(No Model.)

W. PARK & J. S. PARKER.

WASHING MACHINE.

No. 299,159. Patented May 27, 1884.

FIG. 1.

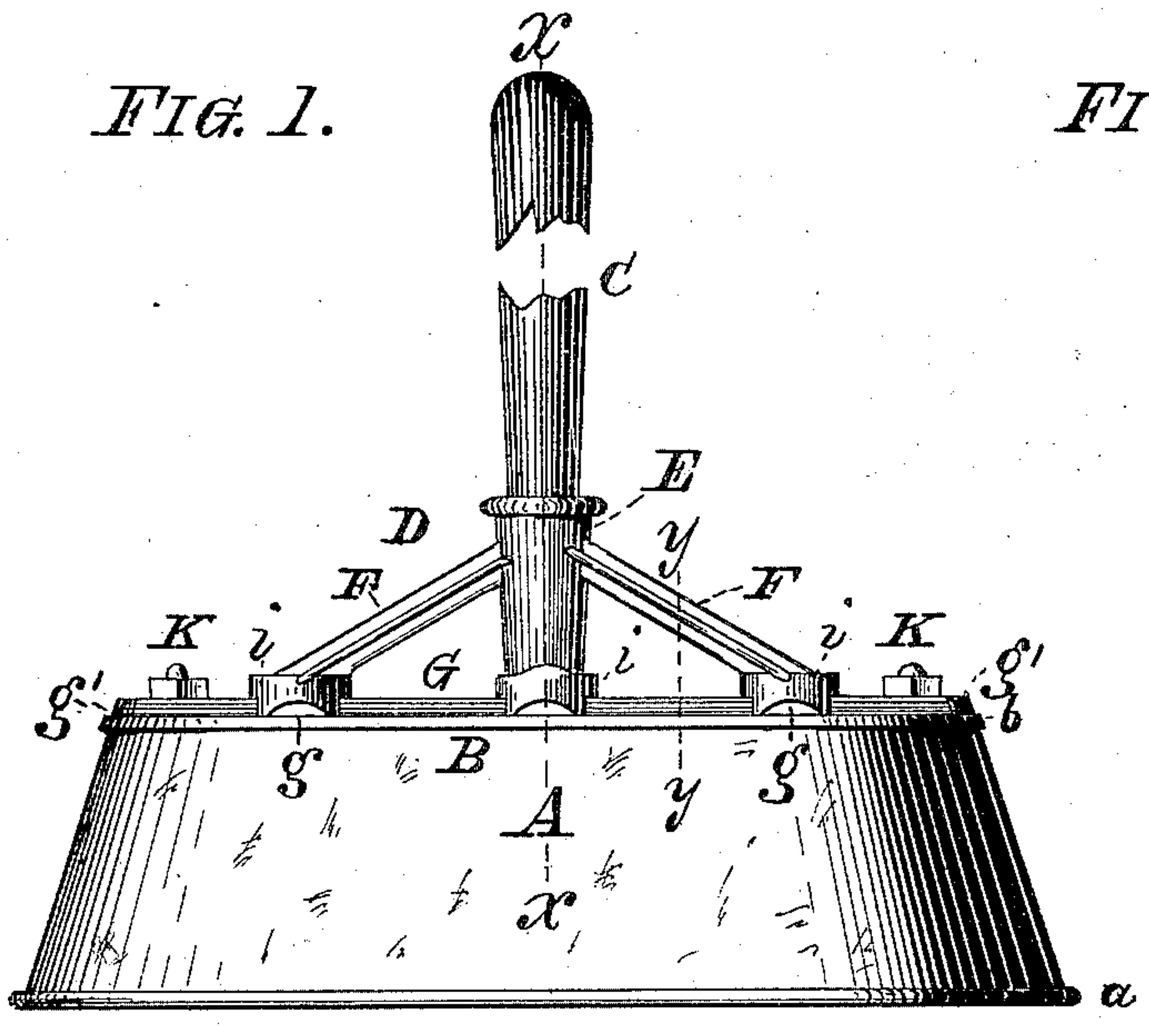


FIG. 2.

