

(Model.)

J. B. CALKINS.
Device for Washing Clothes.

No. 238,213.

Patented March 1, 1881.

FIG. 1.

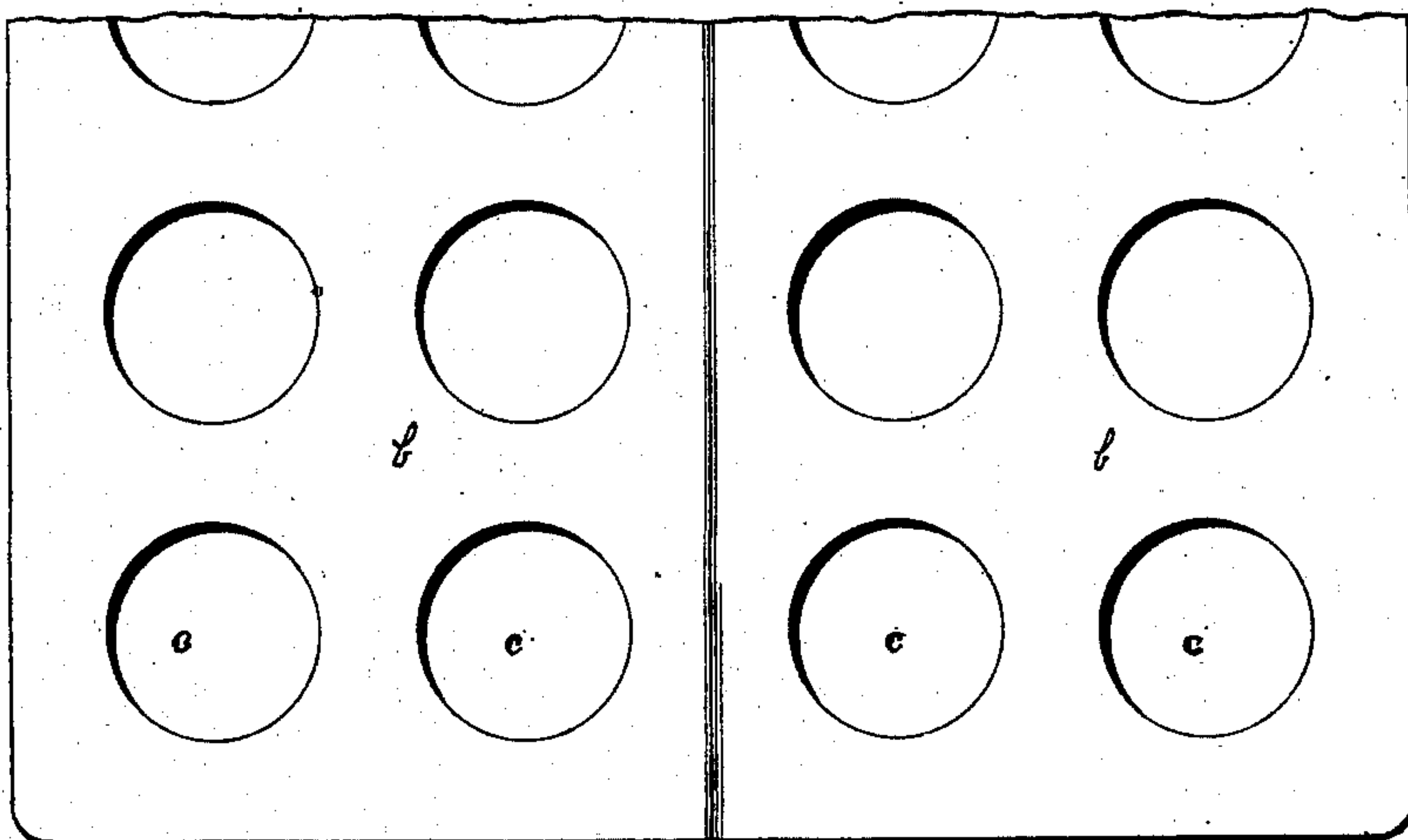


FIG. 2.

