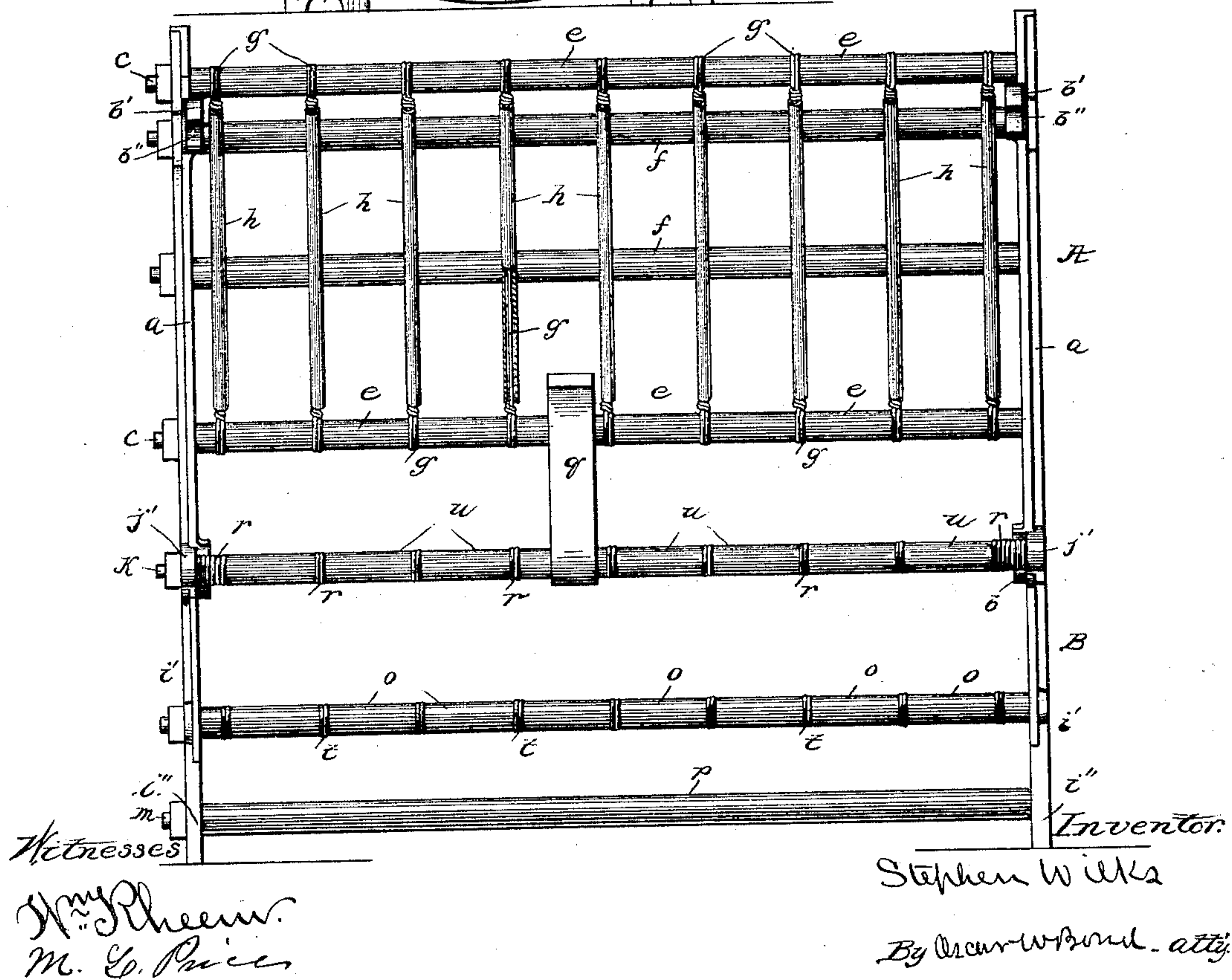