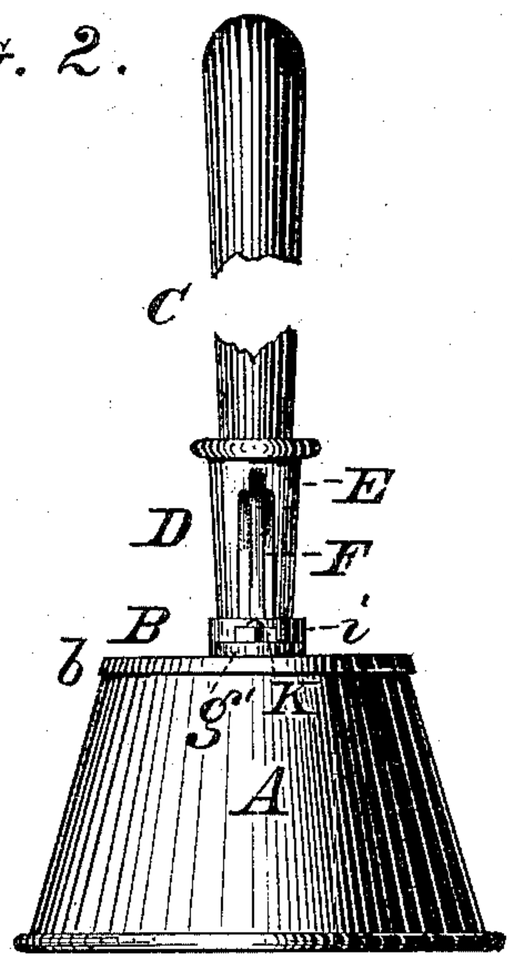


FIG. 3.

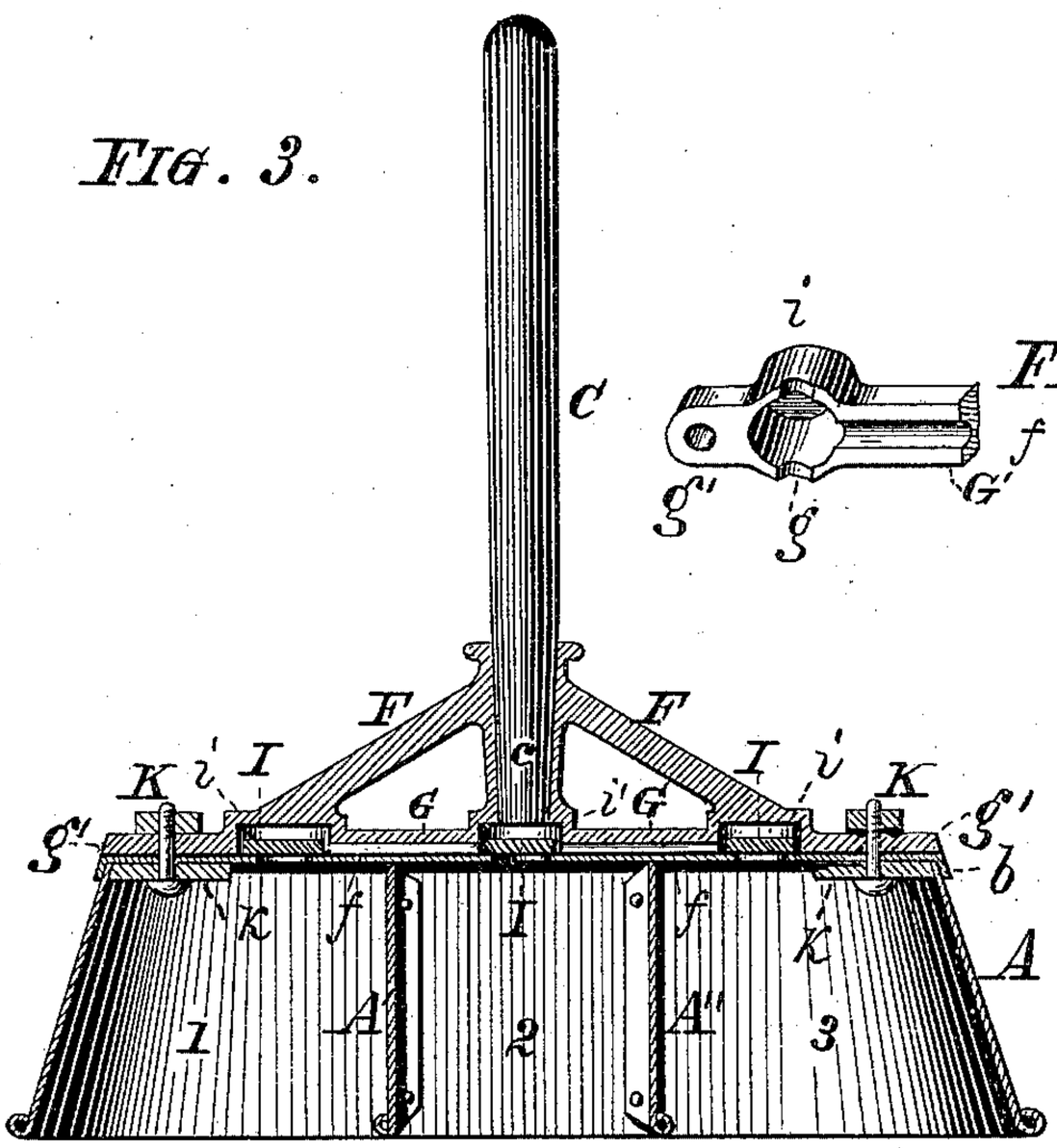


FIG. 4.

