(Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. & T. HAMSHAW.

CLOTHES POUNDER.

No. 258,643. Patented May 30, 1882.

Fig. 1.

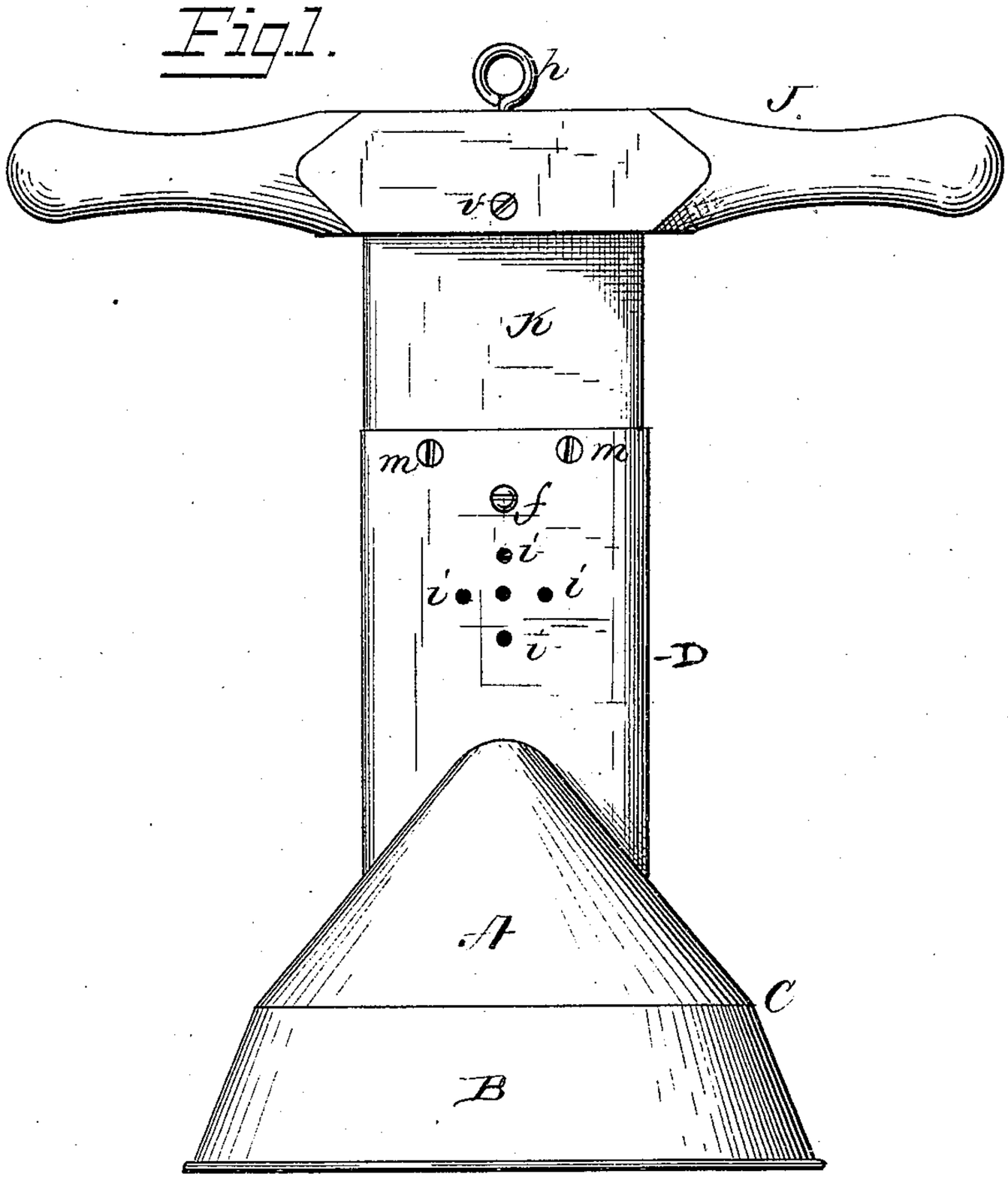
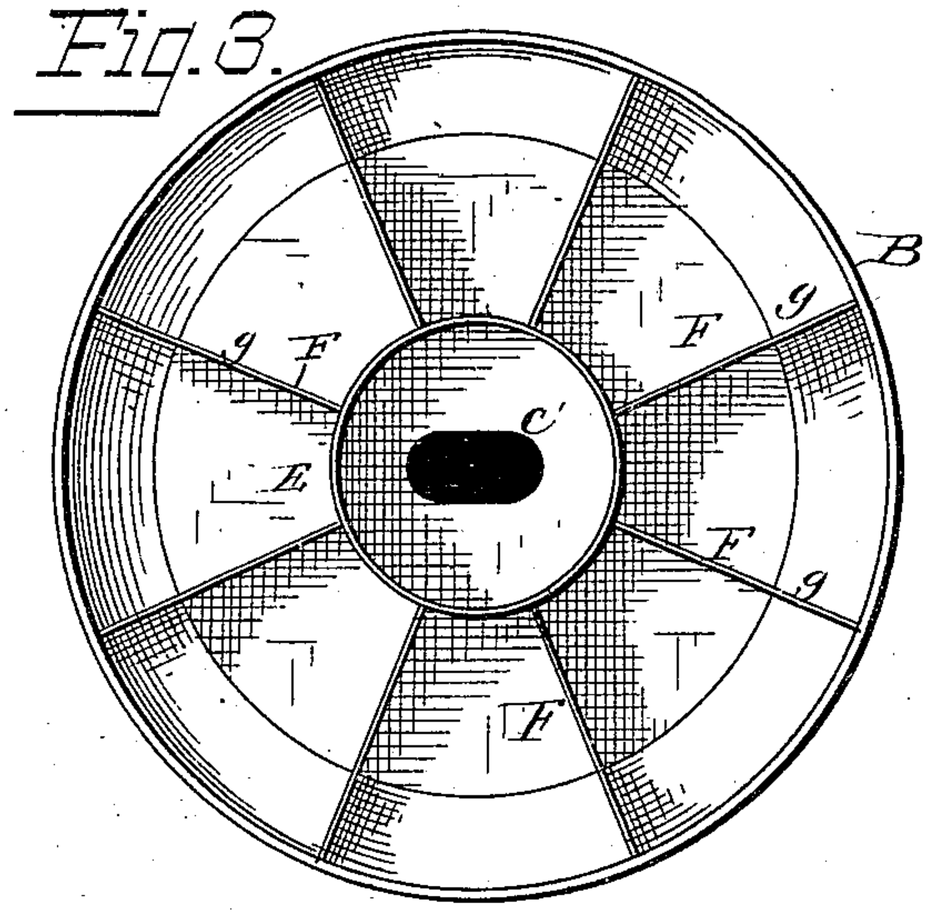