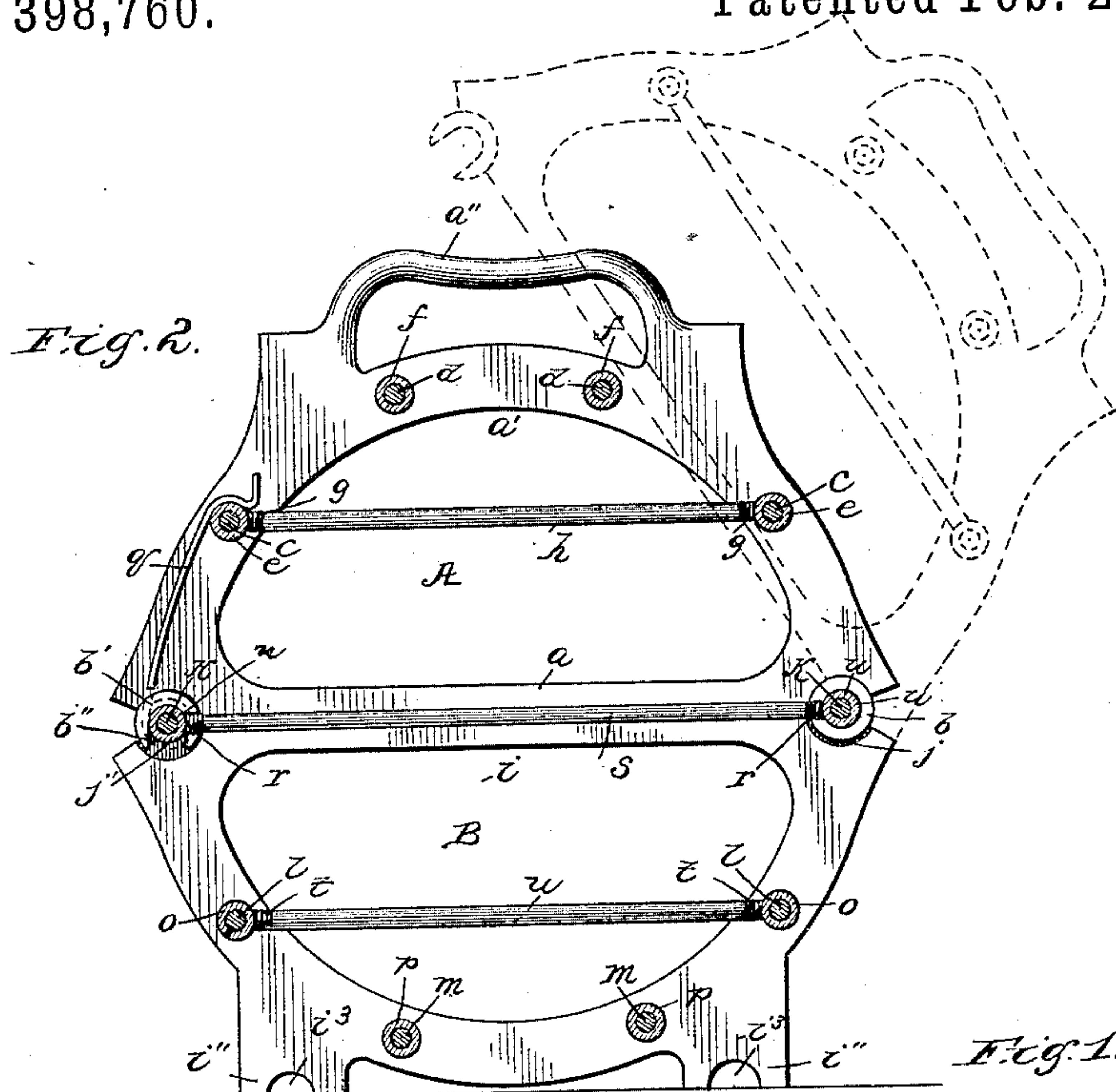