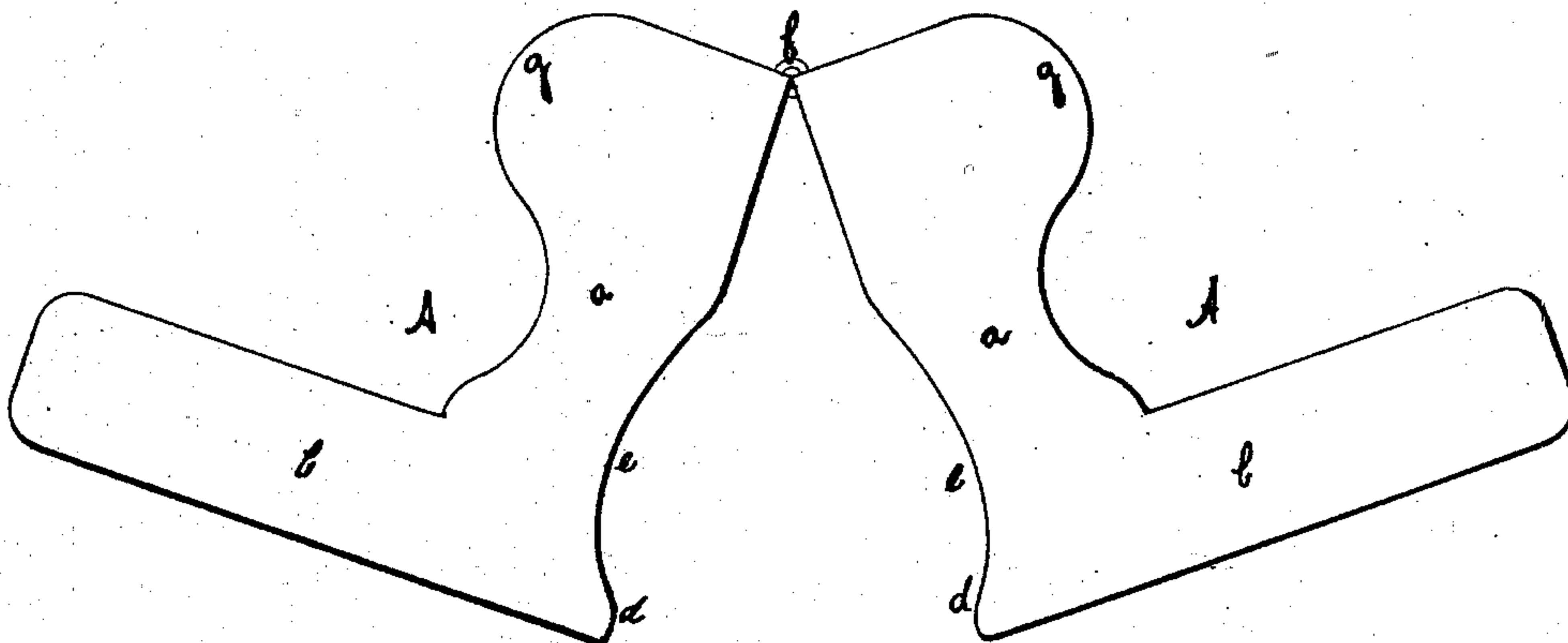
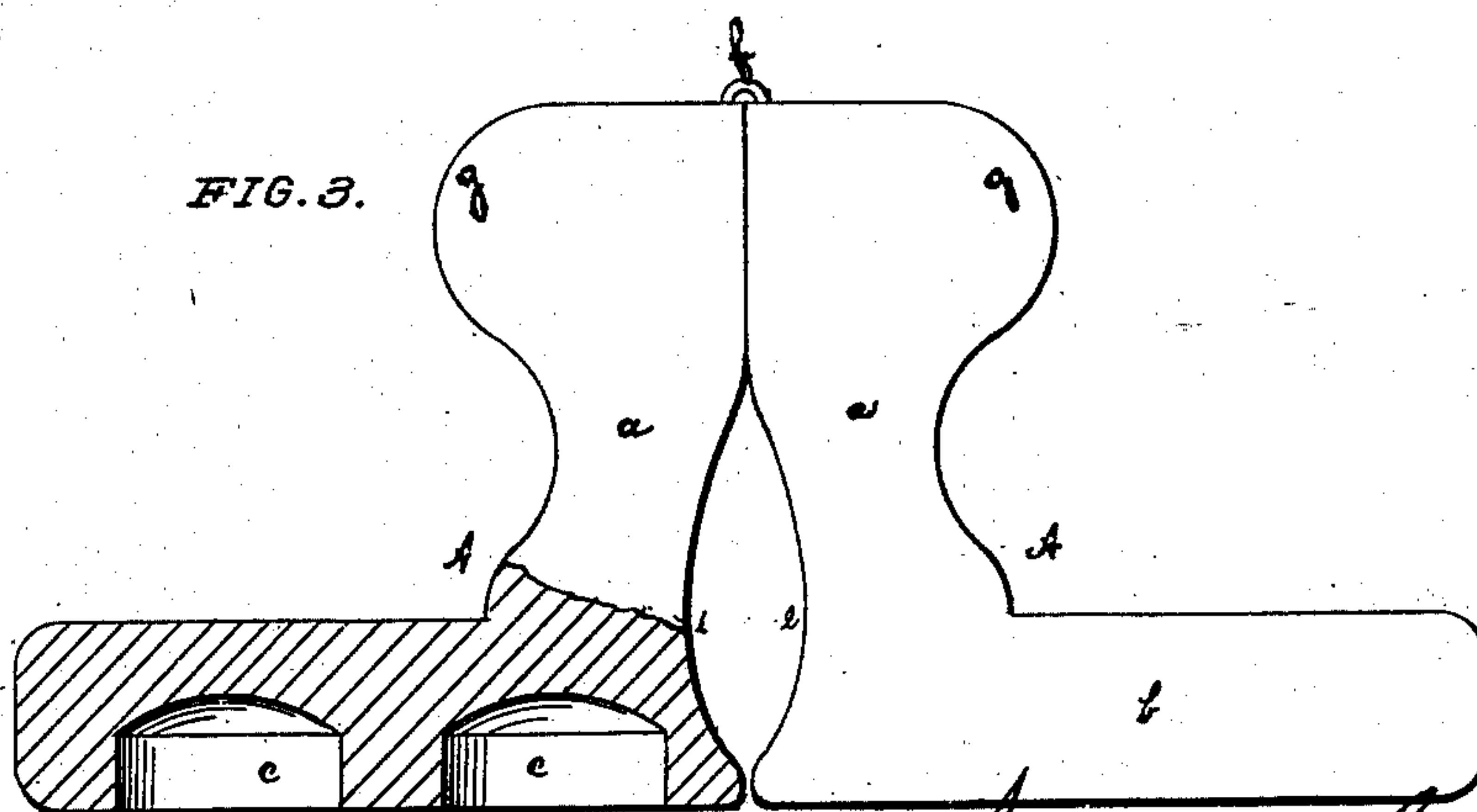


