

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

T. F. TIMBY.
WASH BOILER.

No. 256,766.

Patented Apr. 18, 1882.

Fig. 1,

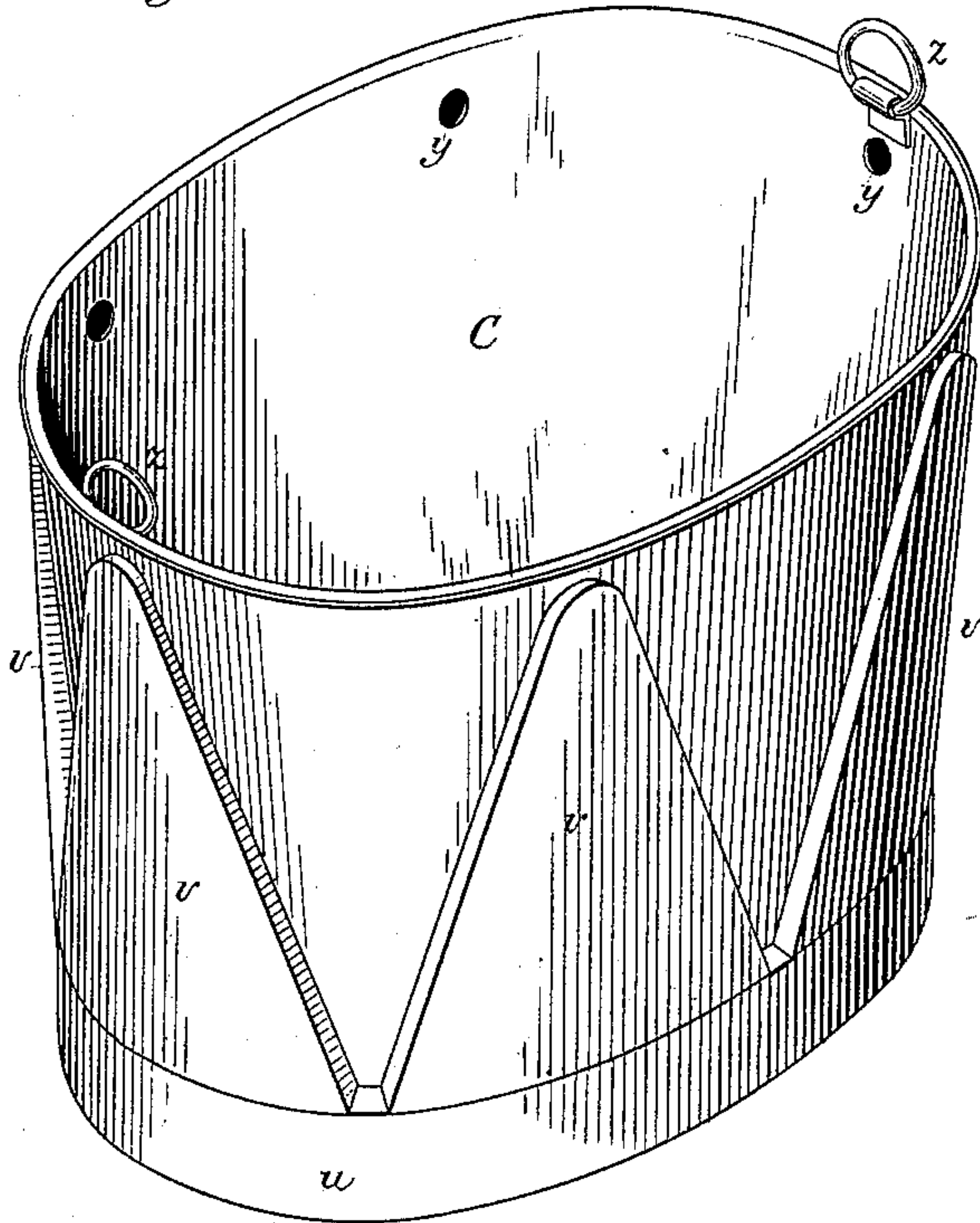
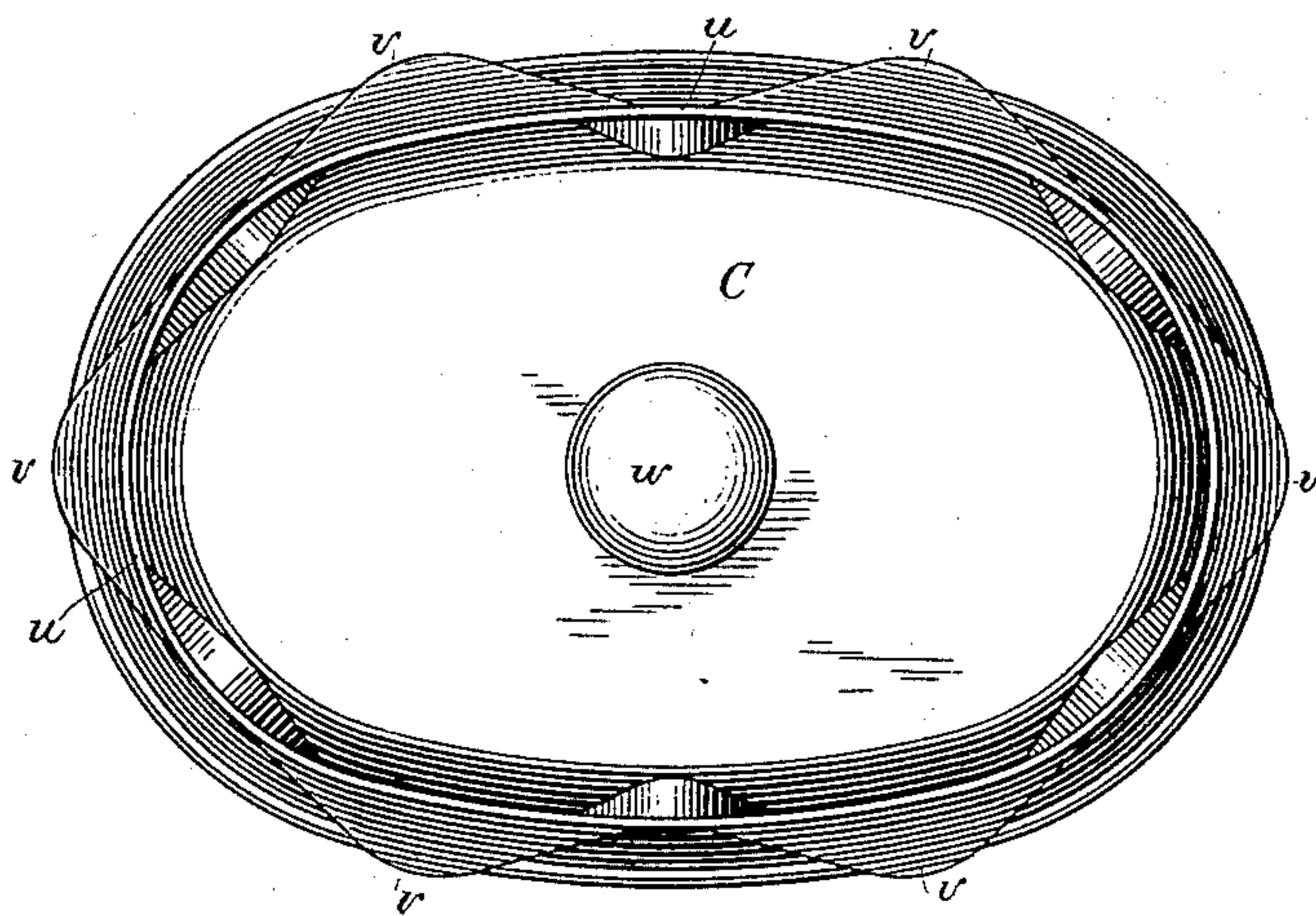


