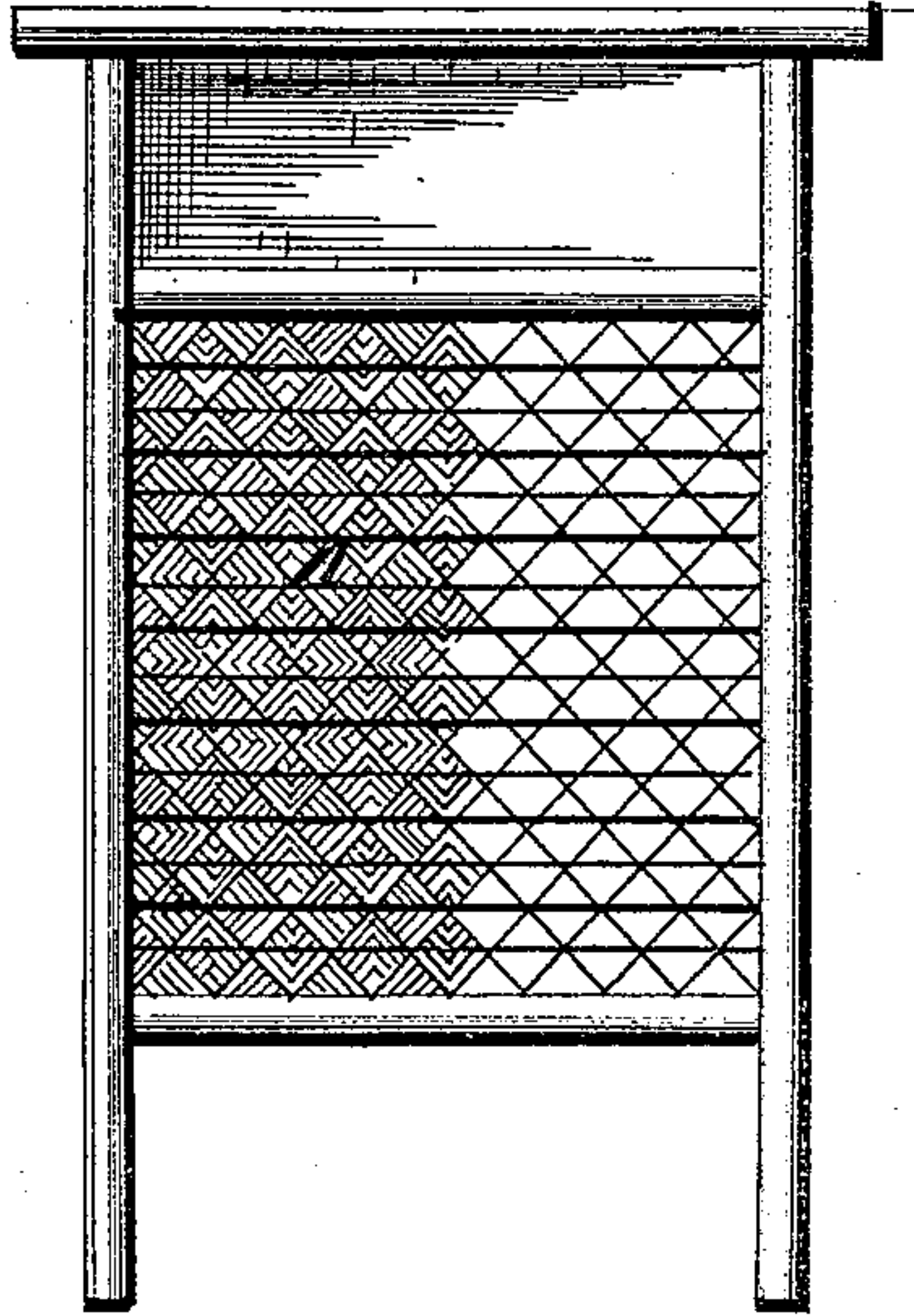
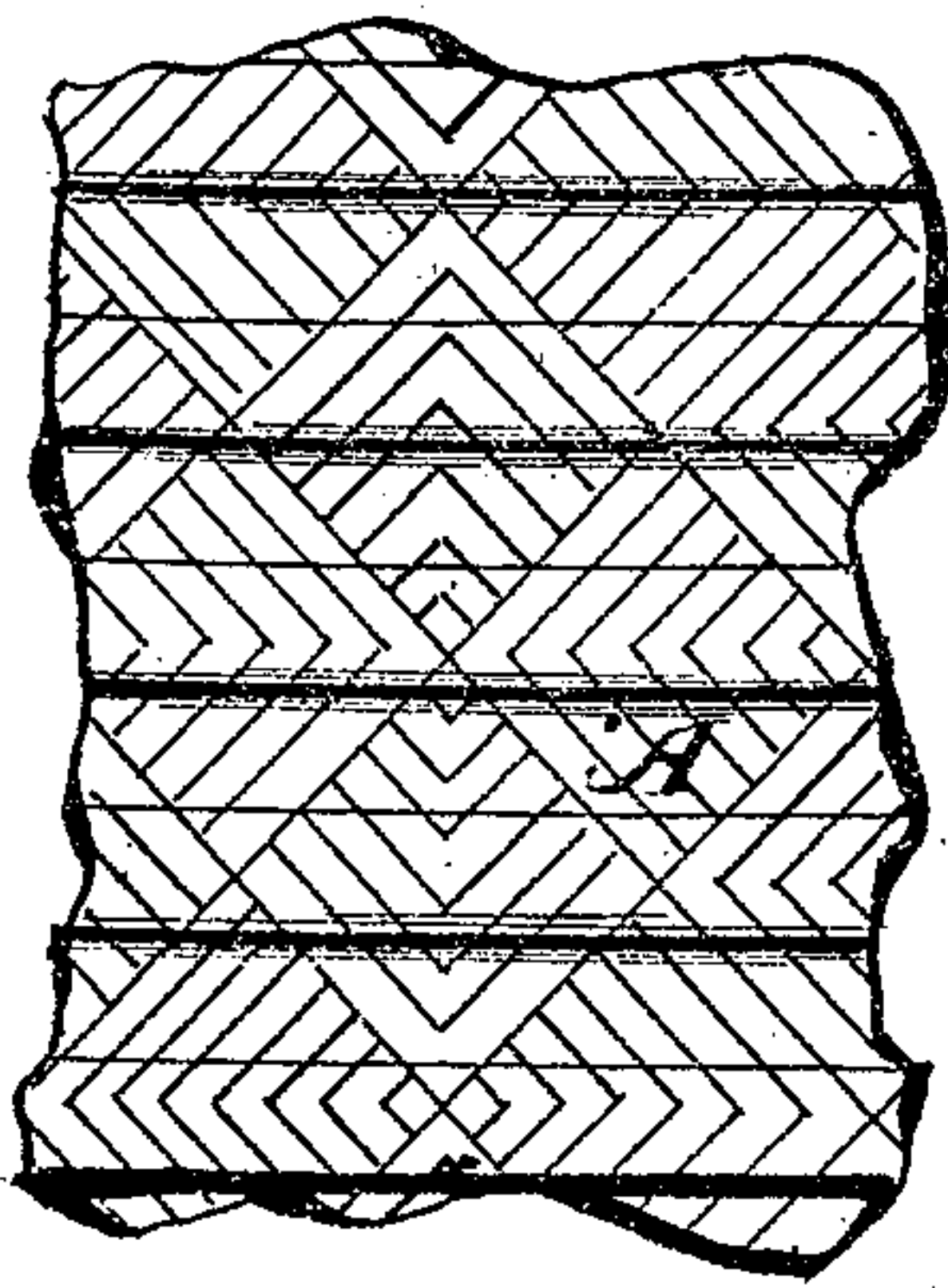


