

(No Model.)

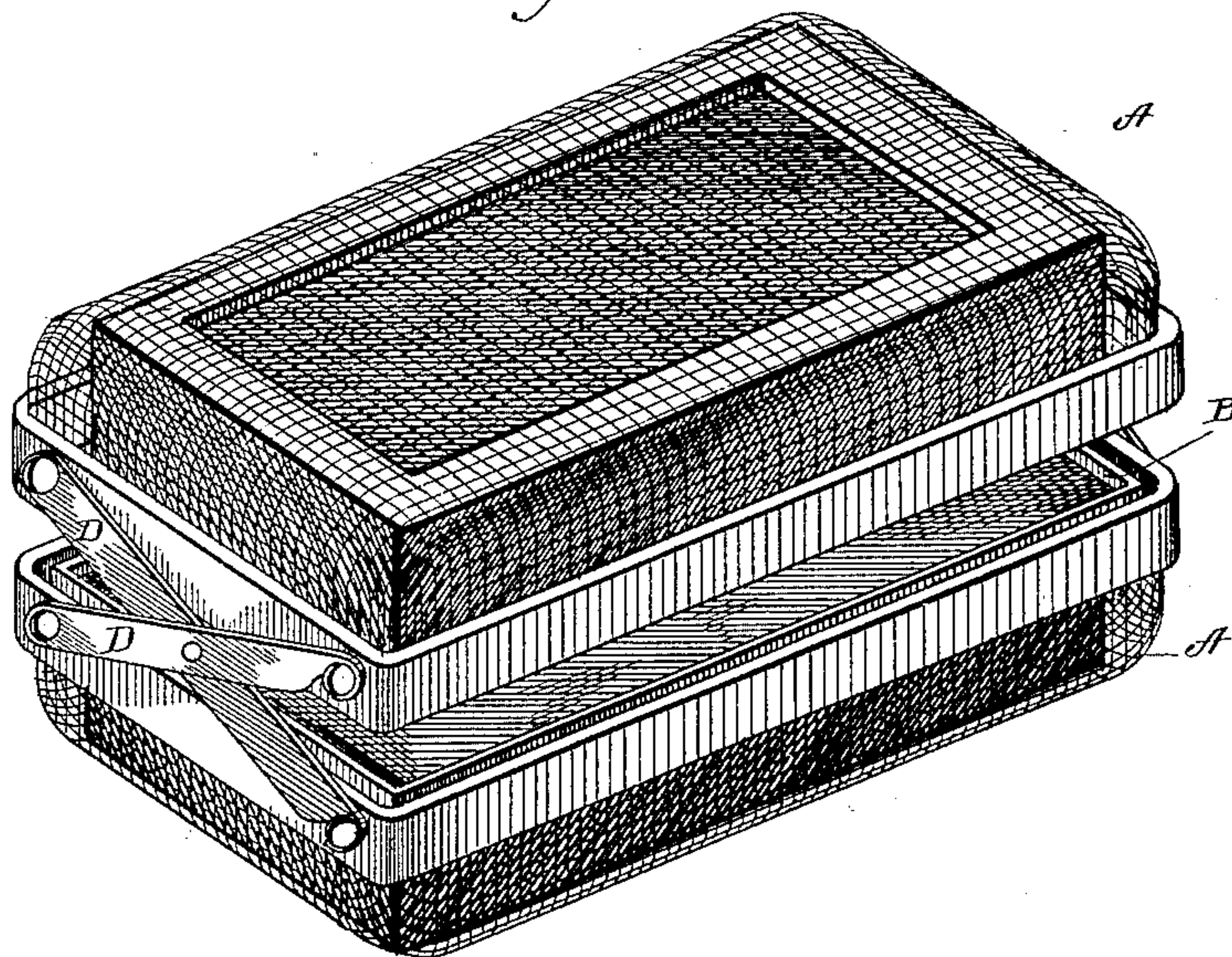
B. McGOVERN & J. H. HEWIT.

HAND RUBBER FOR WASHING PURPOSES.