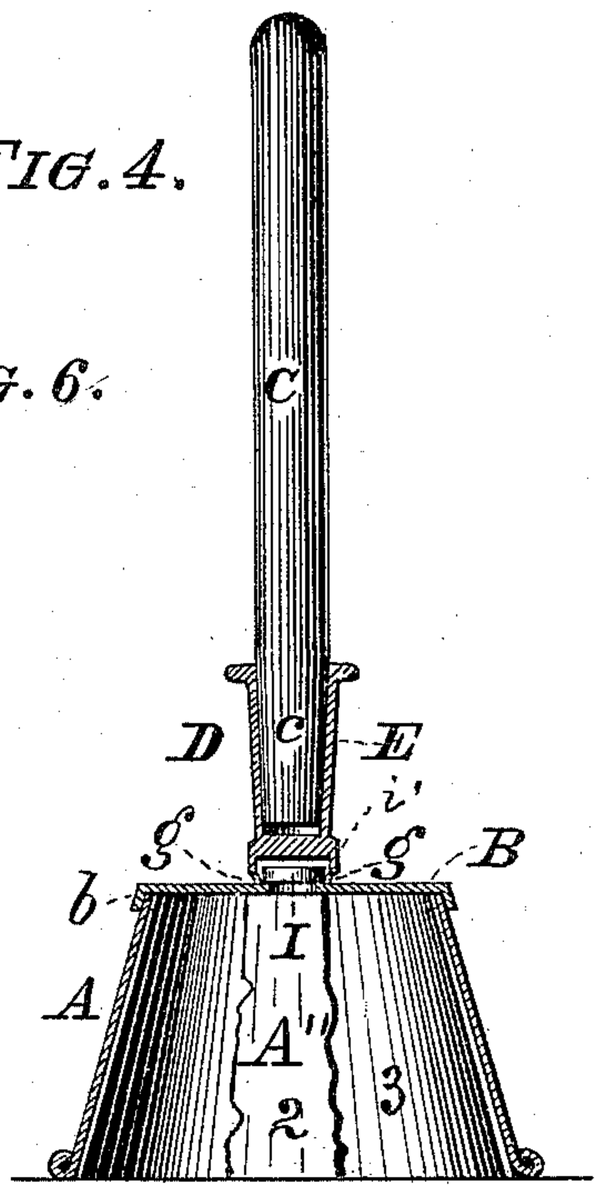
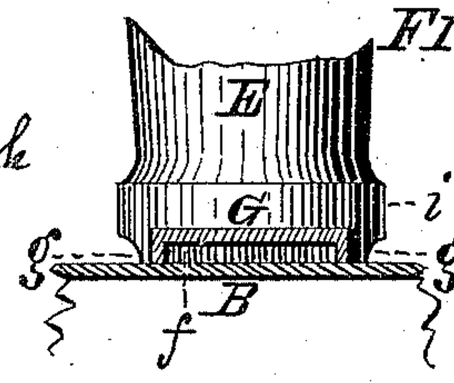


FIG. 6.

FIG. 5.



Witnesses:

Willie O. Stark

A. Stark.

Inventors:

Wm Park,

J. S. Parker,

by Michael J. Stark,

Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM PARK AND JOHN S. PARKER, OF FREDONIA, NEW YORK.

WASHING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 299,159, dated May 27, 1884.

Application filed February 13, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM PARK and JOHN S. PARKER, both of Fredonia, Chautauqua county, New York, have jointly invented certain new and useful Improvements on Washing-Machines; and we do hereby declare that the following description of our said invention, taken in connection with the accompanying sheet of drawings, forms a full, clear, and exact specification, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our present invention has general reference to that class of washing-machines generally designated "clothes-pounders;" and it consists, essentially, in the novel and peculiar combination of parts and details of construction, as hereinafter first fully set forth and described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings already mentioned, which serve to illustrate our said invention more fully, Figure 1 is a side elevation of our improved washing-machine. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal, and Fig. 4 a transverse sectional, elevation. Fig. 5 is a sectional elevation in line *y y* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of the handle-frame, showing the construction of the valve-chambers and discharge-passages.