Fig. 2,



WITNESSES

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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3,

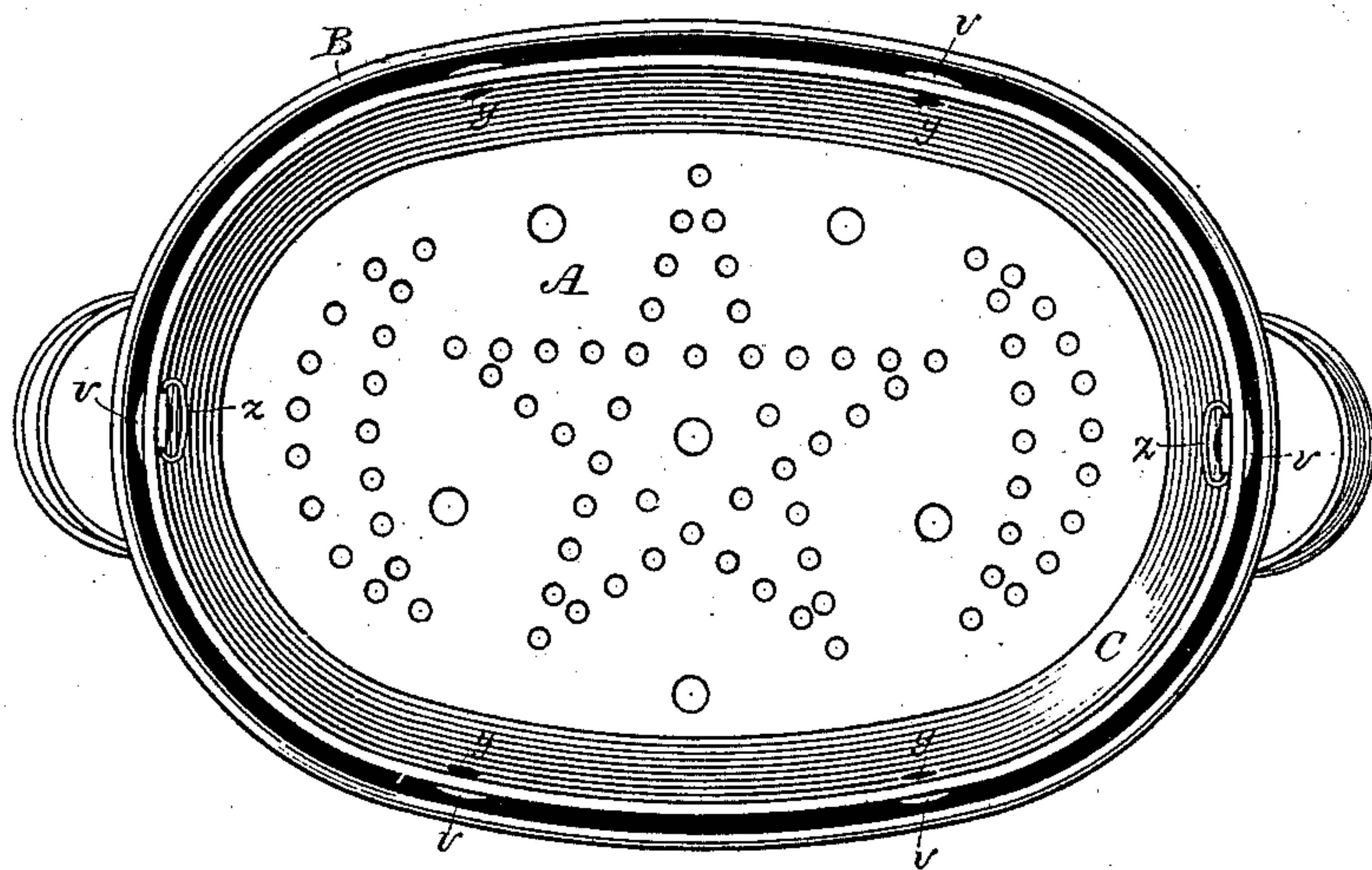
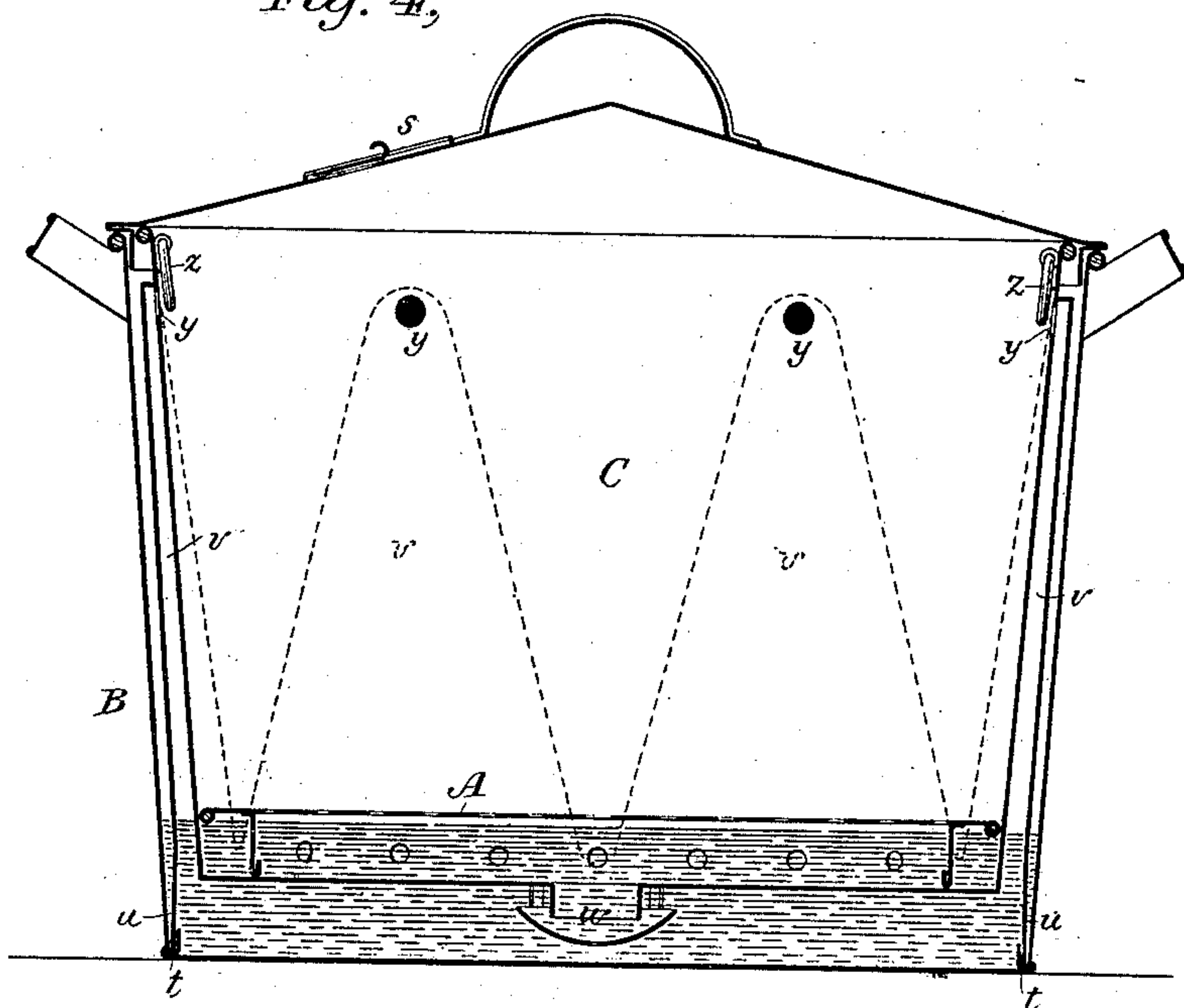


