

(No Model.)

J. T. LEGER.
WASHING MACHINE.

No. 314,455.

Patented Mar. 24, 1885.

Fig. 1.

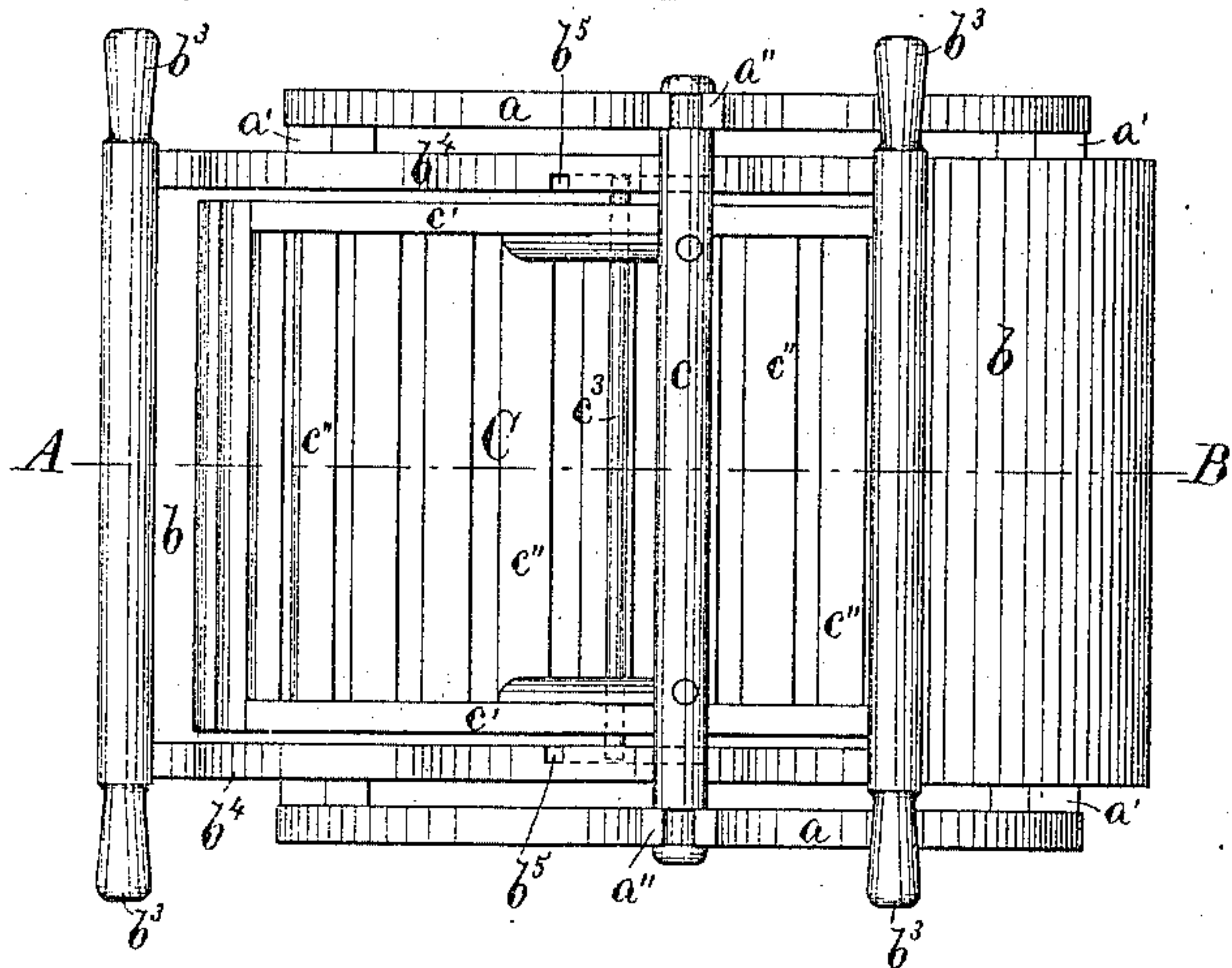


Fig. 2.

