

(No Model.)

C. F. RIGBY.
POUNDER WASHING MACHINE.

No. 328,811.

Patented Oct. 20, 1885.

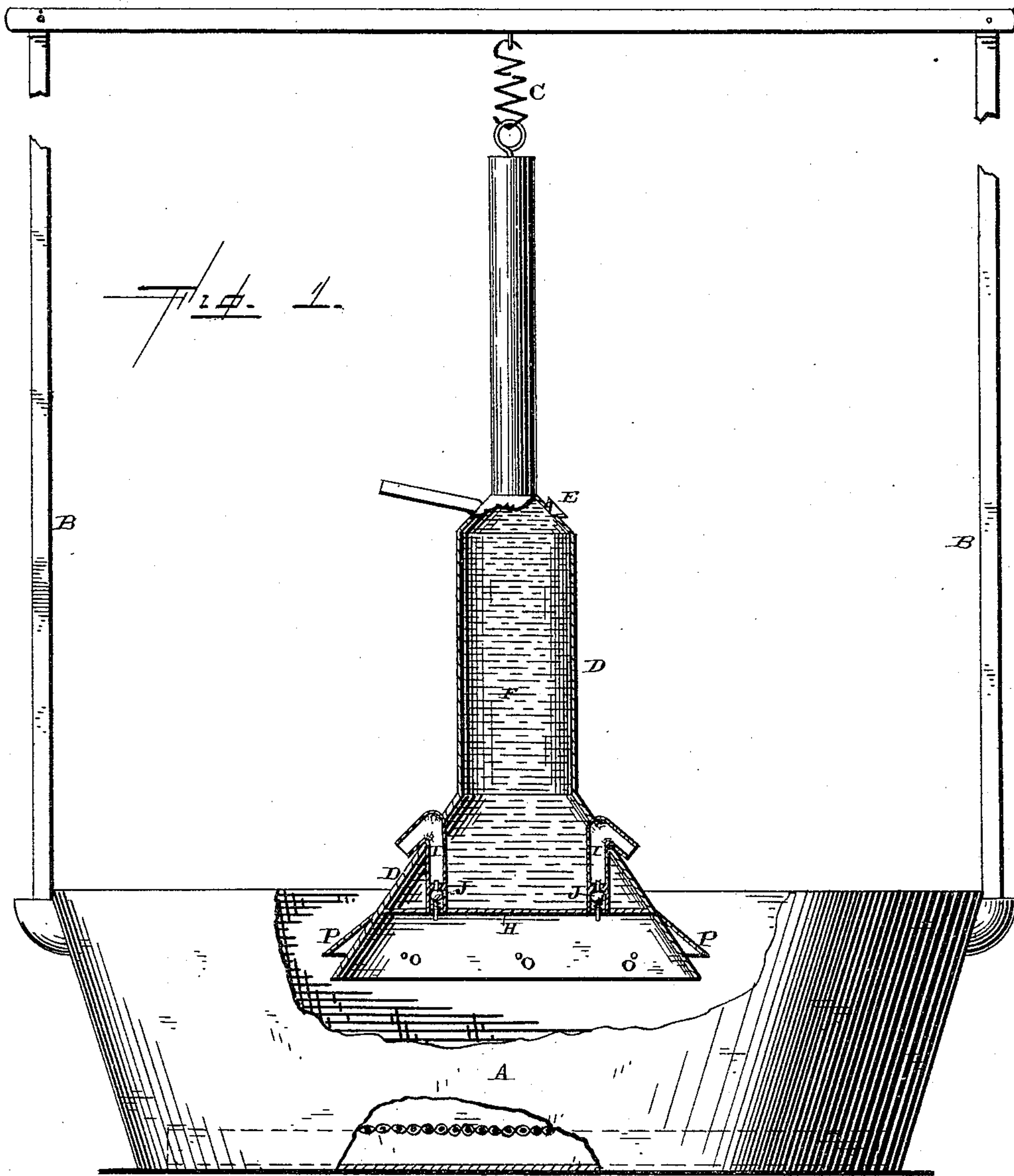
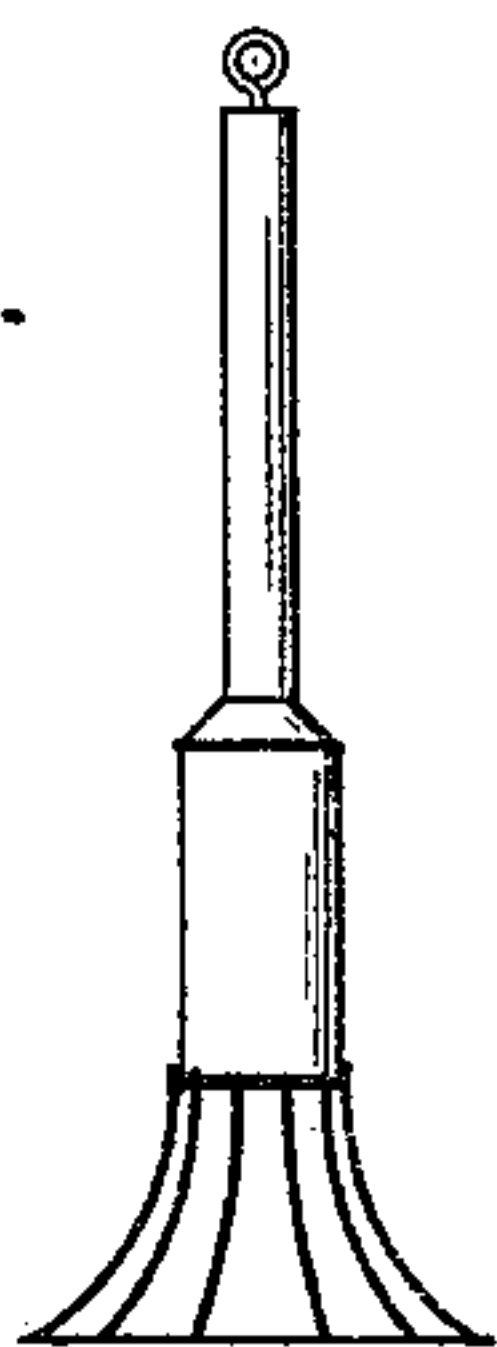