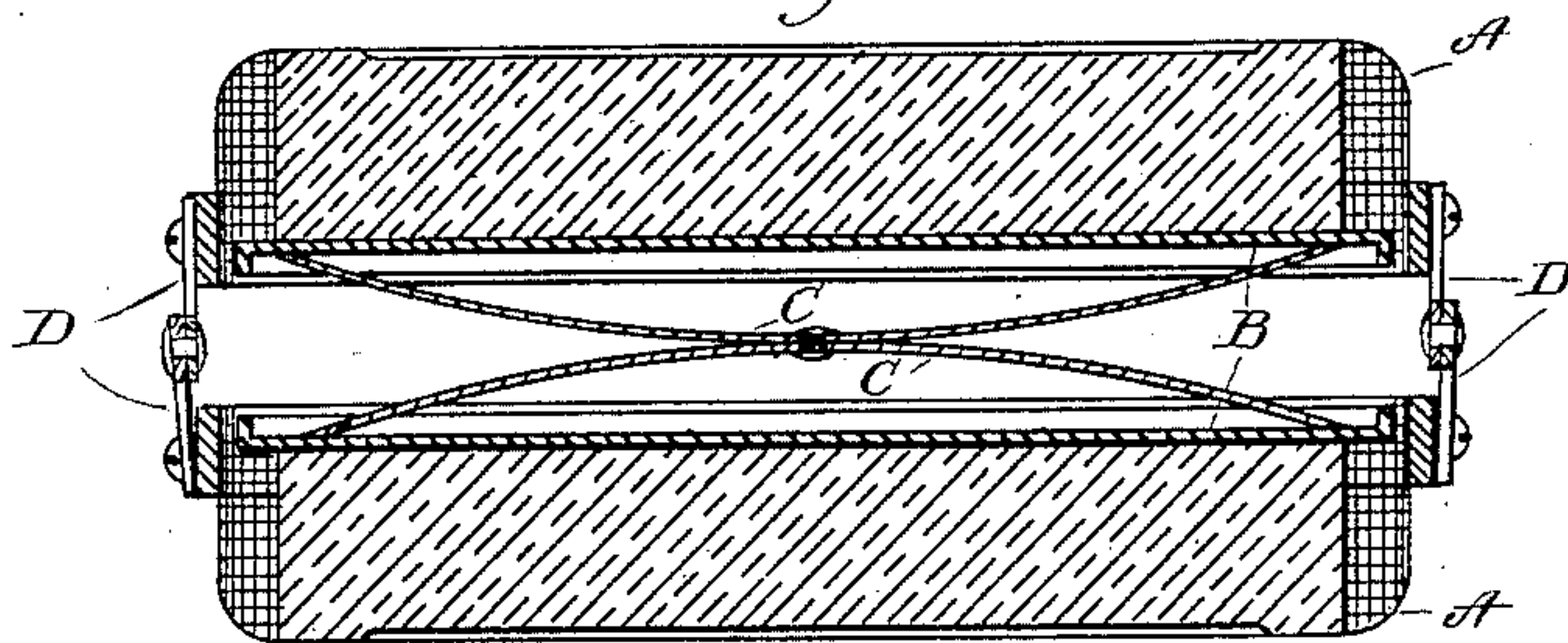
No. 359,268.

Patented Mar. 15, 1887.

