

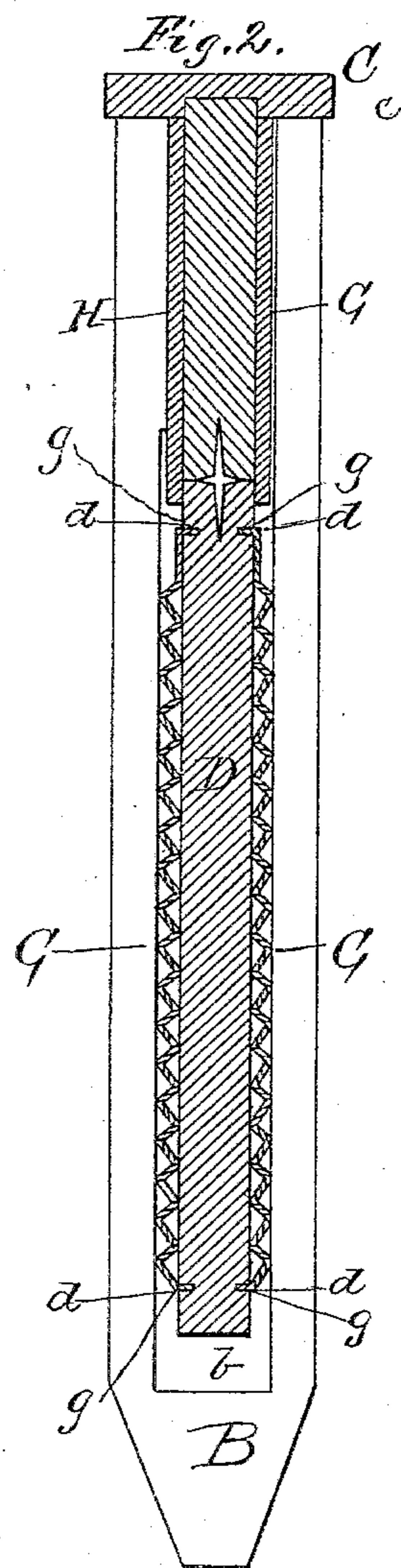
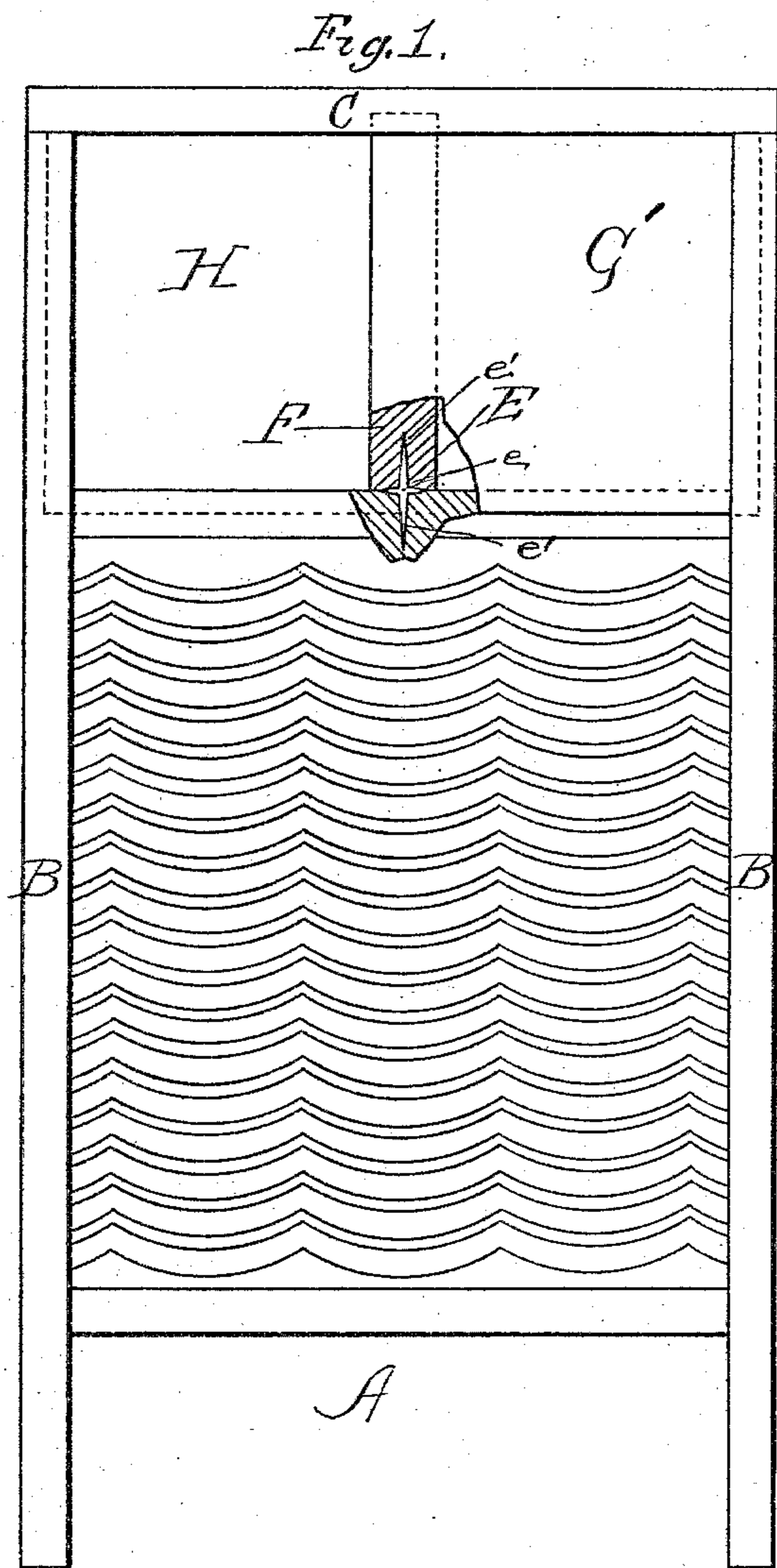
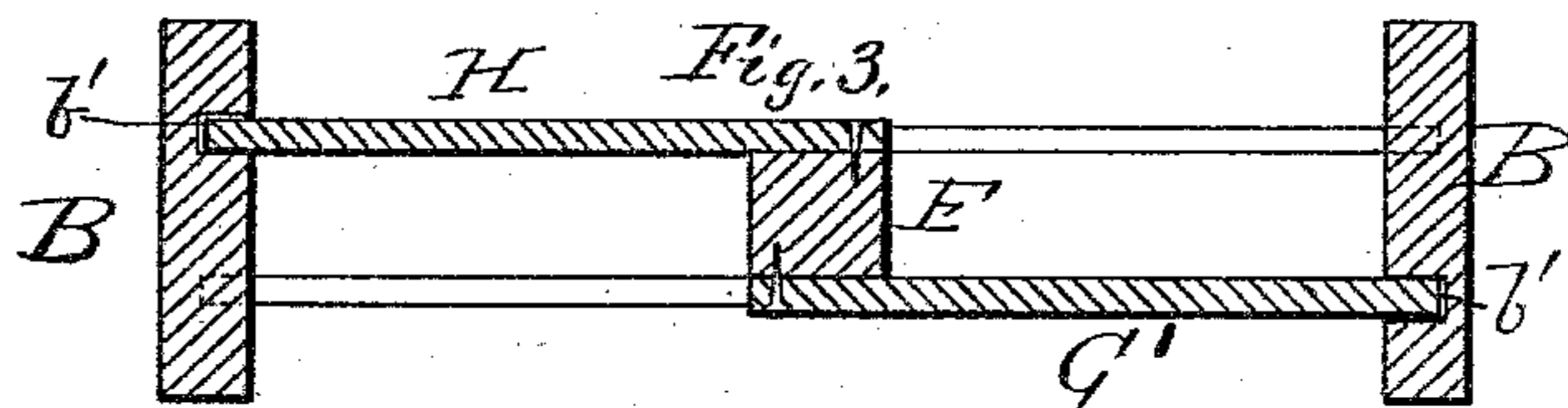
(No Model.)