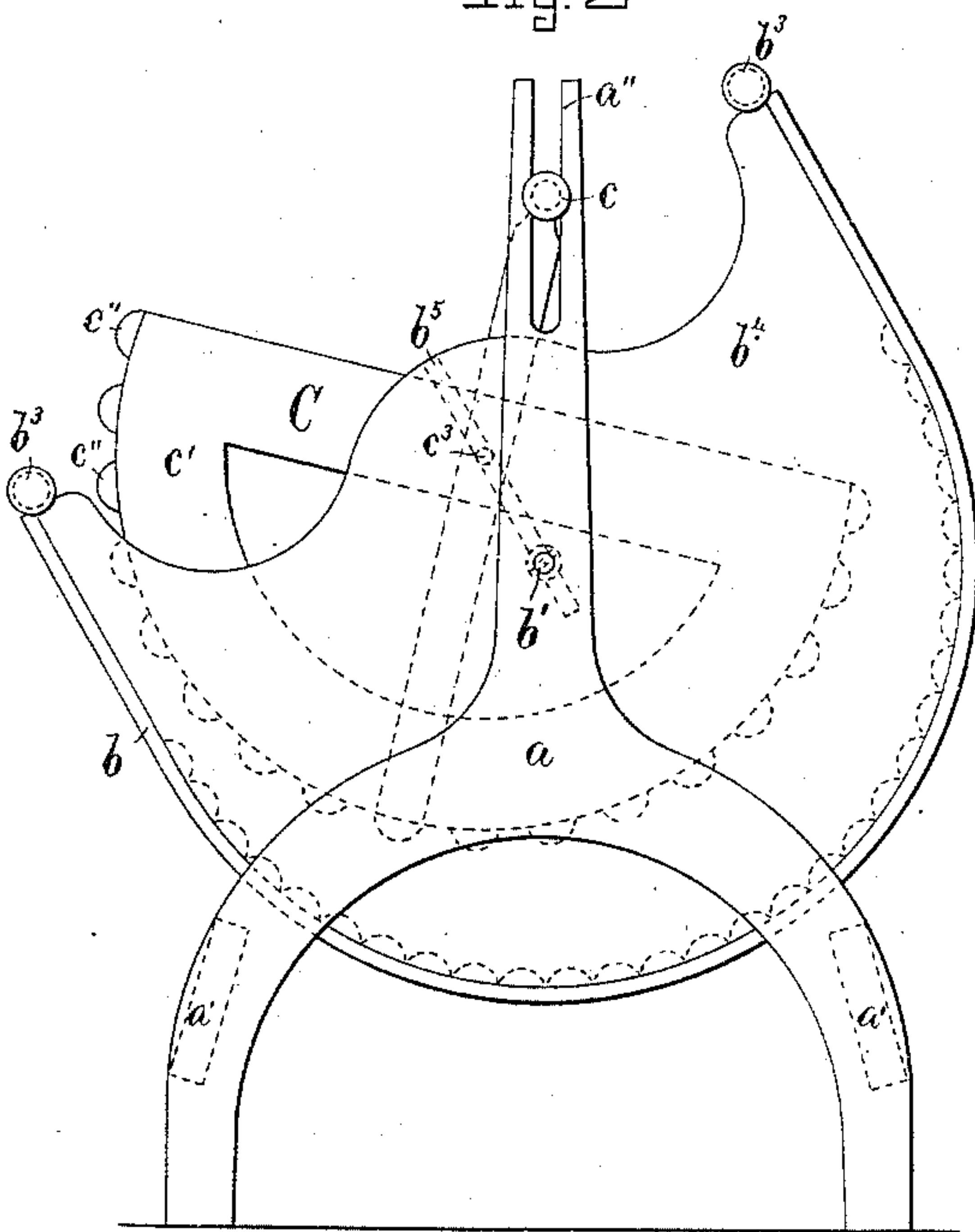
