

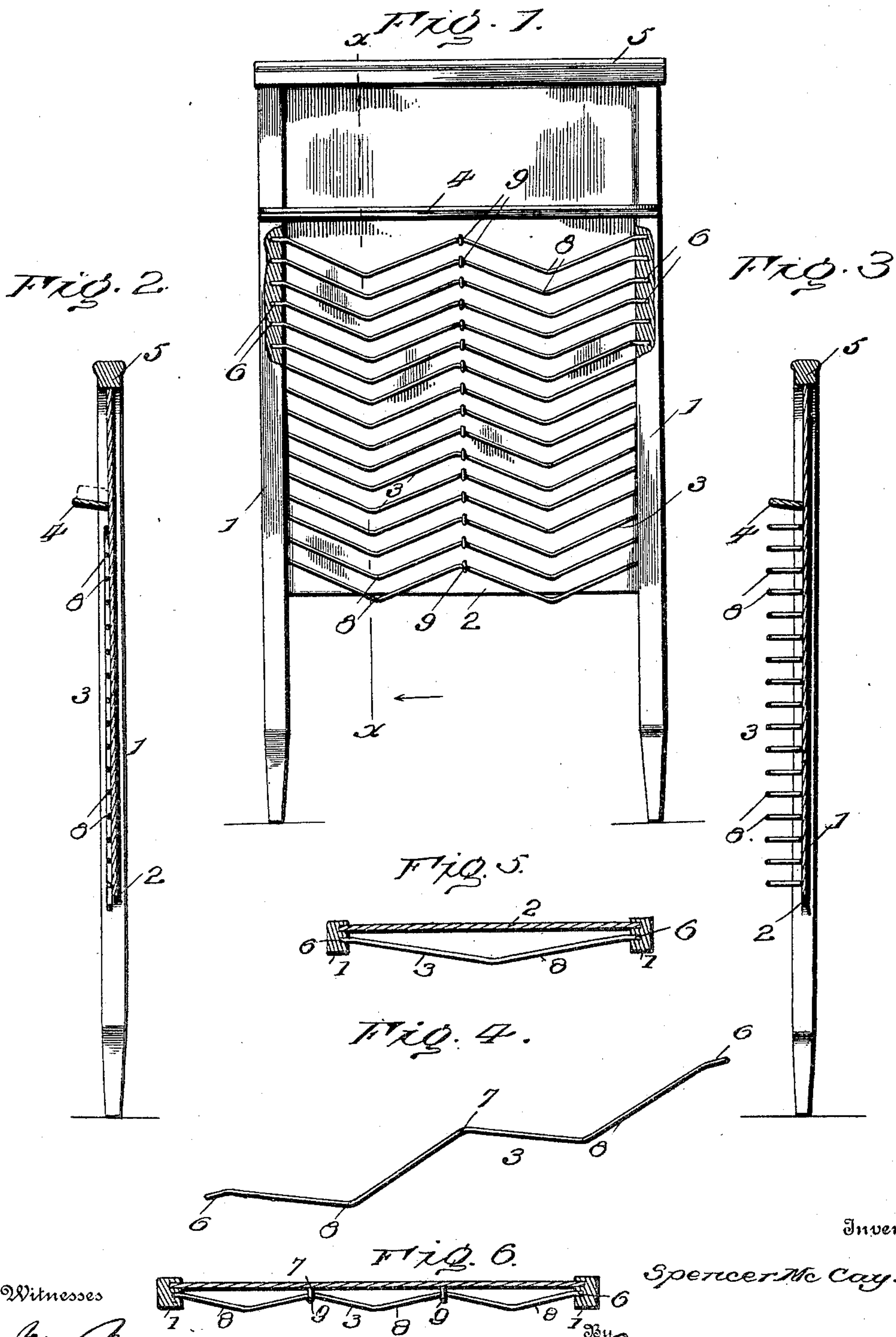
No. 706,192.

Patented Aug. 5, 1902.

S. McCAY.
WASHBOARD.

(Application filed Dec. 30, 1901.)