Fig. 2 -



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. GORHAM, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN WASH-BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **184,611**, dated November 21, 1876; application filed August 28, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN M. GORHAM, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wash-Boards; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to wash-boards; and consists in a corrugated wash-board plate, having an embossed surface, as will hereinafter be more fully set forth and claimed.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents a wash-board embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a view of a fragment of the embossed wash-board plate.

A represents the projections or protuberances formed in the wash-board plate by embossing the same. The blank plate or sheet may be embossed before the corrugations are formed therein, or at the same time, or afterward, as may be most desirable. I prefer, however, that the main corrugations be formed in the plate or sheet after the same has been embossed.

Any design may be embossed on the wash-board plate without departing from the spirit of my invention. Instead of geometrical figures, as shown in the drawings, any irregular figure, name, word or words, or trade-mark may be embossed on the same.

By thus embossing the surface of the plate it is rendered very irregular; and, by reason of this irregularity, or increased number of projections or protuberances, the clothes, when rubbed over the same, are washed with greater rapidity, and with less expenditure of labor. The water and suds are also retained much longer in the corrugations by reason of the embossed surface. Moreover, the embossed surface gives to the wash-board a peculiar appearance, by which it may be readily distinguished in the market from other articles of a similar class.

If desired, the wash-board plate may be so heavily embossed as of itself to form a sufficiently-roughened surface without the provision of the usual crimps.

It will be apparent that either the obverse or reverse face of my embossed plate may be employed with equal effect and utility.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A wash-board plate having a corrugated body, roughened by embossed designs running across the board at an angle to the line of the corrugations, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN M. GORHAM.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS TOUMEY,  
EDWARD WALSH.