

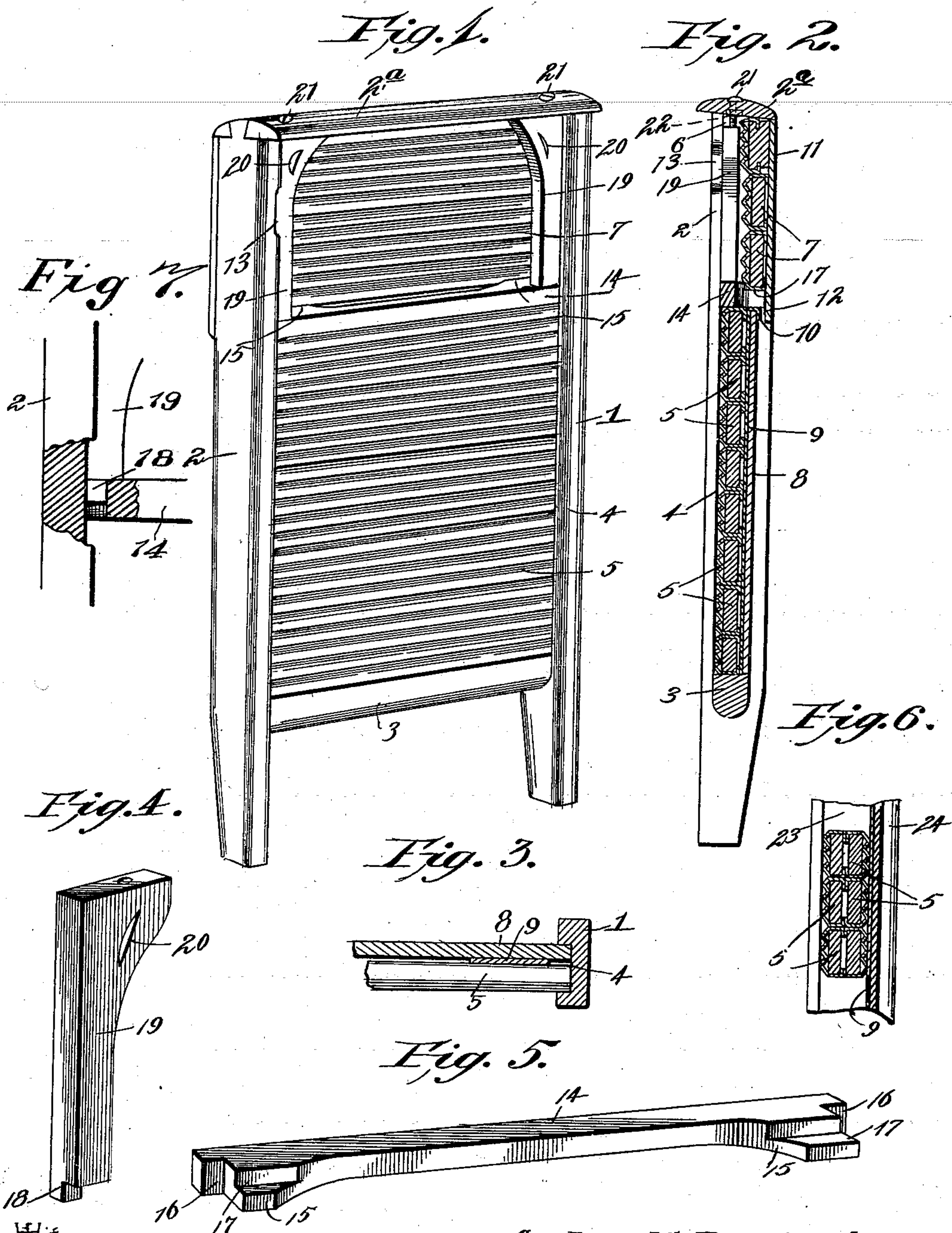
No. 651,818.

A. W. BISCHOFF.
WASHBOARD.

Patented June 19, 1900.

