

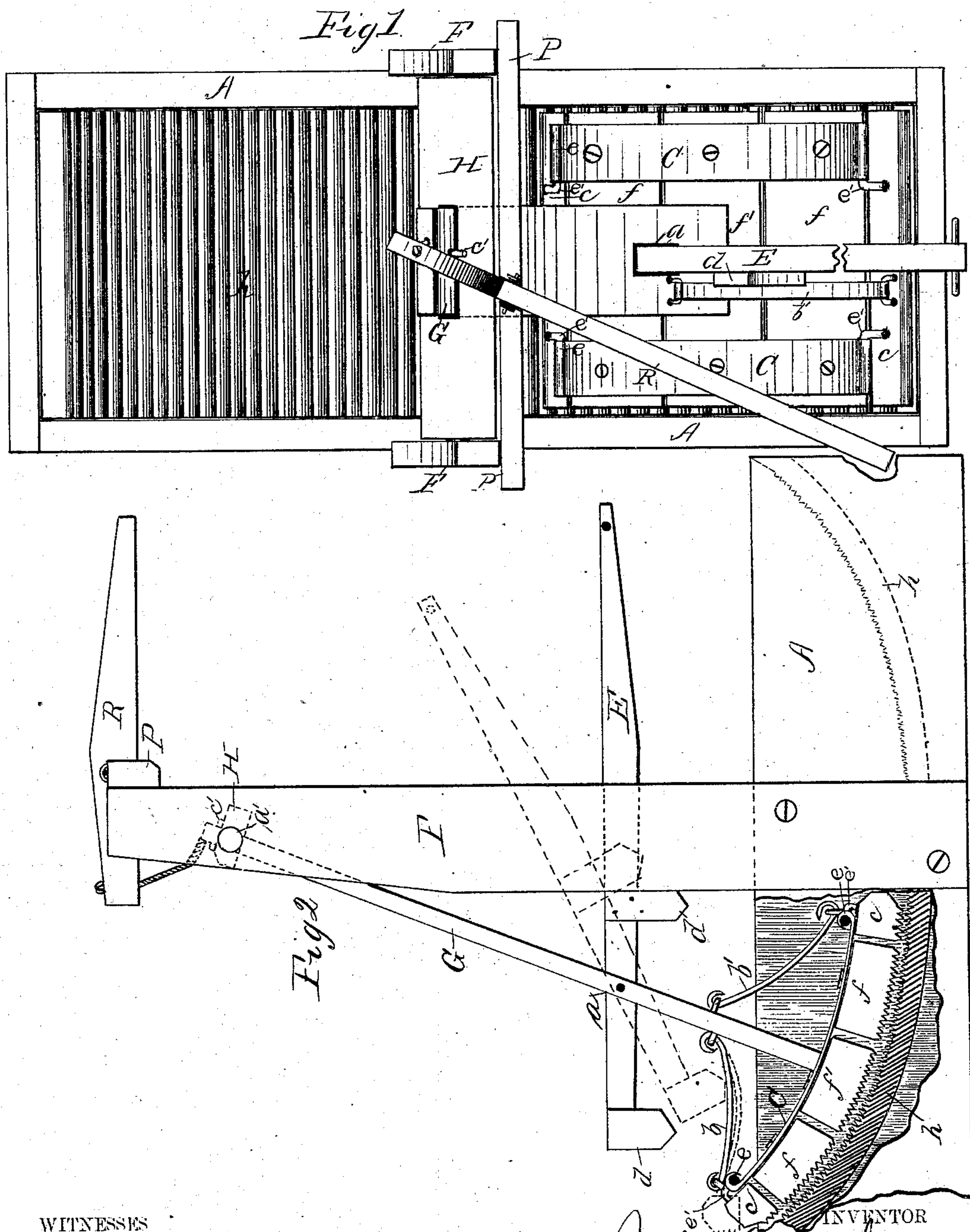
(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. E. WATKINS.
Washing Machine.

