

(No Model.)

O. T. & J. H. LAPHAM.  
BREAST REST FOR WASH BOARDS.

No. 483,786.

Patented Oct. 4, 1892.

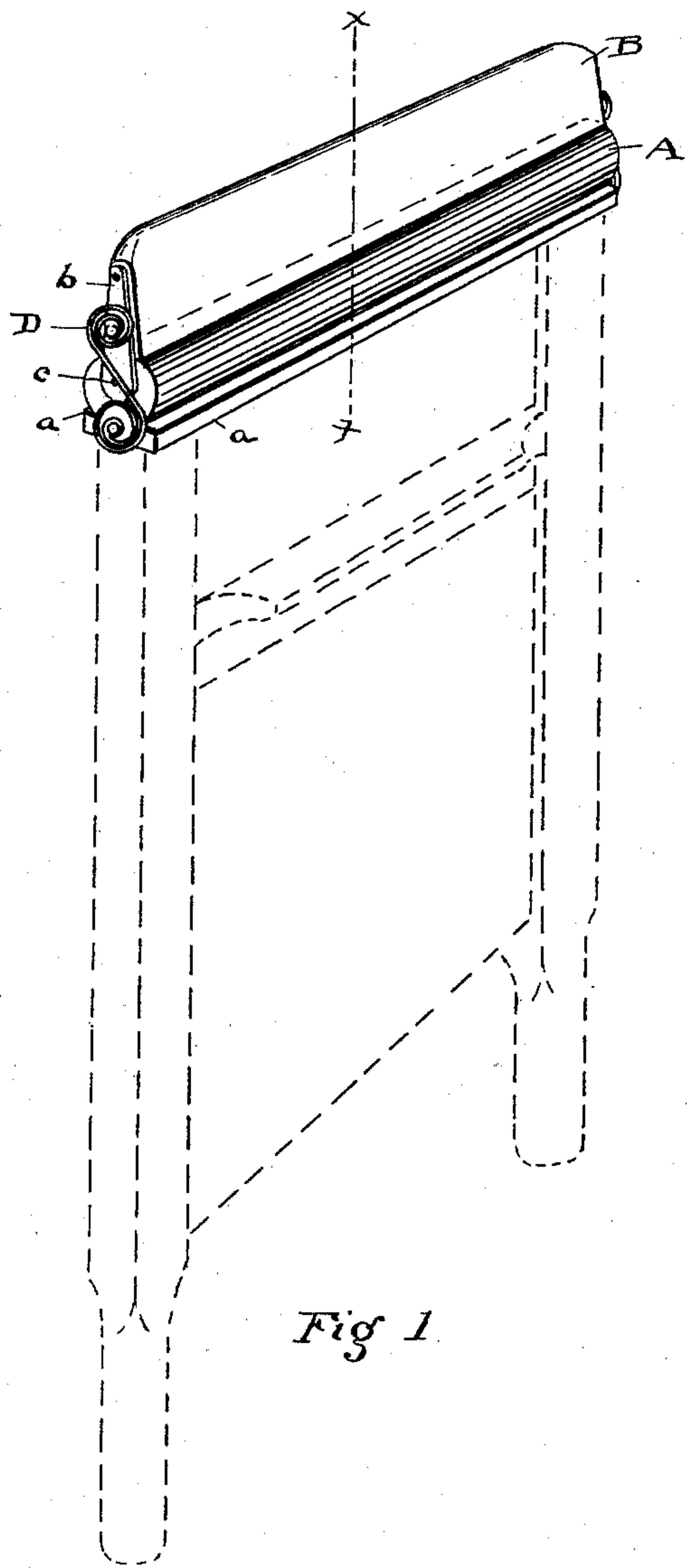


Fig 1

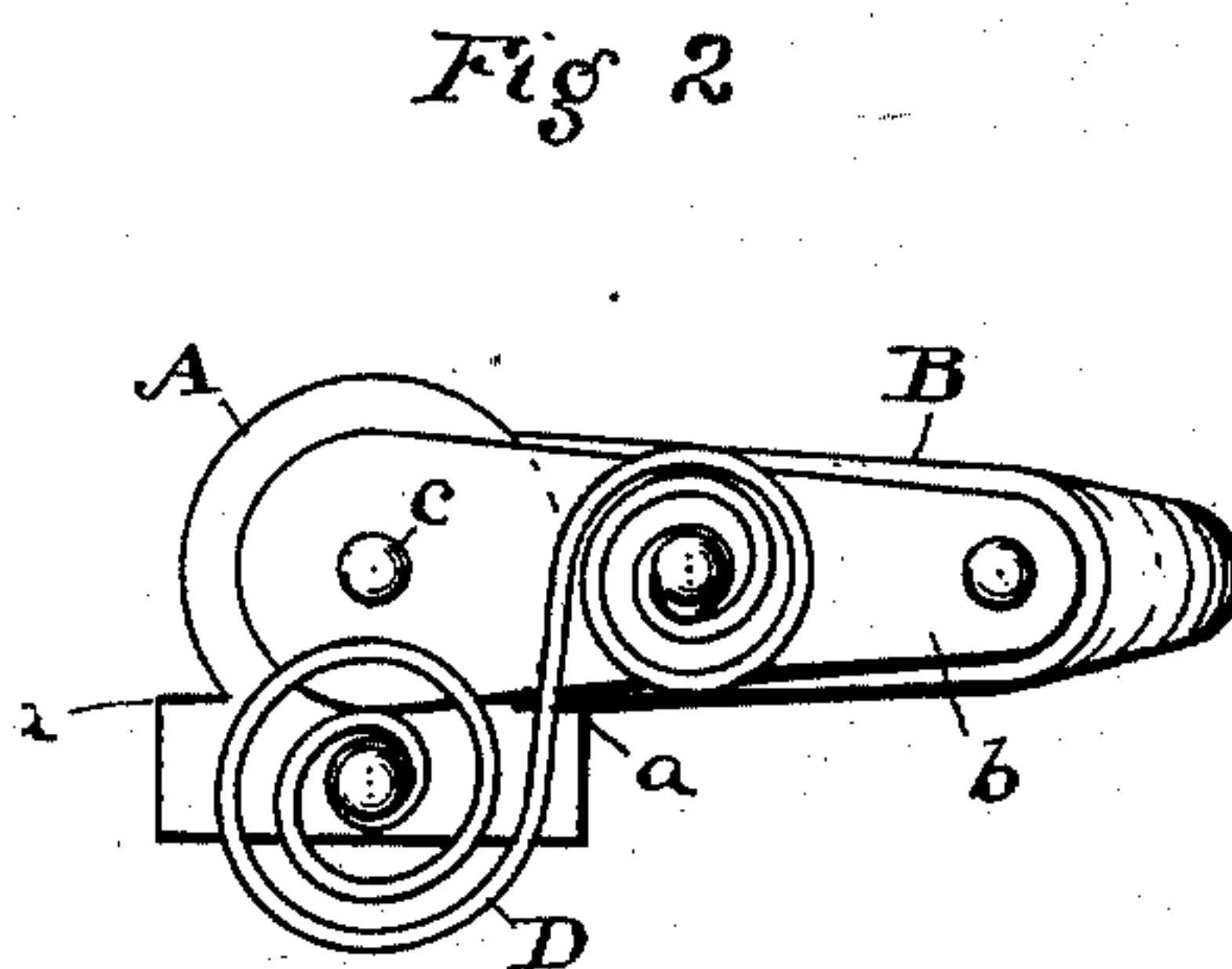


Fig 2

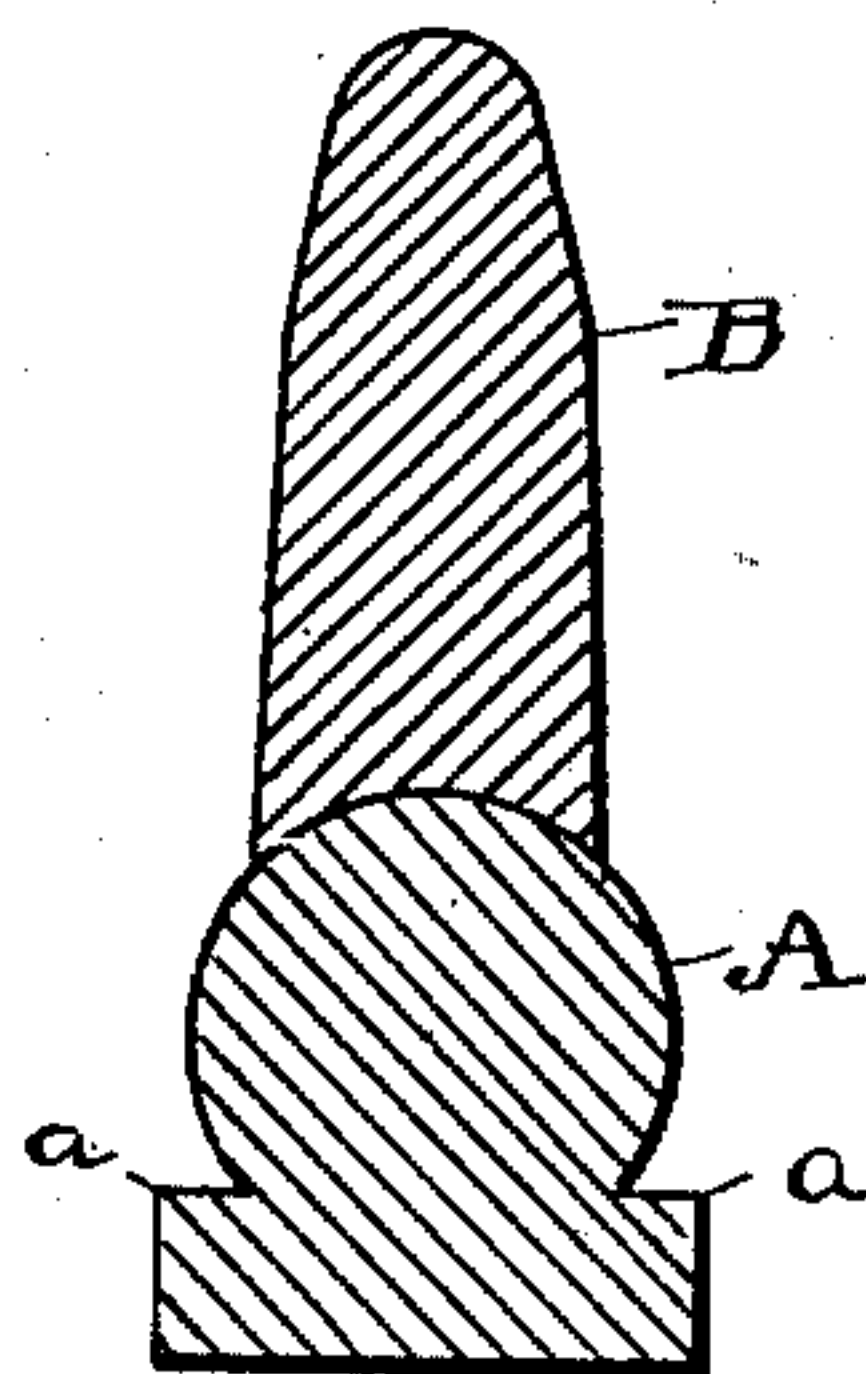


Fig 3

WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## BREAST-REST FOR WASH-BOARDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 483,786, dated October 4, 1892.

Application filed July 12, 1892. Serial No. 439,778. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, OWEN T. LAPHAM and JOSEPH H. LAPHAM, citizens of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Breast-Rests for Wash-Boards; and we 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 appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates particularly to improvements in breast-rests adapted to double-faced wash-boards; but it may also be used with wash-boards having a single rubbing-face.

The object of our invention is to provide a breast-rest to be attached to the upper part of the wash-board to support the body of the operator; and it consists, essentially, of a base piece or part adapted to be fastened across the top of the wash-board and a movable part pivotally attached to the said base by straps at its ends and springs arranged to hold the movable part in working position, all substantially as shown and described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved breast-rest shown in connection with a wash-board represented in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is an end view of the rest complete with the movable part down in working position. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the rest with the movable part up, as in Fig. 1.