Fig. 4,



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE F. TIMBY, OF ALMA, MICHIGAN.

WASH-BOILER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 256,766, dated April 18, 1882.

Application filed February 15, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE F. TIMBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Alma, in the county of Gratiot, Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Wash-Boilers, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in the construction of fountain wash-boilers; and it consists, first, in a clothes-receptacle of novel construction, adapted to stand on a table or other support while the clothes are being soaped and arranged therein and while the clean clothes are being removed, and to co-operate with a suitable wash-boiler, which may be an ordinary boiler of proper dimensions—as a removable lining or fountain attachment—the same construction adapting the fountain water-passages to be readily and thoroughly washed or rinsed; secondly, in the combination of said clothes-receptacle with a boiler fitted thereto, and having flaring sides to coact with a base-rim on the former, so as to render steam-tight the one loose joint without the aid of packing other than the water in the boiler, and by the same means to prevent rattling, the said boiler being adapted, moreover, to be used separately as a small tub; and, thirdly, in the combination of the aforesaid clothes-receptacle, a suitable inclosing boiler, and a clothes-rack for supporting the clothes above the water-level in the former during the washing operation, as improved means for cleansing and bleaching or washing clothes according to the method hereinafter specified.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my said clothes-receptacle as it appears when removed from the boiler, and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same inverted. Fig. 3 is a top view of the complete combination of parts, the boiler-cover being omitted; and Fig. 4 represents a vertical longitudinal section through all.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

A clothes-receptacle, C, is constructed according to my invention as follows: An open-topped vessel—like a tub or pail—of proper shape and dimensions, is made of sheet metal, with a flat or dished bottom and flaring sides,

and is provided at or near its top with a handle or handles, *z*, and lateral inlet-holes *y*, and at bottom with a central outlet-hole, *x*, and a water-trap, *w*, the latter attached externally. Sectional jackets of sheet metal, stamped or otherwise shaped, are attached externally, so as to form conduits *v*, which terminate at said inlet-holes, and by preference taper both in width and in horizontal length unto the latter. Said conduits extend upward from at or near the bottom of the said vessel or body of the clothes-receptacle, and there together may and do by preference completely embrace the same. At this point a downwardly-projecting imperforate base-rim, *u*, is attached to the outer walls of the conduits, so as to inclose their lower ends, together with all the space below the said bottom of the clothes-receptacle, and so as to support the whole, with the said bottom sufficiently elevated to accommodate the depending water-trap *w*, and when the clothes-receptacle is in the boiler to form a steam and water space of proper depth beneath said bottom.