S. WILKS.  
DISH WASHER.

Patented Feb. 26, 1889.





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN WILKS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## DISH-WASHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 398,760, dated February 26, 1889.

Application filed July 16, 1888. Serial No. 280,139. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, STEPHEN WILKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dish-Washers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation with the top or upper section of the basket raised; Fig. 2, a cross-section with the top or upper section closed.

This invention relates to dish-washers in which the dishes are held in a basket and subjected to the action of water, to be cleaned or washed, and has for its object to construct a basket by which the dishes will be firmly held without liability of being broken or having their edges nicked, and at the same time have the dishes held so that the entire surface approximately will be exposed to the action of the water, and the position in which the dishes are held will be the most effective one for producing the best results of a clean wash; and its nature consists in providing a basket formed of an upper and lower section, with cushioned supporting and clamping rods running lengthwise and cushioned dividing and holding rods running crosswise, as hereinafter more particularly described, and in the several parts and combination of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim as new.

In the drawings, A represents the top or upper section of the basket; B, the bottom or lower section of the basket. The top or upper section of the basket is formed with an end support for each end, consisting of a straight piece, *a*, and a semicircular piece, *a'*, and the semicircular piece *a'* has a handle, *a''*, by which the basket as a whole can be lifted as required. The rear corner of the support has an eye or ear, *b*, and the front corner has an ear, *b'*, with a slot or opening, *b''*. The end supports are connected together by side rods, *c*, one at the front and one at the rear side, and top rods, *d*, in the arrangement shown, and each rod *c* and *d* has at one end

a head, and its opposite end is screw-threaded to receive a nut, by which the rods are securely held in place.

Each side rod, *c*, is incased in a tube of vulcanized rubber, *e*, made up of short sections and filling the space between the end supports, and each top rod, *d*, is incased in a tube of vulcanized rubber, *f*, formed of a continuous piece and filling the space between the end supports, and these tubes can be loose on the rods. These tubes *e* and *f* form a cushion for their respective rods, which will prevent the edges of the dishes from being nicked by the contact of the rods in holding the dishes.

The outer or end sections of the tube *e* are short and the remaining sections are of a length corresponding, or nearly so, to the depth of the dishes with which the device is to be used, and attached to the rods *c* between the sections of the tube *e* are wires *g*, running across the top or upper section, A, from the front side rod to the rear side rod, *c*, which wires *g* separate the space between the end supports into divisions of a width to receive the dishes, and each wire *g* is incased in a tube of vulcanized rubber, *h*, filling the space between the rods *c*, which tubes are continuous and can be loose on their wires and form a cushion for the respective wires to prevent the dishes from being nicked. The wires *g* can be fastened to the rods *c* between the sections of the tubes *e* by wrapping the ends around the rods and then twisting the ends around the body of the wire or in any other suitable manner.

The bottom or lower section of the basket is formed with an end support for each end consisting of a straight piece, *i*, and a semicircular piece, *i'*, and the semicircular piece *i'* has feet *i''*, by which the basket is supported in the frame or carriage with which it is used, and, as shown, each foot *i''* has a notch or recess, *i'''*, to fit over a rod and hold the basket in its frame or carriage. The rear corner of each support has an eye or ear, *j*, corresponding to the eye or ear *b*, and the front corner of each support has an eye or ear, *j'*, and, as shown, the ears *b j* and the ears *b' j'* are countersunk slightly on their engaging faces. The end supports are connected together by top side rods, *k*, one at the front side and one at the rear side, intermediate



side rods, *l*, one at the front side and one at the rear side, and bottom rods, *m*, and each rod *k*, *l*, and *m* is provided with a head at one end and is screw-threaded at the other  
 5 end to receive a nut by which the rods are securely held in place. The rear side rod, *k*, passes through the ears *b* of the top or upper section, *A*, of the basket loosely, and this rod forms a pivot for the ears *b*, by which the  
 10 top or upper section of the basket is hinged to the lower or bottom section, so that the basket can be opened for the insertion of the dishes. The openings *b''* in the ears *b'* fit over the rod *k* at the front side of the basket  
 15 when the top part, *A*, is closed down.