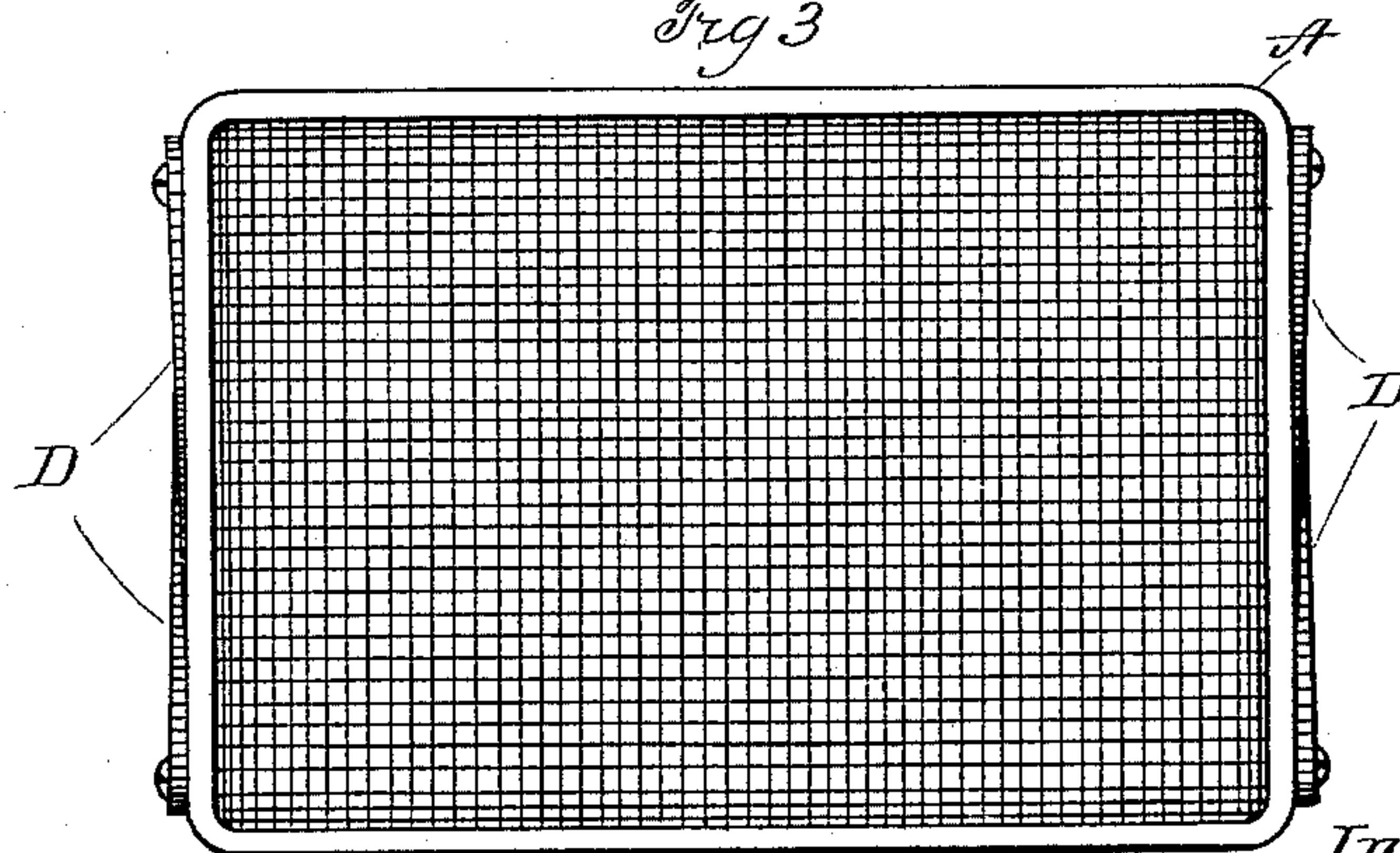
*Fig 1*



*Fig 2*



*Fig 3*



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNARD McGOVERN, OF BRIDGEPORT, AND JAMES H. HEWIT, OF  
FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT.

## HAND-RUBBER FOR WASHING PURPOSES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 359,268, dated March 15, 1887.

Application filed November 19, 1886. Serial No. 219,384. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, BERNARD McGOVERN and JAMES H. HEWIT, citizens of the United States, residing at Bridgeport and Fairfield, respectively, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Rubbers for Washing Purposes; 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.

Our invention relates to certain novel and useful improvements in the construction of what are known as "hand-rubbers for washing purposes," and has for its object to produce a device of this description in which the soap shall be constantly in position for use without any manipulation of the hand; and with these ends in view our invention consists in certain details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter fully described, and then specifically designated by the claim.

In order that those skilled in the art to which our invention appertains may understand more fully its construction and operation, we will proceed to describe the same in detail, referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of our improvement; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section, and Fig. 3 a plan view.

Similar letters denote like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

A are pouches constructed from wire or other suitable material and adapted to hold ordinary cakes of soap. This wire is formed into an open net-work, as shown; or any material may be used which will permit the exudation of suds when the device is in operation.

B are plates, preferably made from tin and placed against the cakes of soap from the inside.

C are bow-springs, which are placed between the plates in such manner as to exert a constant spring-pressure against the same.

D are cross-pieces, pivoted together and secured at their extremities to the ends of the pouches and operating after the manner of lazy-tongs. These cross-pieces are preferably made detachable from the pouches, in order that the latter may be readily opened to renew the soap.

In adapting our improvement for use, the soap is first placed in the pouches, the plates arranged back of the soap, the bow-springs placed between the plates, and the pouches fastened together by means of the cross-pieces against the resiliency of the springs. It will thus be obvious that as fast as the soap wears away by rubbing, the action of the springs against the plates will force the soap outward against the sides of the pouches. In other words, the wear of the soap is compensated for by the spring action of the plates against the soap itself.

We do not wish to confine ourselves to a double pouch for the soap, since a single plate and spring may be used in connection with one pouch without departing from the spirit of our invention.

We are aware that flexible receptacles have been made for a cake of soap, in which the wear of the latter is taken up by the grasp of the hand, and we therefore do not wish to be understood as claiming any such construction.

What we do claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a hand-rubber for washing purposes, the combination, with the pouches for containing the soap, of the plates placed behind the cakes of soap, bow-springs arranged between said plates, and means, as cross-pieces pivoted together and attached at their extremities to the pouches, for connecting said pouches, substantially as shown and described.

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

BERNARD McGOVERN.  
JAMES H. HEWIT.

Witnesses:

T. W. SMITH, Jr.,  
S. S. WILLIAMSON.