Like parts are designated by corresponding letters of reference in all the figures.

A is an oblong basin of proper length, width, and depth, constructed of suitable material, and provided with a head, B, double-seamed or otherwise fastened to the said basin at *b* in any desirable manner. The lower edge of this basin A is "wired," so as to strengthen the same at *a*, as clearly illustrated in the figures.

Within the basin A are placed two partitions, A′ A″, respectively, so as to divide the interior of said chamber into three distinct chambers, 1, 2, and 3, as shown in Fig. 3. In the head B are three apertures—one in each chamber—closed by means of valves I, resting upon the upper surface of said head underneath a handle-frame, D, having centrally a long socket, E, for the reception of the actuating-handle C, (by its tenon *c*,) and radiating therefrom two brace-rods, F, terminating in the valve-casings *i*. These valve-casings or valve-chambers *i i* have two lugs, *g′*, by means of which and stove-bolts K the handle-frame D is attached to the basin-head B. They furthermore connect with a central valve-chamber, *i′*, by means of ducts G, having passages *f*, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 6.

In the valve-chambers *i i i′* are located the circular disks or valves I, heretofore mentioned, said valve-chambers being provided with escape-passages *g*, for the object hereinafter referred to.

The handle-frame D, with its socket E, braces F, ducts G, valve-casings *i*, and lugs *g′*, is preferably formed integral in the process of casting, and subsequently coated with some metal or substance not readily affected by moisture, a coating of zinc or tin by the well-known processes of tinning or galvanizing (so called) being very suitable for the purpose.

In operation, the clothes to be washed are first steeped in hot water, soap-suds, &c., in any well-known manner, and then agitated or "worked" by means of our clothes-pounder by rocking it back and forth with the handle C. Every time that the pounder dips into the liquid the air contained in the respective chamber or chambers (1 2 3) is expelled therefrom and escapes through the valves I, allowing at the same time the clothes to enter and partly fill said chambers.

By means of the duct *f*, which connects the various valves along the top of the device, the air on being expelled from any chamber by the rocking of the machine can pass freely to that valve-casing which is above the surface of the water, and escape therefrom with much more facility than from the valve-casings which are submerged. When pulled upward out of the water, a partial vacuum is formed in said chambers, which causes the clothes to push upward in the chambers 1 2 3, and by a continuous rubbing against the walls and partitions of the apparatus and against one another, to remove particles of dirt, &c., so as to clean the clothes as perfectly as any washing device is capable of cleaning the same.

It will be readly observed that our improved clothes-washer consists of comparatively few parts, all of which can be readily produced, and when made in large quantities can be manufactured at such a low rate, and sold at a nominal sum, so as to bring this apparatus within the reach of every housewife or per-

son doing washing of any kind, especially so since this apparatus will readily clean even the finest fabric without injury to the same, and do fine work as well as the coarsest bed-linen or other textile fabric.

The horizontal ducts G facilitate the discharge of air, &c., from side chambers, 1 and 3. It could not escape quickly enough through the valves and their openings unless the latter were made unnecessarily and inconveniently large. As the pounder is rocked from side to side the air in the lowermost side compartment is forced partly directly out of valve-chamber *i*, to the exterior of the device and partly along duct G to the central valve-chamber, whence it finds its exit.

We are aware that it is not new to cast a clothes-pounder in a single piece having partitions integral therewith and valves for allowing escape of air.

We are also aware that it is not new to make a clothes-pounder of sheet metal, consisting of a lower partitioned shell and a cylindrical casing mounted thereon, the handle being attached to a piston which works in said cylinder and is provided with valves. We do not claim either of said constructions; but

What we do claim is—

1. A clothes-pounder consisting of the combination of a sheet-metal base portion divided into compartments, each of which has an escape-opening in its top, a stiffening-frame having a handle-socket and attached to said base portion by means of arms extending over the top of each compartment and covering their openings, said frame being provided with recesses over each opening, and escape-apertures communicating with said recesses, and valves situated over said openings and in the recesses of the frame, substantially as set forth.

2. A clothes-pounder consisting of the combination of a base portion divided into compartments, each of which has an escape-opening in its top, a handle-supporting frame attached to the top of the base portion and having arms extending over said openings, recesses formed in said frame and situated over the openings, escape-apertures communicating with said recesses, valves situated over the openings and in the recesses, and ducts *f*, formed in the arms of said frame and connecting said recesses with one another, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our invention, we have hereto set our hands in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM PARK.
JOHN S. PARKER.

Witnesses:
MICHAEL J. STARK,
BENJAMIN F. SKINNER.