Each side rod, *k*, is incased in a tube, *n*, of vulcanized rubber, which tubes are made up of sections corresponding to the sections of the tube *e*, and each side *l* is also incased in  
 20 a tube, *o*, of vulcanized rubber made up of sections in a similar manner, and these tubes *n* and *o* fill the space on their respective rods between the end supports, and each bottom rod *m* is incased in a tube, *p*, of vulcanized rubber, formed in a continuous piece filling the space between the end supports. These tubes can be loose upon their rods and form a cushion to prevent the nicking of the plates by contact with the rods. A swinging  
 30 latch, *q*, is pivoted to the front bar *k*, and its free end is turned to engage the front bar *c* and lock the basket closed, but other locking means can be used.

The sections of the tubes *n* and *o* correspond in length and position on their respective rods to the sections of the tube *e*, and attached to the rods *k*, between the sections of the tubes *n*, are wires *r*, running across from side rod to side rod *k*, and each  
 40 wire *r* is incased in a tube of vulcanized rubber, *s*, filling the space on the wire between the side rods *k*, and attached to the rods *l*. Between the sections of the tubes *o* are wires *t*, running across from side rod to side rod *l*, and each  
 45 wire *t* is incased in a tube, *u*, of vulcanized rubber. The wires *r* and *t* line with the wires *g* and divide the interior of the basket into spaces of a width equal or nearly so to the depth of the dishes, and the tubes *s* and *u*  
 50 form a cushion for their respective wires, by which nicking of the edges of the dishes is prevented. The wires *r* and *t* can be attached to their respective rods by coiling their ends around the rod and twisting the end of the  
 55 wire around its body in the same way as for the wires *g* or in any other suitable manner.

The length of the basket and its interior dimensions and the spacing of the interior can be varied to suit the number, size, and style  
 60 of dishes to be washed; and in use the dishes to be washed are placed one in each space between the cross-wires, and are held by such

cross-wires, and the contact of the rods, the dishes resting on the bottom rods, *m*, and, if large enough, being engaged at the edge by  
 65 the side rods, *c k l*, or some of such rods and the top rods, *d*.

The cross-wires support the dishes in a vertical plane, standing edgewise and in the best position to receive the full beneficial effect of the water thrown or sprayed thereon,  
 70 as the entire face of each dish is exposed to the action of the water, the cross-wires engaging but little surface at the extreme outer edge of the dish, which in effect leaves the  
 75 entire surface to be subjected to the washing on both sides of the dish.

The vulcanized-rubber tubes incasing the rods and cross-wires furnish a cushion and a guard by which each dish will be effectually  
 80 protected while in the basket, and the insertion of the dishes in the basket will be attended with no danger or liability of breakage. It will thus be seen that a basket is provided for holding dishes which supports  
 85 each dish separate and distinct and in the best position for washing on both sides and washing the whole surface, and at the same time the dishes cannot be nicked or broken in the process of washing or in being inserted  
 90 and withdrawn from the basket.

The vulcanized rubber is impervious to water and is unaffected by the water retaining its qualities of protecting and cushioning under all circumstances and keeping its shape;  
 95 and this material will not become sour nor smell with continued use, and the rods and wires can be incased with other material impervious to water and possessing the same qualities as vulcanized rubber—such as vul-  
 100 canized asbestos and other similar material.

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

A dish-washer basket consisting of a top and bottom section hinged together on one  
 105 side, having the top section formed of rigid end pieces, cushioned top rods, sectional cushioned side rods at the front and rear, and cushioned cross-wires from side rod to side rod, dividing the top lengthwise into regular  
 110 spaces, and having the lower section formed of rigid end pieces, sectional cushioned front and rear side rods, sectional cushioned front and rear intermediate rods, cushioned bottom rods, and cushioned cross-wires for the front  
 115 and rear top and intermediate side rods, dividing the bottom lengthwise into regular spaces coinciding with the spaces of the top section, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

STEPHEN WILKS.

Witnesses:

O. W. BOND,  
 M. L. PRICE.