A special boiler, B, Figs. 3 and 4, is made preferably of the customary sheet metals—tin and copper—with a flat or pitted bottom, as may be preferred, the same being constructed with slightly-flaring sides, and with the inter-section *t* of said sides and the bottom of the boiler fitted to the lower edge of said base-rim *u* of the clothes-receptacle C, so that a tight joint is formed between the two by simply forcing down the latter until said base-rim rests on the bottom of the boiler, said base-rim being made without wiring, so as to be somewhat flexible for this purpose, while the extreme upper edge of said receptacle-body and the outer surfaces of said conduit-jackets are less tightly fitted to the interior of the boiler simply to economize space.

The boiler-cover is provided with a steam-vent, *s*, in the form of a slide covering a vent-hole.

A clothes-rack, A, Figs. 3 and 4, for the interior of the clothes-receptacle has been made of perforated sheet metal, with a base-flange, *r*, of the same. One of tinned wire is proposed. This clothes-rack is removable to facilitate cleaning the parts, and should be adapted to keep the clothes from protruding through it,

and at the same to allow water to escape downward therethrough freely, and to form a water-space of sufficient depth below it during the washing operation. It may be provided with a handle or handles extending above the upper clothes-line within the receptacle C, so as to provide for removing the clothes from the latter in bulk.

In use, the receptacle C being upon a table or other convenient support, the boiler B upon the stove and supplied with the proper quantity of water being heated, and the rack A within said receptacle, the clothes to be washed are soaped, folded with the soap inside, and laid in said receptacle until the latter is about half full. Now, or in the case of flannels after the water in the boiler is boiling hot, the receptacle, with its contents, is introduced and the boiler-cover applied. The steam confined by the base-rim *u* and the tight joint at *t*, the latter amply packed by the water, escapes for some time alone through the conduits *v* and inlet-holes *y* into the receptacle C above the clothes, enveloping and permeating them until they are heated to the temperature of boiling water, or thereabout, liberating the dirt particles and admitting the soap into the expanded fibers of the clothes. Then the highly-heated water from below the bottom of the receptacle C pours in concentrated streams through the said inlet-holes upon the heated clothes, and through the latter and the rack A into the space below said rack, washing out the dirt and stains in its passage through the clothes. Relatively cool water passes meanwhile by gravity through the trap *w* into the steam-space below, keeping the latter supplied, while the water-level, originally below the clothes-rack, as shown in Fig. 4, never rises above this within the clothes-receptacle. Should the steam-pressure become excessive, lifting the boiler-cover, steam is permitted to escape by opening the vent *s* more or less.

About twenty minutes' boiling suffices for an ordinary wash. The receptacle C, with its contents, may now be removed from the boiler B by means of its handles *z* to the table for the removal of the clothes, the water under the rack A escaping as the receptacle is lifted, and the boiler may now be used as a small tub, being of a convenient shape; or the boiling operation may of course be continued with more clothes.

The removed rack A and the emptied boiler B are obviously readily cleansed by rinsing and wiping, as are also the smooth interior and exterior surfaces of the receptacle C. To clean the water-passages of the latter the receptacle is inverted, as shown in Fig. 2, and water is poured or allowed to flow into the space within the base-rim *u*, and thus through all the conduits *v* and inlet-holes *y*, and in inverse direction through the trap *w*, at one and the same time, rapidly and thoroughly cleansing each.

I am aware that the fountain principle on which my wash-boiler as a whole operates is old and well known, as are also removable linings for fountain wash-boilers and removable clothes-racks therefor in many forms.

I claim as new and of my own invention—

1. The within-described sheet-metal clothes-receptacle, constructed with continuous flaring sides, having inlet-holes at top, a bottom having a central outlet-trap attached externally, tapering external conduits on all sides formed by sectional jackets attached externally to said sides and an imperforate base-rim attached to the outer walls of said sectional jackets, substantially as shown, for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination, substantially as herein specified, of a wash-boiler having slightly-flaring sides and a clothes-receptacle, forming a removable lining, constructed with a greater flare and provided with inlet-holes at top, tapering external conduits terminating at said inlets, an outlet in its bottom, and an imperforate base-rim inclosing the lower ends of said conduits and coacting with the sides and bottom of the boiler at their intersection, substantially as shown, for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination, as herein specified, of the clothes-receptacle C, constructed with continuous flaring sides, having inlet-holes therein at top, a bottom provided with a central outlet-trap, tapering external conduits on all sides, and an imperforate base-rim, substantially as shown, a wash-boiler, B, adapted to receive said clothes-receptacle upon its bottom, and a clothes-rack, A, adapted to support the clothes within said clothes-receptacle above the water-level, substantially as described, for the purposes set forth.

THEODORE F. TIMBY.

Witnesses:

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JANIE KING EWING.