A represents the base or bottom part of the breast-rest, circular in cross-section and provided along its own base on both sides with ledges or projections *a*, forming shoulders or stops for the movable member B. This movable member or upper pivoted section or portion of the breast-rest is constructed along its lower edge to conform to the surface of the base A and is secured to said base by straps or plates *b*, fixed rigidly to section B and pivoted at *c* to the base A.

At the ends of the rest are springs D, formed in this instance in substantially S shape and fastened at their upper ends to the movable member B and at their lower ends to the lower member or base A. This

brings the pivot-point *c* somewhere about midway between the extremities of the said springs, and thus enables the springs to perform the function for which they are intended.

The working position of the member B is as seen in Fig. 2, in which the said member is at rest on ledge *a*. In this instance the spring D is constructed and adjusted to bear the said member B down and hold it normally, as seen in Fig. 3. If the member B be reversed to the other side of the board, as in case a double-faced wash-board be used, the springs D would occupy a like position and serve a like function to that shown and described in and with Fig. 3; but though this be the normal position of the part B the said part is capable of being thrown into vertical position, as seen in Fig. 1, when the board is packed for shipping or it becomes desirable for any other reason to bring said part into this position.

Our object in adjusting the springs D, as herein described, so as to exert their tension to hold the part or member B down on ledge *a*, instead of holding it at some point above said ledge, is to meet the demand for having the said member in working position without being pressed or borne down and held there by the person using the board. It is not desirable to have a breast-board bearing constantly against the breast of the operator when the board is used; but it is desirable that the person of the operator should be free and that the rest be normally in working position and where it can and does give the desired rest and protection when needed; hence this arrangement with springs to keep the rest in working position, whether the rest B be on one side or the other of the board.

Any sufficient means may be used to attach the breast-rest to the wash-board frame—such as nails, screws, staples, or the like—through the base A into said frame.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a breast-rest for wash-boards, consisting of a base member provided with ledges along its own base to serve as stops for the movable mem-



ber, the said movable member pivotally supported at its ends to swing to either side of the said base, and springs to hold the said movable member in working position, substantially as described.

2. The article of manufacture herein described, the same consisting of the base A, having ledges *a* along either side thereof, the movable part B, provided at its ends with straps *b*, pivoted in the said base at *c*, and substantially-S-shaped springs D, having one end fixed to the said movable part B and the other below the pivot-point C, substantially as described.

3. The base or lower portion of the breast-rest, the top or movable portion and the straps at the ends of said portions connecting

them pivotally together, and a spring outside of said straps at each end connected to the pivoted or movable portion of the said rest above its pivot-point to hold the said portion in working position, substantially as described.

4. The breast-rest consisting of a base member having ledges along its base and the top member pivoted on said base by means of straps at its ends and constructed to rest on the said ledges when turned to either side, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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