(Application filed Feb. 5, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
C. H. Walker
H. J. Riley

Andrew W. Bischoff Inventor
By *his* Attorneys,

C. A. Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW W. BISCHOFF, OF AMBIA, INDIANA.

WASHBOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 651,818, dated June 19, 1900.

Application filed February 5, 1900, Serial No. 4,042. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW W. BISCHOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ambia, in the county of Benton and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Washboard, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in washboards.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of washboards and to provide a simple and comparatively-inexpensive one adapted to have its rubbing-surface changed, so that it will be uniformly worn, and capable of having the said rubbing-surface completely renewed or partially replaced, so that the washboard will not have to be discarded when only a portion of the rubbing-surface is unfit for use.

20 The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

25 In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a washboard constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view of one side of the washboard. 30 Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the locking-bars. Fig. 5 is a similar view of the removable intermediate cross-bar. Fig. 6 is a detail sectional view illustrating a modification of the invention. Fig. 7 is a detail view illustrating the manner of interlocking the tenons of the locking-pieces with the intermediate cross-bar.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

40 1 and 2 designate sides of a washboard-frame which is provided with upper and lower cross-pieces 2^a and 3, suitably secured to the sides and arranged as shown in Fig. 1, the lower cross-piece being located a short distance from the lower ends of the sides which form legs. The top cross-piece extends forward beyond the front edges of the sides, which are provided adjacent to their front edges with longitudinal grooves 4, forming ways for a series of removable, reversible, and interchangeable slats 5, which

constitute the rubbing-surface of the washboard and which are adapted to be changed or rearranged to enable them to be uniformly worn and to prevent a few of the slats from being subjected to the greatest wear. The sides are provided at their upper portions with recesses 6, extending to their rear edges and forming continuations of the ways and adapted to receive supplemental slats 7, forming the back of a soap-receptacle and adapted to be interchanged with the slats 5, so that one of the latter when unfit for use in the rubbing-surface may be removed therefrom.

The slats 5 of the rubbing-surface are arranged against a lower backboard 8, consisting of thin transverse boards loosely fitted against the rear walls of the grooves or ways 4 and retained in position by the slats and by longitudinal metal strips 9, forming bearing-surfaces for the slats, and provided at their upper ends with hooks 10, engaging the upper edge of the lower backboard. The slats, which may be constructed in any suitable manner, preferably consist of sheet-metal tubes or partial tubes and a filling of wood or other material. The lower backboard 8 may be readily placed in position in assembling the washboard, and the metal strips will prevent it from becoming worn by the changing of the slats.

The frame of the washboard is provided with an upper backboard 11, arranged at the back of the recesses 6 and offset from the lower backboard to provide a drain-opening 12, so that the water collecting in the soap-receptacle may readily drain therefrom. The supplemental slats 7 fit against the upper backboard 11, and the side 2 of the frame of the washboard is provided at the center of the recess 6 with an entrance-notch 13, which forms a passage and enables the slats to be readily introduced into and removed from the recesses and the ways.

The slats of the rubbing-surface are engaged by a movable intermediate cross-bar 14, cut away or recessed at its lower edge, between its ends, to provide terminal enlargements or feet 15, which rest upon the upper backboard 11 and permit water to pass through the drain opening or space between the adjacent ends of the upper and lower

backboards. The cross-bar is provided with end recesses 16, and it has side recesses 17, arranged to receive the longitudinal edge of the adjacent slat 7. The end recesses are engaged by lugs or tenons 18 of the locking-pieces 19, located at opposite sides of the soap-holder and fitting against the sides of the washboard-frame and extending into the recesses 6. The locking-pieces, which are disposed longitudinally of the washboard, retain the supplemental slats 7 in place and abut against the upper face of the removable intermediate cross-bar, and thereby lock the slats 5 of the rubbing-surface in the grooves or ways 4 of the sides 1 and 2. The upper portions of the locking-pieces are enlarged, as shown, and provided with grooves 20, forming finger-holds to enable them to be readily removed from the recesses 6. The upper ends of the locking-pieces are engaged by clamping-screws 21, extending through the top cross-piece and through nuts 22, arranged in recesses at the inner face of the top cross-piece. By screwing the clamping devices tightly against the upper ends of the locking-pieces the slats of the washboard are firmly held in place, and by loosening the screws the locking-pieces and the slats may be readily removed. When the locking-pieces are removed, there is sufficient space within the recesses or ways to permit the supplemental slats 7 to pass each other, so that any one of the slats may be brought to the entrance-notch 13.