(No Model.)



Inventor

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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WASHBOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 706,192, dated August 5, 1902.

Application filed December 30, 1901. Serial No. 87,792. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SPENCER McCAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Topeka, in the county of Shawnee and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washboards; 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 it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention appertains to the type of washboards in which the ribs are separate from and attached to the base, being stout wires.

In the manufacture of washboards aforesaid soap, dirt, lint, and foreign matter accumulate in the spaces between the base and the ribs and soon cause the base to decay and the ribs to become loose, besides rendering the article foul.

In accordance with this invention the ribs are journaled to the base and are deflected from a straight line between the journals and can be turned so as to space the part between the journals from the base, thereby admitting of the ready removal of any foreign matter and permitting the base to dry out quickly.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result reference is to be had to the following description and drawings hereto attached.

While the essential and characteristic features of the invention are susceptible of modification, still the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a washboard embodying the invention, parts of the side strips being broken away to show the outer journals of the ribs. Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line X X of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing the ribs turned so as to throw the deflected portion away from the base or surface. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a rib. Fig. 5 is a transverse section of a washboard, showing a construction in which the ribs are journaled at their ends only. Fig. 6 is a modification similar to Fig. 5, show-

ing a construction in which the ribs are journaled at their ends and at intermediate points.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The washboard in general appearance is not unlike the ordinary article of this type and comprises side strips 1, a base or back board 2, and a series of ribs 3. The ribs form the rubbing-surface, above which is located a ledge 4, upon which the soap is adapted to be placed. The side strips 1 are firmly joined at their upper ends to a cross-piece 5, which constitutes the head or cap, and which with the side strips reinforce the base or back board 2 and constitute in effect a frame. The ribs 3 are journaled at their ends in the side strips 1 and intermediate of their ends to the base 2, the terminal journals 6 and the intermediate journal 7 being in the same straight line. The parts intermediate of the journals 6 and 7 are deflected, as shown at 8, and stand away from the surface of the base when the ribs are given a quarter-turn, as shown most clearly in Fig. 3, thereby admitting of flushing the board, so as to remove any foreign matter and also permitting it to quickly dry after being used. When the washboard is in service, the ribs are turned to cause the deflected parts 8 to lie close against the base, as shown most clearly in Figs. 1 and 2. The ribs are lengths of galvanized-iron wire of suitable gage and may be of any length, according to the size of the washboard. For all practical purposes the ribs have only one intermediate journal, as shown most clearly in Fig. 1; but it is obvious that other journals may be provided, as shown in Fig. 6, and that the intermediate journals may be dispensed with, as shown in Fig. 5. A staple 9 or analogous fastening embraces the part 7 and is let into the base 2 and forms the bearing for the journal 7. The form of the deflected part 8 is immaterial within the purview of the invention, and it may be angular, as shown, or of any desired shape.

When it is required to use the washboard, the ribs are caused to lie close against the surface of the base 2, and after being used

the ribs are turned to throw the deflected parts 8 outward, thereby admitting of cleansing the ribs and base by flushing, and the board is set aside and quickly dries, because 5 of the free space between the ribs and the base.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In a washboard, a frame comprising a 10 base, and a series of ribs journaled to the frame and deflected from a straight line passing through the journals and adapted to be turned to cause the ribs to lie close against the surface or the deflected parts to stand off 15 from the surface of the base, substantially as set forth.

2. In a washboard, a frame comprising a base, and a series of ribs journaled at their 20 ends and intermediate of their ends to the frame and having the parts between the jour-

nals deflected, said ribs being adapted to lie against the surface of the base or to be turned to throw the deflected parts away from the said surface, substantially as set forth.

3. In a washboard comprising side strips 25 and a base or back board, ribs journaled at their ends in the side strips and having journals intermediate of their ends, the parts between the respective journals being deflected, and fastenings securing the intermediate 30 journals to the said base, the ribs being adapted to lie close against the surface of the base or to be turned to throw the deflected parts outward therefrom, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 35 in presence of two witnesses.

SPENCER McCAY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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