Fig. 2.



—WITNESSES.—

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARK F. RIGBY, OF BRADFORD, PENNSYLVANIA.

POUNDER WASHING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 328,811, dated October 20, 1885.

Application filed October 16, 1884. Serial No. 145,686. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, C. F. RIGBY, of Bradford, in the county of McKean and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and
5 useful Improvements in Pounder Washing-Machines; 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
10 make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in pounder washing-machines; and it consists,
15 first, in the combination of a suitable supporting-frame, a spring which is attached to the frame, a pounder which is attached to the lower end of the spring, and which is provided with a reservoir to hold the water or
20 other counter-weight to the spring; second, the combination of the tub, the supporting-frame, the spring, and the pounder provided with a water-space, and valved air-tubes.

The object of my invention is to provide
25 a pounder washing-machine, which is suspended from a spring and then weighted in such a manner as to just counterbalance the tension of the spring, for the purpose of enabling the pounder to be more readily and
30 easily operated, and which is provided with valved tubes which prevent the air from passing out when the pounder strikes the clothes, but allow the air to pass into the pounder when it is raised upward.

35 Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a machine embodying my invention, partly in section. Fig. 2 shows a pounder made of wire.

A represents an ordinary washing-tub, to
40 which is attached in any suitable manner a supporting-frame, B. To the middle of this frame B, at its top, is attached a spiral spring, C, to the lower end of which spring is attached a clothes-pounder, D. In this pounder
45 is formed a suitable receptacle, F, of any desired size, which is to be filled with water or any similar counter-weight for the purpose of overcoming the tension of the spring C. The water is poured into this receptacle through
50 a small tube, E, at the upper end of the receptacle, as shown. This receptacle is made just large enough to hold a sufficient quantity

of water to stretch the spring sufficiently to allow the pounder to be operated freely up and down. By means of this construction the
55 pounder is suspended and balanced so evenly that the operator can give it the required motion with but very little exertion. Where the pounder is simply suspended by a spring, and is not balanced by a counter-weight, the
60 tension of the spring must be overcome in working the pounder, and thus a powerful exertion is required in forcing the pounder downward, for the tension of the spring has to be overcome. By my construction the
65 tension of the spring is overcome by the counter-weight, and the pounder is left free to vibrate freely up and down.

The bottom of the receptacle for the water forms a partition, H, which extends across
70 the bottom of the pounder at any suitable distance from its lower edge, and through this partition and the sides of the receptacle are passed the air-pipes I, the upper ends of which are turned downward, as shown. In
75 each of these pipes is placed a spring-valve, J, which closes as the pounder descends, so as to prevent the escape of the air. The upper ends of the pipes are turned downward, so that water which may be forced up through them
80 will be deflected downward upon the water in the tub, and thus not annoy or inconvenience the operator by having it forced outward.

Across the lower end of the pounder are
85 placed a suitable number of wires, O, which serve to prevent the clothes from adhering to the lower end of the pounder, as they otherwise would do. In the bottom of the tub is also placed a wire frame or screen, which
90 serves to hold the clothes a suitable distance above the top of the bottom of the tub for the purpose of allowing the air and water to be forced freely through them. As the pounder descends and strikes the top of the
95 water, the upward splash of the water is prevented by means of a flange, P, which is secured to the outer side of the pounder, as shown. When the frame of the pounder is made of wire, as shown in Fig. 2, no valved
100 pipes are used.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination of the tub and support-

ing-frame with the spring, and the pounder, provided with a receptacle for water or a counter-weight, as shown.

2. In a pounder washing-machine, the combination of the tub, the supporting-frame, the spring, and the pounder, provided with a water-space and valved air tubes, substantially as set forth.

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

CLARK F. RIGBY.

Witnesses:

D. H. JACK,
CHARLES MORROW.