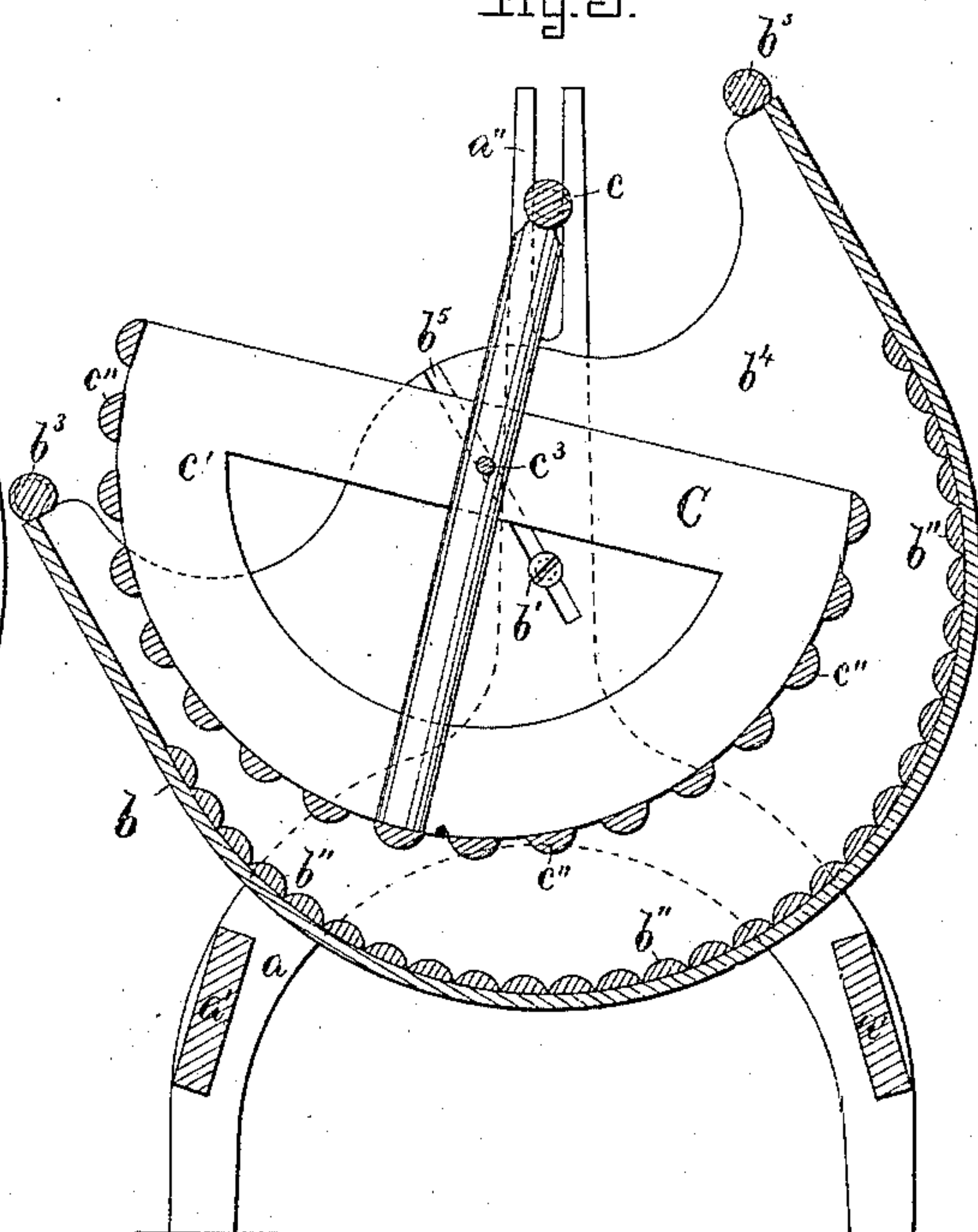