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

Franck L. Durand

Robert McMeen

By their Attorney

INVENTORS

Charles Hamshaw

Thomas Hamshaw

W. B. Doolittle,

(Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 2.

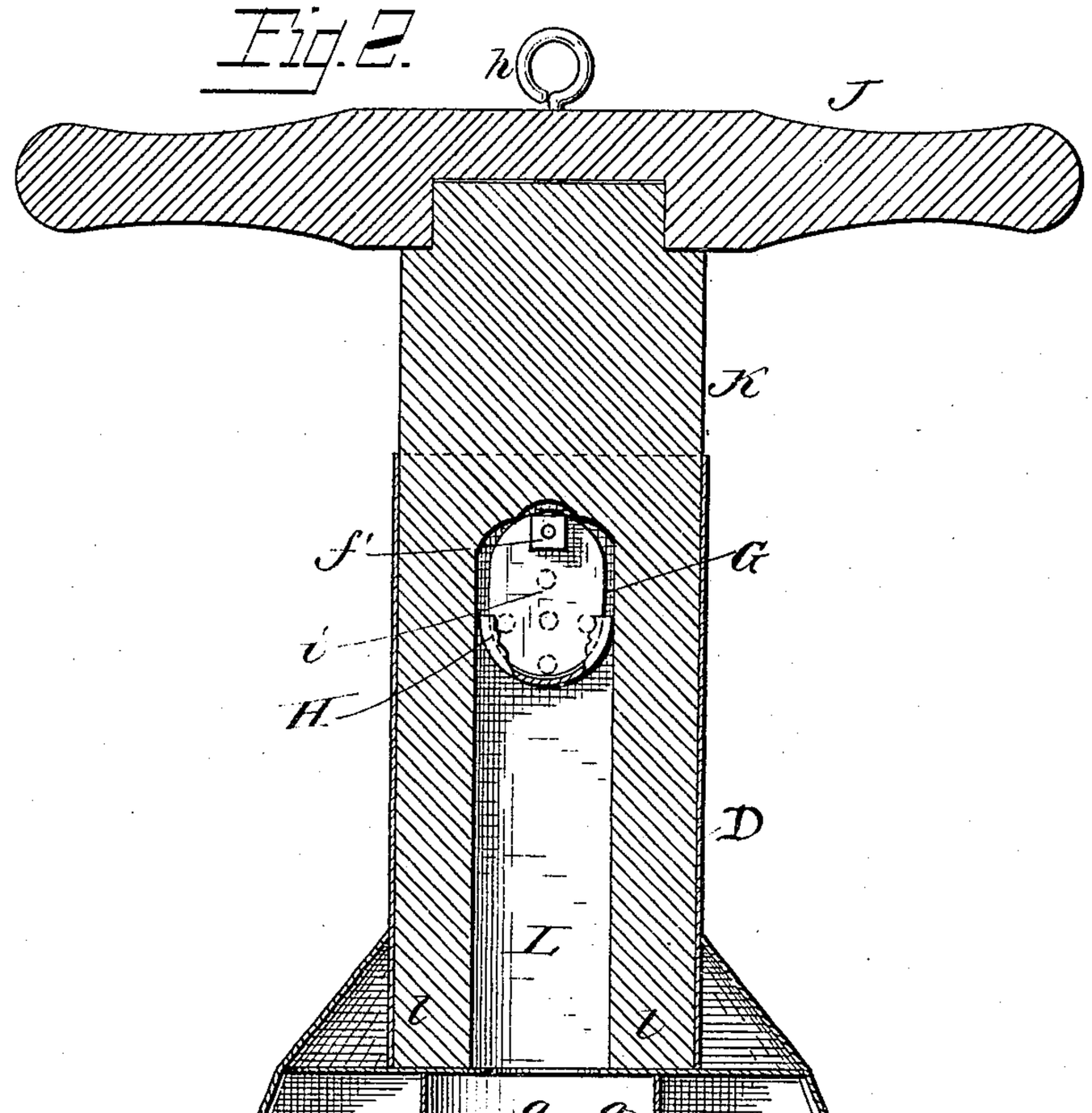
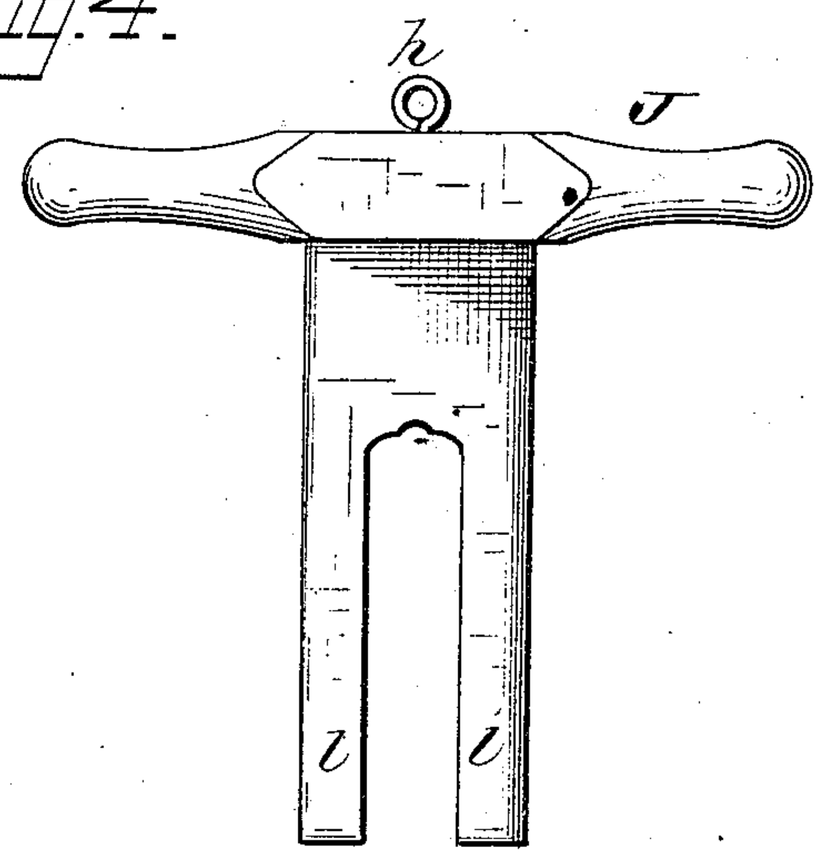


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

Frank L. Ourand

Robert MacLean

By their Attorney

INVENTOR

Charles Hamshaw

Thomas Hamshaw

W. A. Doolittle

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES HAMSHAW AND THOMAS HAMSHAW, OF HOLDEN, MISSOURI.

CLOTHES-POUNDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 258,643, dated May 30, 1882.

