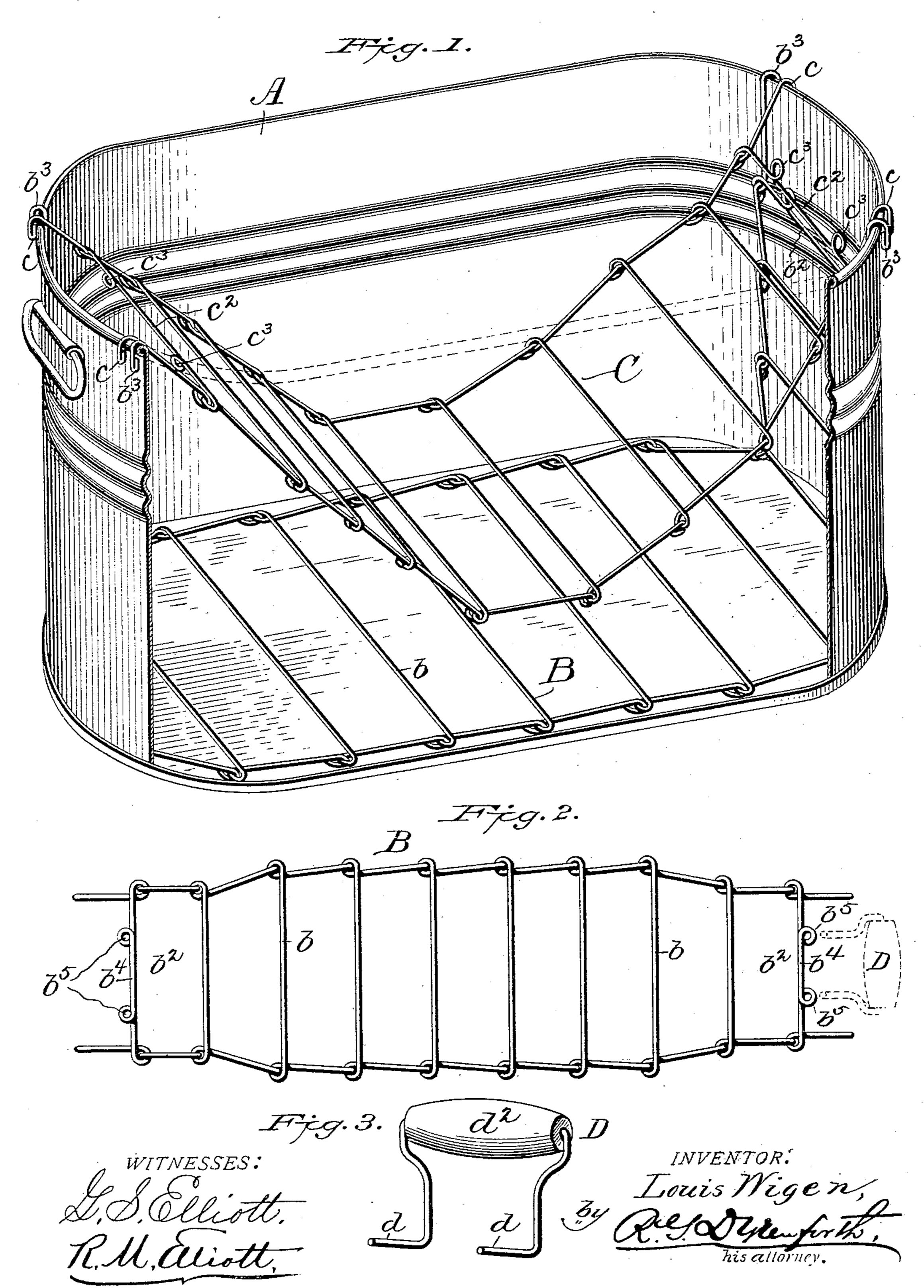
No. 620,523.

Patented Feb. 28, 1899.

## L. WIGEN. WASHBOILER.

(Application filed June 3, 1898.)

(No Model.)



## United States Patent Office.

LOUIS WIGEN, OF AFTON, MINNESOTA.

## WASHBOILER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 620,523, dated February 28, 1899.

Application filed June 3, 1898. Serial No. 682,472. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Louis Wigen, a citizen of the United States, residing at Afton, in the county of Washington and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washboilers; 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 to it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to washboilers.