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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by *Alban Andrieu*
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH T. LEGER, OF WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS.

WASHING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 314,455, dated March 24, 1885.

Application filed November 2, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH T. LEGER, a citizen of the Dominion of Canada, now residing at Waltham, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines; and I do hereby declare that the same are fully described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in washing-machines, and it is carried out as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, where—

Figure 1 represents a plan view of the invention. Fig. 2 represents a side elevation, and Fig. 3 represents a cross-section on the line A B shown in Fig. 1.

Similar letters refer to similar parts wherever they occur on the different parts of the drawings.

The invention consists of a pair of side frames or supports, *a*, connected together at a proper distance apart by means of suitable braces, *a' a'*, or equivalent means.

To the frames *a a* is pivoted at *b' b'* the outer shell, *b*, preferably made semicircular, or nearly so, in shape, and provided on its interior with a number of slats, *b'' b''*, by means of which a corrugated interior of said shell or receptacle *b* is obtained, as shown in Fig. 3. The upper ends of the receptacle *b* terminate as handles *b³ b³*, for the operator to take hold of in manipulating the machine.

I prefer to make the shell *b* and its corrugated slats *b'' b''*, of wood; but, if so desired, they may be made in whole or in part of metal. *b⁴ b⁴* are the flat ends of the shell *b*. The upper ends of the frames *a a* terminate as forked bearings or guides *a'' a''*, in which rests loosely the horizontal bar *c*, to which is secured the oscillating "rubber" C, composed of side pieces, *c' c'*, and lateral bars *c'' c''*, secured to the side pieces, *c' c'*, in such a manner as to leave an open space between each successive bar or slat *c''* in the series as shown in Fig. 3. The rubber C is made semicircular, or nearly so, in shape, and through its center is inserted the axle *c³*, the ends of which project beyond the outside of the side pieces, *c' c'*, and into grooves *b⁵ b⁵* made on the inside of the end pieces *b⁴ b⁴*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

The operation of the machine is as follows: The rubber C is lifted up and removed entirely from the shell *b*, and the clothes to be washed are put in the latter, with a proper amount of soap and water, after which the rubber C is placed within the shell *b*, the bottom of the said rubber resting on the clothes in the shell *b*, the bar *c* resting loosely in the forked guides *a'' a''* and the projecting ends of the axle *c³* resting loosely in the grooves *b⁵ b⁵* on the inside of the end pieces, *b⁴ b⁴*, and when in this position the fulcrum *c³* of the rubber C is located above the fulcrum *b' b'*, on which the shell *b* swings. If now a rocking motion is imparted to the shell *b* by raising and depressing its handles *b³ b³*, it will be seen that the rubber C is caused to rock alternately in an opposite direction to that of the shell *b*, causing the clothes contained in the space between them to be thoroughly worked, agitated, and rubbed on both upper and under sides at the same time, as the water in the shell *b* is free to pass through the perforations or spaces between the slats or bars *c'' c''* in the rubber C, and thus reach every part of the clothes during the operation of the machine.

The machine may be worked by hand or by means of steam or other power, as may be required, according to the amount of washing that is to be done. It will also be seen that the rubber C being held down onto the clothes in shell *b* by its own weight only, and being loosely supported and guided in the forked bearings *a'' a''*, it will automatically yield upward more or less, according to the thickness of the clothes contained in the semicircular space between the interior of shell *b*, and exterior of rubber C, and consequently all wear and tear of the clothes while in process of being washed is entirely obviated.

The invention in its operation is as nearly an imitation of ordinary hand-washing as can be made in a machine, for the interior corrugated surface of the shell *b* serves as a corrugated wash-board, and the oscillating rubber C acts on the clothes similar to the hands and knuckles of an operator while in the act of washing.

After the clothes have been washed and rinsed the rubber C is removed, and the clothes taken out of the shell *b*, and so on, if more clothes are to be washed.

Having thus fully described the nature, construction, and operation of my invention, I wish to secure by Letters Patent and claim—

In a washing-machine, the combination of
5 the frame *a a*, provided with the slots *a'' a''*,
the shell *b*, provided with the grooves *b⁵ b⁵* on
the inside of the ends of the shell, said shell
being pivoted to the frame *a*, the internal rubber, *C*, the bar *c*, supporting said rubber, and
10 having its ends guided in the slots *a'' a''* on

the frame, and the axle *c³* of the rubber *C* resting and guided loosely in the grooves *b⁵ b⁵* of the shell, all arranged as and for the purpose set forth and described.

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

JOSEPH T. LEGER.

Witnesses:

ALBAN ANDRÉN,
HENRY CHADBURN.