

No. 695,500.

Patented Mar. 18, 1902.

W. B. SIMPSON.  
WASHING MACHINE.

(Application filed Apr. 17, 1901.)

(No Model.)

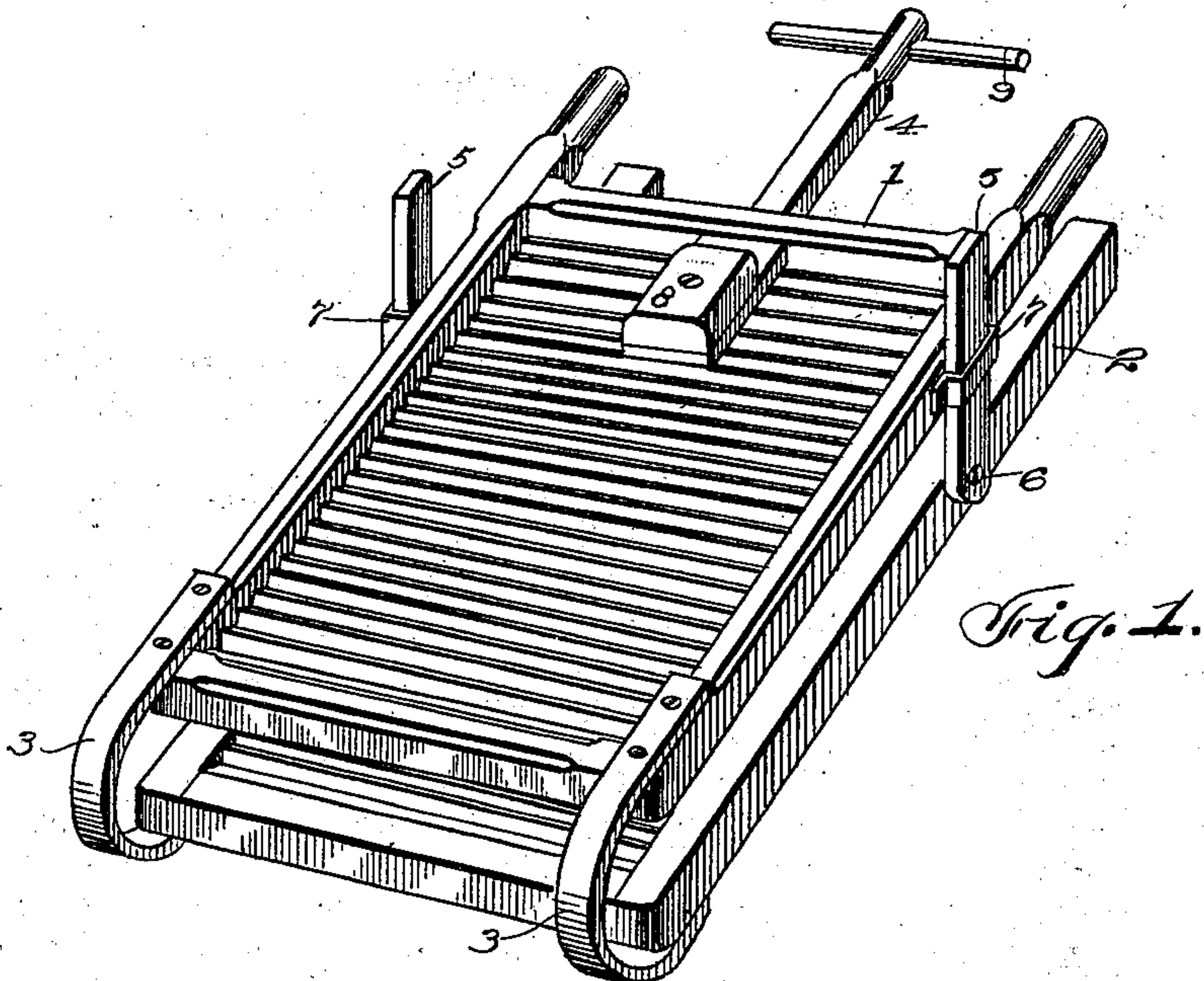


Fig. 1.