FIG. 3.



ATTEST:

James M. Calkins
for C. O. Myers

INVENTOR:

James M. Calkins

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES B. CALKINS, OF PACIFIC, MISSOURI.

DEVICE FOR WASHING CLOTHES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 238,213, dated March 1, 1881.

Application filed September 3, 1880. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES B. CALKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pacific, in the county of Franklin and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Washing Clothing, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple and convenient device for rubbing clothes upon a common wash-board; and the invention consists in a certain form of construction, which will first be described, and then specifically pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a part of the bottom of my device. Fig. 2 is an end view with jaws opened. Fig. 3 is an end view, partly in section, with the jaws closed.

The rubber is made of any suitable material, preferably of wood, and is composed of two like parts, A, hinged together, as shown. Each of these parts consists of a rubbing portion, *b*, and an upward-extending portion, *a*, having outward projections, *g*, the parts *a* *g* forming the handle of the device. At the lower portion, *e*, of each of the parts *a* the interior surface is made concave to form the projections *d*, which construction adapts the device to be used as a tongs for handling the clothing in boiling suds and water without burning the hand of the operator. The rubbing portions *b* are provided with cavities *c*, to form frictional surfaces to hold the clothing on the rubber while being washed, the suction caused

by the cavities aiding in retaining the clothes on the rubber. The parts A are connected by hinges *f*, applied at the upper surface of the sides *a* of the handle.

The rubber is opened by grasping the handle with one or both hands, with the fingers extending around and under one of the projections, *g*, the thumb or thumb extending around and under the other projection, *g*, and then pressing the forefinger or fingers on a line between the hinges. Pressure upon the sides only of the handle closes the jaws of the rubber.

The operation of the device is as follows: By opening the jaws in the manner above described the rubber can be inserted into the hot suds and closed, like tongs, upon an article of clothing to place it upon the wash-board. The rubber is then closed and the parts *b* *b* placed down quickly on the wet clothes, and by means of the cavities *c* it adheres to the clothes with sufficient force to hold them while they are rubbed back and forth upon the wash-board. When they have been rubbed sufficiently, the rubber may be employed as a pair of tongs to hold the clothing while it is rinsed in boiling water.

Having fully described my invention, I claim—

The combination of the parts A and hinges *f*, whereby the parts are connected as described, said parts being provided with cavities *c*, recessed portions *e*, and projections *d* and *g*, substantially as shown and described.

JAMES B. CALKINS.

Witnesses:

JAMES M. CALKINS,
JAS. C. BYERS.