R. W. HARPER.

WASH BOARD.

No. 287,926.

Patented Nov. 6, 1883.



WITNESSES

*Villette Anderson.*  
*Philip C. Masi*

INVENTOR

*Robert W. Harper*  
*by Anderson & Smith*  
*his* ATTORNEYS

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT W. HARPER, OF EVANSVILLE, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO JOHN H. POLSDORFER, OF SAME PLACE.

## WASH-BOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 287,926, dated November 6, 1883.

Application filed April 2, 1881. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT W. HARPER, of Evansville, in the county of Vanderburg and State of Indiana, United States of America, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wash-Boards; 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 pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to wash-boards, and more especially to soap-boxes therefor, the object being to provide, as an article of manufacture, a neat, cheap, and durable board provided with opposite soap-boxes of peculiar form.

Heretofore wash-boards have been provided with opposite soap-boxes formed by recessing the board or by bending or stamping a plate of sheet metal into the required shape and applying it the board.

My invention is designed to materially cheapen and simplify the construction of this class of wash-boards; and it consists in the improved construction hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my improvement with a part broken away. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section, of the same.

A represents the wash-board, having the usual side bars, B B, and a supporting-board, D, for the rubbing-surfaces, secured to said bars. The rubbing-surfaces G G are secured on opposite sides of the board D by inserting the inwardly-turned ends *d* of the zinc surfaces into horizontal grooves *g*, formed in said board.

F represents a vertical bar secured centrally between the side bars, B B, the lower end of said bar being secured by a double-pointed

tack, *e e'*, to the upper edge of the board D, while its upper end is secured within a central recess, *c*, formed in the upper cross-bar, C, of the wash-board.

*b' b'* represent longitudinal grooves formed on the inner sides of the side bars, B B, and diagonally opposite each other, so that one groove *b'* will be near one edge of one side bar, B, while the other groove *b'* will be near the diagonally-opposite edge of the other side. These grooves *b' b'* are adapted to receive and secure the outer edges of soap-boards G' and H, the inner ends of which overlap the opposite sides of the bar F, to which they are secured by tacks or nails, or in other suitable manner. Thus it will be observed that opposite soap-boxes are formed, each box occupying half of the space between the side rails, B B, above the rubbing-surfaces of the board.

I am aware, as hereinbefore indicated, that it is not broadly new to provide a wash-board with opposite soap-boxes; hence I do not broadly claim such a device; but,

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, a reversible wash-board whose side bars above the rubbing-surfaces are provided on their inner sides with diagonally-opposite longitudinal grooves adapted to receive the outer ends of soap-boards, the inner ends of which overlap and are secured to the opposite sides of a vertical bar secured centrally between the upper edge of the rubbing-surface support and the upper cross-bar of the wash-board, substantially as set forth.

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

ROBERT W. HARPER.

Witnesses:

A. C. HAWKINS,  
S. R. HORN BROOK.