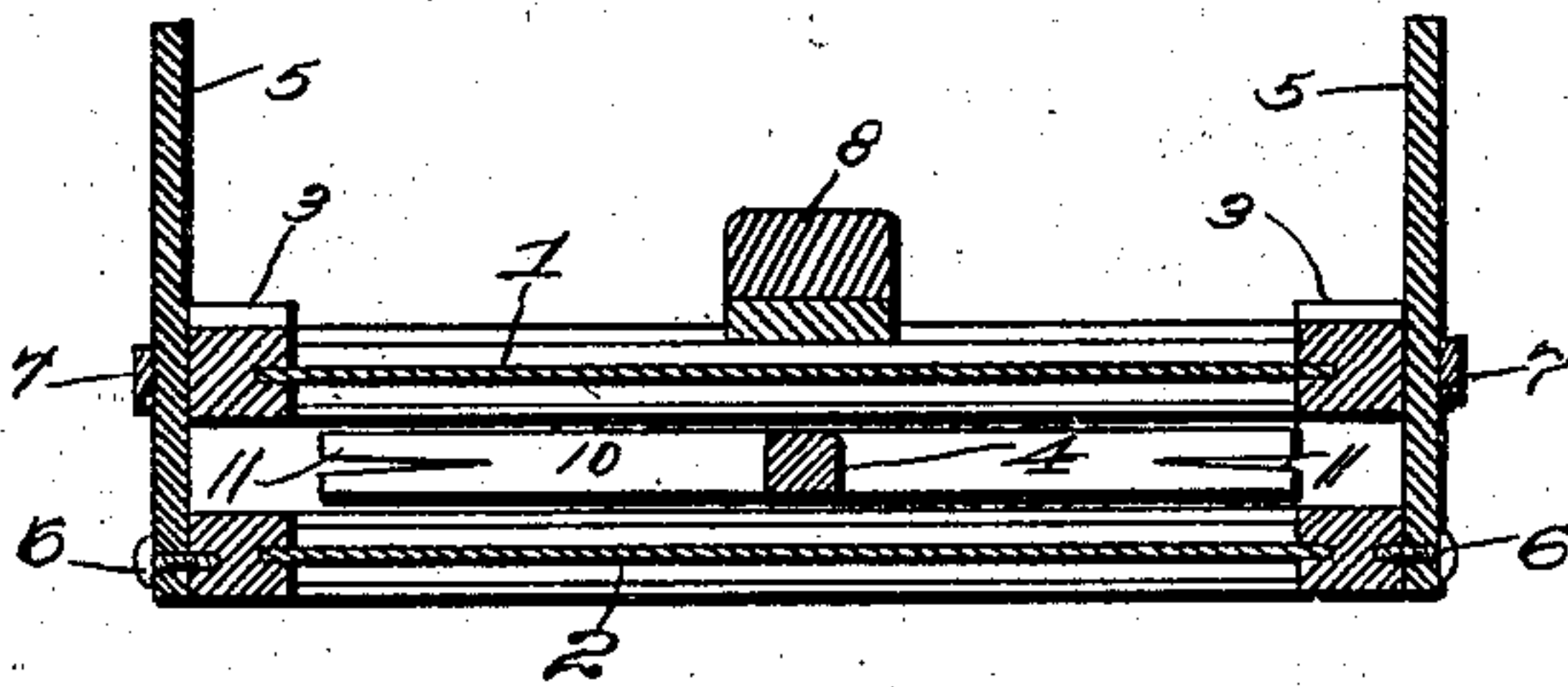


Fig. 3.