No. 237,458.

Patented Feb. 8, 1881.



WITNESSES

Will C. Ouchments.
J. A. Woodworth.

INVENTOR
John E. Watkins
Myers & Co
ATTORNEYS.

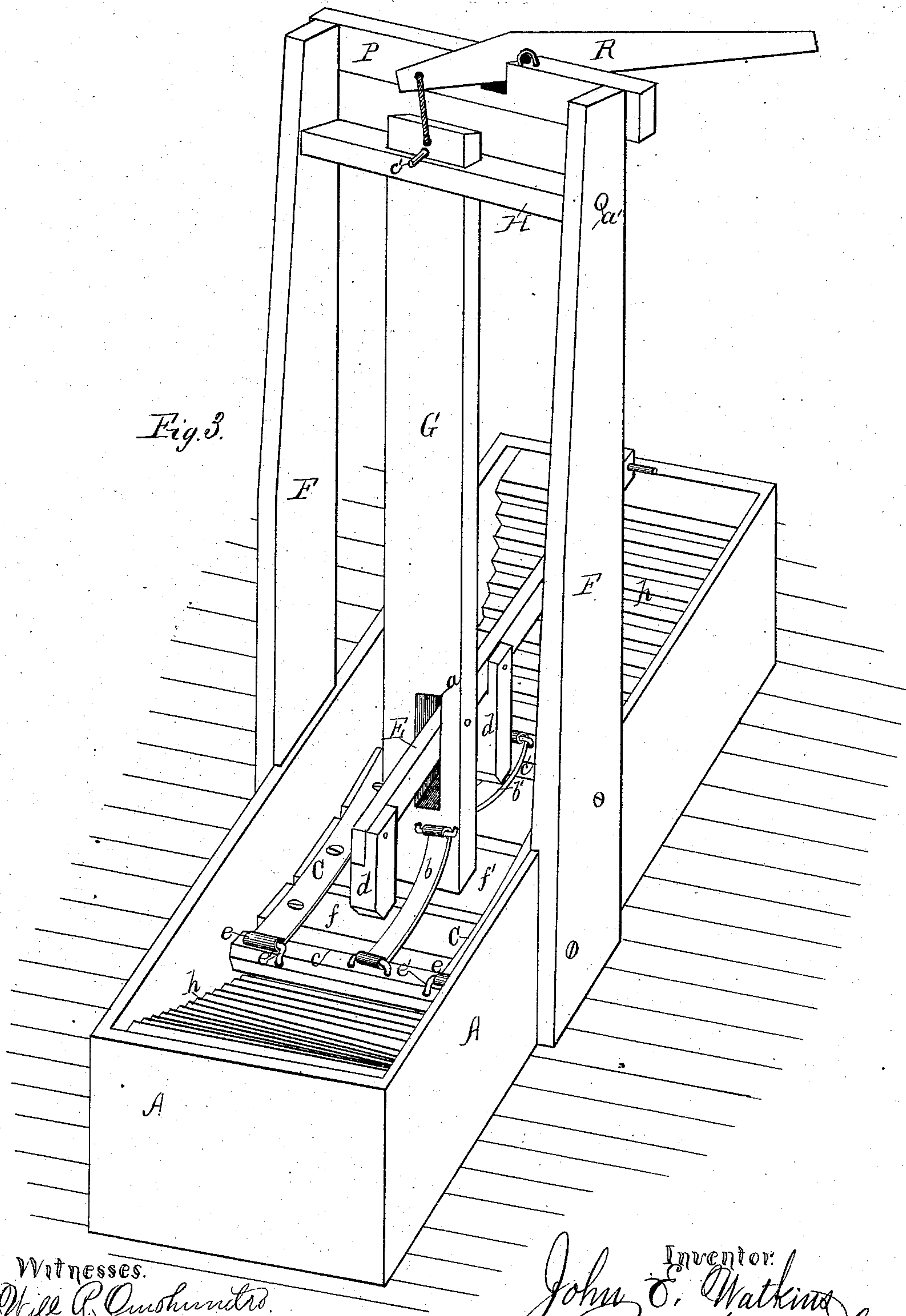
(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. E. WATKINS.
Washing Machine.