As illustrated in Fig. 6 of the accompanying drawings, the longitudinal groove 23 of the side piece 24 may be increased in width to accommodate a double row of slats, and this construction may be utilized for the purpose of providing a double washboard having a rubbing-surface at its front and rear faces, or it may be simply employed as a repository for a large number of slats, so that the actual rubbing-surface of the board may be maintained in proper condition for a long period. In this construction a backboard may be employed or omitted, accordingly as it is desired to provide a washboard with a double face or merely to provide a space for storing additional slats.

The uppermost supplemental slat 7 projects beyond the adjacent faces of the other supplemental slats in order to facilitate its removal by enabling it to be readily grasped by the operator, and when it is desired to substitute this slat for one of the lower slats the sheet-metal portion is stripped off of the wood-filling and is applied to the wood-filling of the slat for which it is to be substituted.

It will be seen that the washboard is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction, that the supplemental slats form the back of the soap-holder, and that the water accumulating in the soap-holder will be allowed to drain freely from it. It will also be apparent that the slats are interchangeable and removable and that the rubbing-surface

may be renewed without discarding the frame of the washboard.

Changes in the form, proportion, size, and the minor details of construction within the scope of the appended claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What is claimed is—

1. A washboard comprising a frame having upper and lower backboards spaced apart at their adjacent edges to provide a drain-opening, the sides of the frame being provided at the lower portion with grooves, and having recesses at the upper back portion, a series of slats arranged in the grooves and forming the rubbing-surface of the washboard, a series of supplemental slats arranged in the recesses, a removable intermediate cross-piece engaging the slats of the rubbing-surface, and the locking-pieces interlocked with the removable intermediate cross-piece and engaging the supplemental slats, substantially as described.

2. A washboard comprising a frame having upper and lower backboards spaced apart at their adjacent edges to provide a drain-opening, the sides of the frame being provided at the lower portion with grooves and having recesses at the upper back portion, a series of slats arranged in the grooves and forming the rubbing-surface of the washboard, a series of supplemental slats arranged in the recesses, a removable intermediate cross-piece engaging the slats of the rubbing-surface, the locking-pieces interlocked with the removable intermediate cross-piece and engaging the supplemental slats, and adjustable devices mounted on the frame of the washboard and engaging the locking-pieces, substantially as described.

3. A washboard comprising a frame having lower grooves and provided with upper recesses, slats arranged in the grooves and forming a rubbing-surface, a series of supplemental slats arranged in the recesses, a removable cross-bar engaging the top slat of the rubbing-surface and provided with end recesses and recessed at its upper face to receive the adjacent edge of the adjacent supplemental slat, and the locking-pieces provided with lugs fitting in the end recesses of the cross-piece, said locking-pieces engaging and retaining the supplemental slats in the recesses, substantially as described.

4. A washboard comprising side bars having lower longitudinal grooves and upper recesses, upper and lower cross-pieces connecting the side bars, the lower backboard arranged in the grooves, the metal strips arranged on the lower backboard and provided with hooks at their upper ends for engaging the upper edge of the said backboard, the slats arranged in the grooves and bearing against the metal strips, the upper backboard offset from the lower backboard to provide a drain-opening, the supplemental slats ar-

5 ranged in the recesses, the intermediate cross-bar engaging the adjacent slat of the rubbing-surface, and cut away to provide a passage for water, and the locking-pieces interlocked with the intermediate cross-piece and retaining the supplemental slats in the recesses, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW W. BISCHOFF.

Witnesses:

W. LEE BARTLETT,
FREDRICK E. HANSON.