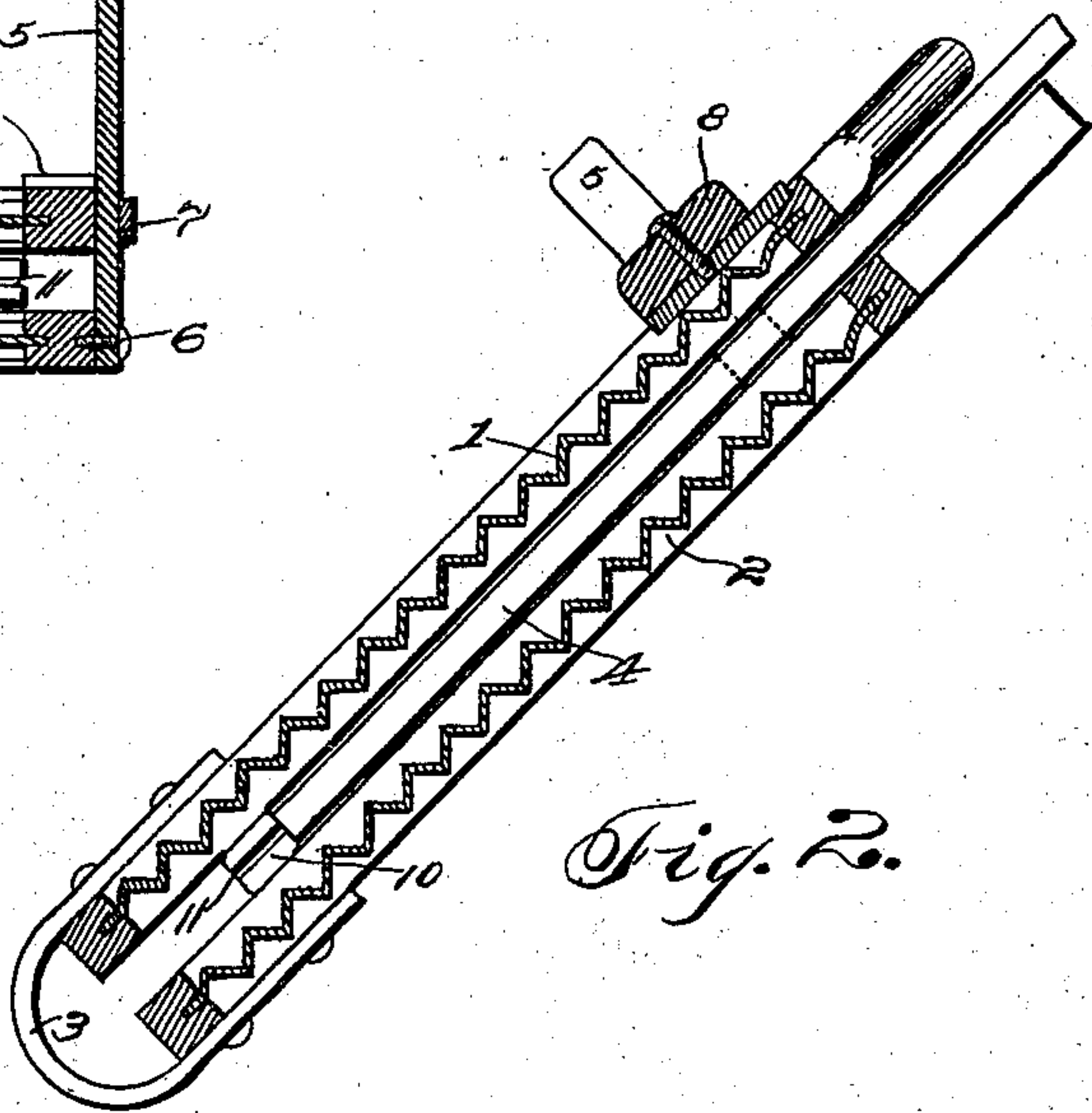


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. SIMPSON, OF GILLIAM, LOUISIANA.