Application filed March 9, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHARLES HAMSHAW and THOMAS HAMSHAW, citizens of the United States, residing at Holden, in the county of Johnson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Pounders; and we 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.

The object of our invention is the improvement of clothes-pounders in the matter of construction of air-chamber, valve mechanism, and form of downwardly-projecting beaters, whereby greater simplicity, strength, and durability of the parts and efficiency of operation are obtained.

It consists in the parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a front elevation; Fig. 2, a sectional elevation; Fig. 3, a bottom plan view, and Fig. 4 a separate view of handle and a forked plunger attached thereto.

In the said drawings, A represents a conical body, to the lower end of which is attached a cylindrical flaring bottom rim, B, and diaphragm or horizontal partition C. The rim and said partition may be turned from one piece of metal and the funnel-shaped body A be soldered thereto.

D is a flat pipe of chamber, with outer rounded edges extending from partition C up through body A.

The partition C is provided at its center with elliptical-shaped opening *c'*, connecting the bottom of the pounder with chamber D. Surrounding said opening is ring E, of less depth than outer rim, B, and radiating from said ring are vanes or rubbers F, which connect said ring with the inner wall of rim B. Ring E is provided with holes *g*, one in each inclosure formed by two of the vanes. These vanes are rounded on their edges, and at their outer ends are of a depth equal to the distance from the edge of the base to the partition C; but they recede inwardly to the height of the central rim.

G is a valve or sucker composed of leather, and attached to the inner side of chamber D by means of screw-bolt *f*, and the lower portion of said valve is inclosed by a metallic cup, H, all as shown in Fig. 2.

Holes *i* are formed in the wall of chamber D, opposite the valve, for the admission of air.

J is a handle, to which is attached the forked center piece or plunger, K. This center piece or plunger is flat, and is provided with two arms, *l l*, with their outer edges rounded to correspond with the form of and to fit tightly within the air-chamber D. Screws *m* are inserted through both sides of chamber D into center piece, K, to secure these parts rigidly together. The upper portion of center piece, K, extends into or is mortised within the handle J, as shown in Fig. 2, and is further secured thereto by a screw or screws, *o*. The handle is also provided with a screw-ring, *p*, by which to hang up the pounder when not in use. When in place within the chamber D the arms *l l* of plunger K form an air-chamber, L, which arms fit closely to and firmly support the internal sides of chamber D. It will be seen, too, that the plunger is formed to fit snugly down upon and around the top of the valve, where it is held by the nut *f'*.

Hitherto in some forms of pounders the water was sucked up through the clothes and into a chamber above; but in our form of pounder the water is forced down through the clothes, when in operation, as follows: Enough water having been put in the tub to cover the clothes the pounder is pressed downward upon them. At the same time a turn is given to the washer while pressure is being exerted. As the pounder descends upon the clothes air is forced upward through aperture *c'* into air-chamber L, around and over the cup H, and against the valve G, which it closes. This compressed air then reacts as a cushion upon the water and clothes, which have been slightly drawn upward into the pounder by suction, and the water is forced back with strong pressure through the clothes.

The holes in the inner ring, E, serve to admit and force out the water into the inclosure or chambers formed by the vanes or rubbers F.

Immediately this return pressure of the air in chamber L is accomplished air rushes in through the valve, suction on clothes is removed, and thus the washer can be quickly and continually raised without the clothes adhering thereto by suction. We do not, however, claim to be the first to devise means by which the air is compressed and made to react upon the wa-

ter to force the same down upon and through the clothes. The rounded lower edges of the vanes serve a good purpose as rubbers and in forcing the water through the clothes.

By our improvement the air-chamber is easily formed, and both that and the valve mechanism are secured against all danger of breaking or being otherwise damaged. In fact, the entire apparatus is by its construction so strong and well adapted to its purpose that nothing but the roughest usage can damage it. The parts are few and simple, and can be easily taken apart and replaced.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A clothes-pounder provided with an air-chamber, in combination with the valve located in and on one side of said chamber, and the forked center piece extending into said chamber and around said valve, substantially as described.

2. In a clothes-pounder, the air-chamber L, in combination with the valve G, located in and on one side of said chamber, and the metallic cup H, inclosing the lower portion of said valve, substantially as described.

3. In a clothes-pounder, the inner rim or ring, E, provided with holes *g*, in combination with a diaphragm having a central opening, the radial vanes F, with rounded inner edges, the funnel-shaped body A, and flaring lower rim, B, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES HAMSHAW.
THOMAS HAMSHAW.

Witnesses:
EDWIN B. DORMAN,
W. C. TAYLOR.