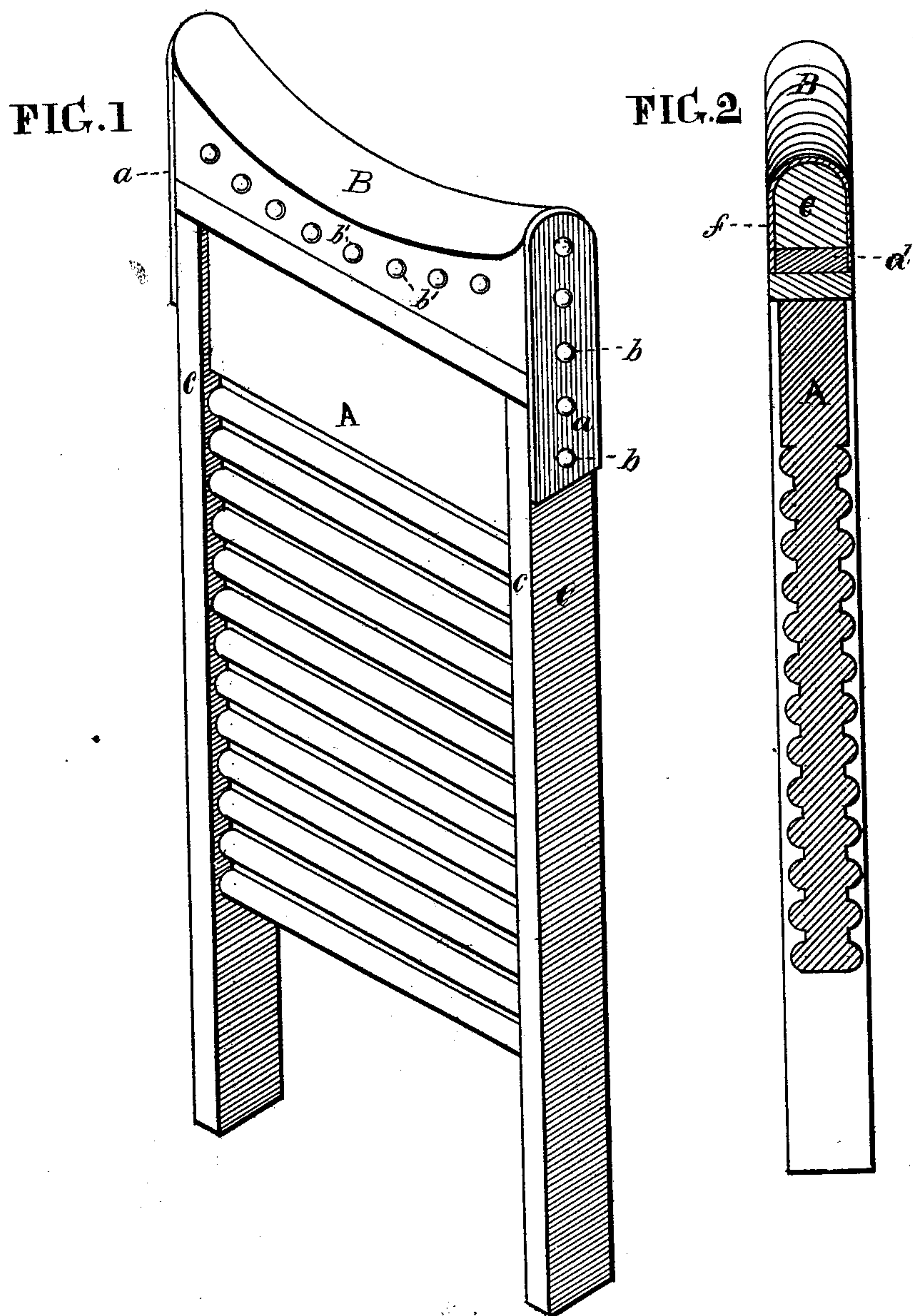


B. KAUFMANN.
Wash-Board.

No. 206,881.

Patented Aug. 13, 1878.



Witnesses

Thomas P. Bewley
S. H. Millett

Inventor

Bertha Kaufmann
per Stephen Ustick attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERTHA KAUFMANN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF
ONE-THIRD OF HER RIGHT TO LEOPOLD J. SPEER, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN WASH-BOARDS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **206,881**, dated August 13, 1878; application filed
December 8, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERTHA KAUFMANN, of the city and county of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wash-Boards, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an isometrical view of an ordinary wash-board with my improvement attached. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the middle of Fig. 1.

It is well known that in washing with the ordinary wash-board the bending forward is very hard on the breast, especially when the operation is continued for several hours.

To give relief to the operator is the object of my invention.

The invention consists of a breast-rest on the upper end of the board, of concave form to receive the breast, and cushioned to admit of an easy pressure. The cushioned part may be made separate, and attached to any ordinary wash-board by confining metallic strips to its ends and the edges of the wash-board at its upper end, by means of screws or otherwise; or this piece may be confined in any other convenient manner; or, in the construction of the wash-board, the extension and the board may be made in a single piece, if desired.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents an ordinary fluted wash-board, and B a cushion, having straps *a a* projected downward from its lower edge for the confinement of the cushion to the wash-board, the tacks *b* or screws passing through perforations in the straps and into the stiles *c c*, for confining the lower ends of the straps. The upper ends of

the straps are confined to the base-strip *d* of the cushion in the same manner. The filling *e* of the cushion is confined in its place on the base-strip by means of the cover *f*, which is secured at its lower edges by means of the tacks *b'*.

Instead of confining the cushion permanently in its place, as represented, it may, if desired, be made detachable by having the metallic straps *a a*, or wooden strips which may be used instead to fit vertical grooves of dovetail or other form, or in any other convenient manner.

In order to adapt my invention to ordinary wash-boards already made, the attachment of separate cushions is very easily effected, as may be readily seen by the above description, so as to make them detachable; but in the construction of new boards the stiles *c c* may extend above the upper end of the wash-board far enough to receive the cushion between them, and the edges of the cover *f* be confined to them and the upper part of the board; and in putting the cushion on an ordinary board the strips of wood may be fastened permanently to the stiles *c c*, with their upper ends projecting far enough above the upper end of the board for the reception of the cushion, when it is not desirable to have the cushion detachable.

I claim as my invention—

The cushion B, having straps or strips *a a* on its ends, for connecting it with an ordinary wash-board, substantially as set forth.

BERTHA KAUFMANN.

Witnesses:

STEPHEN USTICK,
S. W. MILLETT.