## WASHING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 695,500, dated March 18, 1902.

Application filed April 17, 1901. Serial No. 56,299. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM B. SIMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gilliam, in Caddo parish and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Washing-Machine, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in washing-machines.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of washing-machines and to provide a simple and efficient one designed to be used in connection with an ordinary washtub and adapted to enable clothes to be conveniently and thoroughly rubbed, similar to hand-washing with an ordinary washboard, without the hands of the operator coming in contact with the clothes further than to attach them to and remove them from a holder.

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 claim hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a washing-machine constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view.

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

1 and 2 designate a pair of washboards arranged face to face and connected at one end by a pair of curved springs 3, which are adapted to be distended or flexed by clothes or other fabrics introduced between the washboards, whereby when the clothes are moved longitudinally of the same sufficient pressure will be exerted on them to secure the necessary rubbing action. The washboards are designed to be arranged within a washtub at an inclination similar to an ordinary washboard, and the curved springs are arranged at their lower ends and are secured to the upper faces of the side bars of the upper washboard 1 and to the lower faces of the side bars of the other washboard. The clothes or other fabrics to be washed are introduced between the washboards at the upper ends thereof and are designed to be connected with a holder 4, and the said washboards may be of any desired con-

struction and may be provided with any suitable rubbing-surfaces, as will be readily understood.

The springs operate to hold the washboards substantially together, and the said boards are held against lateral movement by upwardly-extending guides 5, secured at their lower ends 6 to the side faces of the side bars of the lower washboard and extending through loops 7, secured to the sides of the upper washboard. These guides or arms 5, which receive the upper washboard between them, are adapted to prevent the same from twisting or moving transversely when the springs are flexed during the operation of washing. The loops 7 preferably consist of metallic frames or metal straps bent into rectangular form, as clearly shown in Fig. 1; but any other suitable means may be employed for slidingly connecting the upper washboard with the guides of the lower board.

In order to increase the pressure on the clothes or other fabrics being washed, the upper washboard is provided with a weight 8, arranged on its exterior and located near the upper end of the said upper washboard, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings. The weight may be of any desired construction or size, and one weight may be removed and a lighter or heavier one substituted to adapt the pressure to the character of the goods or other fabrics to be washed.

The holder consists of a bar provided at its upper end with a handle 9 and having a clothes-engaging bar 10 at its lower end. The bar 10, which is arranged at right angles to the longitudinal bar of the holder, is secured at its center to the said longitudinal bar and is provided at its ends with tapering recesses 11, formed by splitting its ends and adapted to receive the clothes or other fabrics for securing the same to the holder. The clothes to be washed are arranged on the holder and are secured to the cross-bar of the same by inserting them in the said recesses 11, and they are washed by introducing them between the upper and lower washboards and reciprocating the holder. The holder is moved back and forth and the clothes or other fabrics are rubbed similar to hand-rubbing on an ordinary washboard and the hands of the operator do not come in contact with the wash-



boards or the clothes during such rubbing operation.

It will be seen that the washing machine or apparatus is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction, that it is adapted to be used in an ordinary washtub, and that it is capable of enabling clothes and other fabrics to be rapidly and thoroughly rubbed without the hands of the operator coming in contact with the clothes or the washboards during such rubbing operation. Furthermore, it will be seen that the springs and the weight secure the necessary pressure and that the guides hold the upper washboard directly over the lower one. It will also be clear that the yieldingly-connected washboards are adapted to accommodate themselves to the size of the bundle of clothes or other fabrics placed on the holder for washing.

What I claim is—

A device of the class described comprising the upper and lower washboards, the approximately U-shaped springs located at opposite sides of the washboards and connecting their lower ends, the guides located at the opposite sides of the washboards near the upper ends thereof and secured to one of the boards and slidingly connected with the other, and means for moving clothes over the rubbing-surfaces of the washboards, 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.

WILLIAM B. SIMPSON.

Witnesses:

S. B. HARPER,

J. L. JEROME.