The object is to facilitate the handling of clothes being boiled and at the same time to reduce the danger of scalding of an attendant to a minimum.

The invention consists in the combination, with a washboiler, of an open-work holder adapted to be placed within the boiler and to be supported thereby, said holder consisting of a series of connected links, handles for lifting the holder from the boiler, and a second holder supported by the first and of a like character as the first for dividing the bulk of the clothes, thereby rendering easier the removal of the same from the boiler.

The invention consists, further, in the novel construction and combination of parts of a device for handling clothes in a washboiler, as will be hereinafter more fully described

30 and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification and in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts, I have illustrated a form of embodinate ment of my invention, although it is to be understood that other forms of embodiment thereof may be employed without departing from the spirit of the same.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in per40 spective of a washboiler with one side broken away to show the clothes-holders in position therein. Fig. 2 is a detail view of one of the holders, showing also in dotted lines one of the detachable handles in position thereon.
45 Fig. 3 is a perspective detail view of the han-

dle detached.

Referring to the drawings, A designates a washboiler, which may be of any preferred construction and therefore needs no detailed description, B the lower holder, and C the upper holder.

The lower holder B consists, essentially, of I

a series of connected links b, which may be of any preferred shape and of a width to extend practically from one side of the boiler 55 to the other. At each end of the holder is attached a supporting-link  $b^2$ , the free ends of which are bent to form hooks  $b^3$  for catching over the upper edge of the boiler to support the holder in place, the cross-bar  $b^4$  of 60 this link being provided, intermediate of its ends, with two loops  $b^5$  to be engaged by the hooks of the detachable handles D, the latter comprising, essentially, a bail formed with the hooks d for engaging the loops or rings  $b^5$  65 and with a handle  $d^2$  of a non-heat-conducting substance, such as wood. When the lower holder B is in position in the boiler, as shown in Fig. 1, the hooks  $b^3$  are hooked over the rim of the boiler and the holder hangs down 70 along the ends and to the bottom of the boiler or slightly above the bottom, as may be preferred, so that practically all the space of the boiler is utilized for the clothes.

The upper holder C is constructed in all 75 essential points the same as the lower holder, and its hooks c of the end link  $c^2$  are designed to be hooked onto the cross-bar  $b^4$  of the end links of the lower holder to support the said upper holder in place, although, if preferred, 80 these hooks c may also be hooked over the rim of the boiler. This upper holder C is shorter than the lower holder and hangs down approximately about one-half of the depth of the boiler. The end links  $c^2$  are also provided 85 with loops  $C^3$  to be engaged by the hooks of the handle D.

In using a washboiler equipped with my device the lower holder is first placed in position in the manner already described and the 90 clothes are placed upon this holder. When a sufficient quantity has been placed thereon, the upper holder is secured in position and the remainder of the clothes placed on this. The boiler is then filled with water and placed 95 upon the stove, as usual. When the clothes have been sufficiently boiled, the handles D are hooked into the loop  $c^3$  of the upper holder, and the two handles are brought together and the upper layer of clothes removed, and by 100 opening out the holder the clothes will be free to be removed from the holder. The same procedure is followed with regard to the lower holder.

The salient advantages of this device are its extreme simplicity of construction, efficiency and durability in use, and the readiness with which a bulk of hot clothes may be handled with ease.

It is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the employment of two of these holders, as in some instances one will be found sufficient, and in other instances two or more now be necessary.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination with a washboiler, of an open-work holder adapted to be placed within the boiler, said holder consisting of a series of loosely-connected links, each end link being provided with hooks to engage with the boiler-rim to support the holder in operative position, and a second holder, of like character as the first, having its end links also provided with hooks to engage the boiler-rim, said second holder operating to divide the bulk of the clothes, thereby to facilitate

removal of the same from the boiler, substan- 25

tially as described.

2. The combination with a washboiler, of an open-work holder adapted to be placed within the boiler, said holder consisting of a series of loosely-connected links, the crossbar of each end link being furnished with loops or rings, and the ends of the said links being formed into hooks to engage with the boiler-rim to support the holder in operative position, and a second holder, of like character as the first, having the cross-bar of each end link furnished with loops or rings, and the ends of the said links formed into hooks also to engage the boiler-rim, and detachable handles adapted for engaging the said loops 40 or rings, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature

in presence of two witnesses.

LOUIS WIGEN.

Witnesses:
Julia Swanby,
N. P. Haugen.