No. 237,458.

Patented Feb. 8, 1881.



Witnesses.
 Wm C Olinch
 J A Woodworth.

Inventor:
John E. Watkins
By Myers & Co. Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. WATKINS, OF SMITHFIELD, KENTUCKY.

WASHING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 237,458, dated February 8, 1881.

Application filed September 1, 1880. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN E. WATKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Smithfield, in the county of Henry and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines; 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 appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in washing-machines; and it consists in the combination and arrangement of the parts, as hereinafter more fully specified, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of my device. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof, partly in section; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view.

A represents a rectangular clothes-receptacle, having the corrugated bottom *h*, which may be covered with zinc, to prevent the wear of the ridges or corrugations. To the sides of this receptacle are rigidly secured the vertical standards *F F*, which standards furnish the bearings of the transverse bar *H*, that is pivoted, as shown therein, at *a'*, and slotted vertically for the reception of upright *G*, which, when actuated, ascends and descends therein in a vertical line, its ascent and descent being regulated by the bulk of the clothes and the hand of the operator, in connection with the pivoted lever *R*. The standards *F F* are additionally secured by the vertically-slotted cross-beam *P*, which furnishes bearings for the pivoted lever *R*.

The upright *G* is secured in the pivoted horizontal bar *H* by means of the pin *c'*, and it has attached thereto the central corrugated slat *f'* and, indirectly, the slats *f f* and clamps *c c*. The handle *E*, which projects through it, is pivoted in the slot *a*.

The bars *d d* are rigidly secured to the handle *E*, one at the end thereof, in a line perpendicular to the spring *b*, and the other to the rear of the upright *G* and in a line perpendicular to the spring *b'*. These springs are connected, respectively, to the clamps *c c* and the upright *G*, by staples projecting through their curved ends, and are actuated by means of the depending bars *d d*, in connection with

handle *E*, the clamps *c c* being respectively thrown up by pressure upon springs *b* and *b'*, and when the pressure is released from the springs they return to their normal position. These clamps are hinged, at *e*, to the longitudinal springs *C C*, which hinges serve as adjuncts in elevating and lowering the clamps, which are thus caused to catch and release the clothes while the machine is being operated, and thus to place the clothes in such position in relation to the rubbing device as may be most conducive to the intended purpose.

The slats *f f* and *f'* are screwed to the longitudinal springs *C C*, and the springs are curved at their ends for reception of the hooks *e'*, thus forming hinges for the clamps. These springs serve to render the rubbing force applied to the clothes elastic, and the weight or pressure on the clothes may also be in part adjusted by means of weights secured to the upright *G* or pivoted lever *R*, to suit the nature of the article to be cleansed.

The rubber, in practice, in its movements to and fro, rests indirectly upon the concave bottom of the rectangular clothes-receptacle *A*, and the arc which it describes partially conforms to the concave surface of said bottom, and hence it constantly gravitates and presses upon the clothes with equal pressure when such pressure is not adjusted by means of the pivoted lever *R*. As constructed it prevents the clothes from becoming wedged under the rubbing device, and thereby torn by the additional strain to which thus subjected.

The ingenious manner in which my device is constructed renders it possible to wash and thoroughly cleanse therewith the most delicate, as well as the heaviest and coarsest, articles.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with the rubber, of the clamps *c c*, springs *b* and *b'*, depending-bars *d d*, and handle *E*, substantially as shown and specified.

2. The combination of the clamps *c c*, slats *f* and *f'*, springs *C C* and *b* and *b'*, and handle *E*, having depending bars *d d* and upright *G*, substantially as shown, and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

Witnesses: JOHN E. WATKINS.

W. B. WILSON,

I. W. CASELDINE.