

No. 728,938.

PATENTED MAY 26, 1903.

F. X. KRABACH.
LAUNDRY FORK.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 15, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

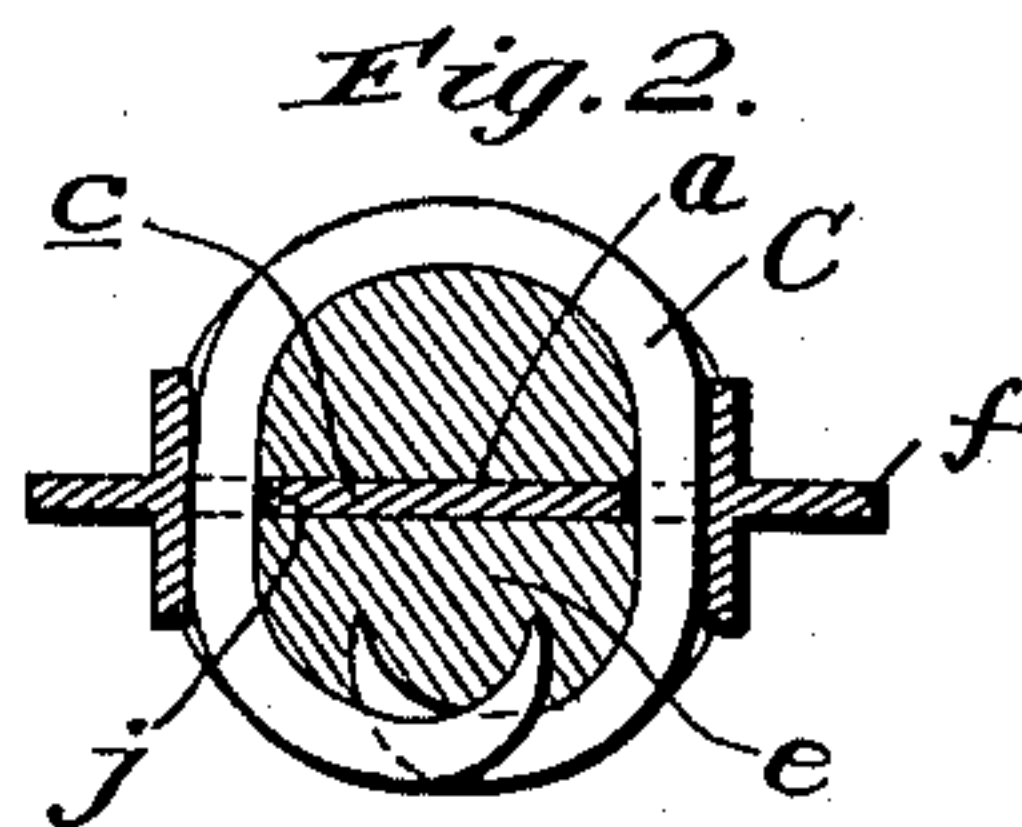
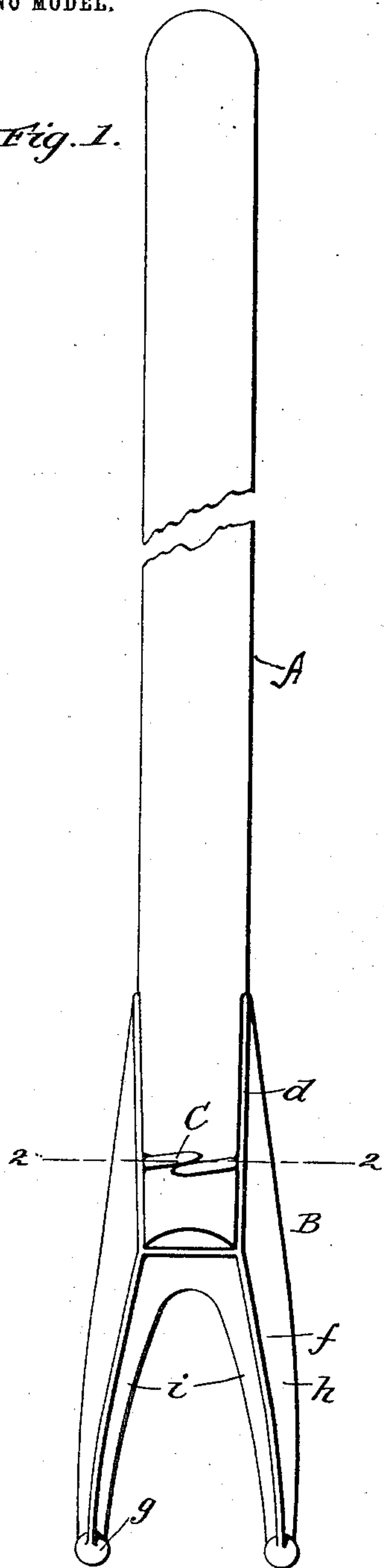
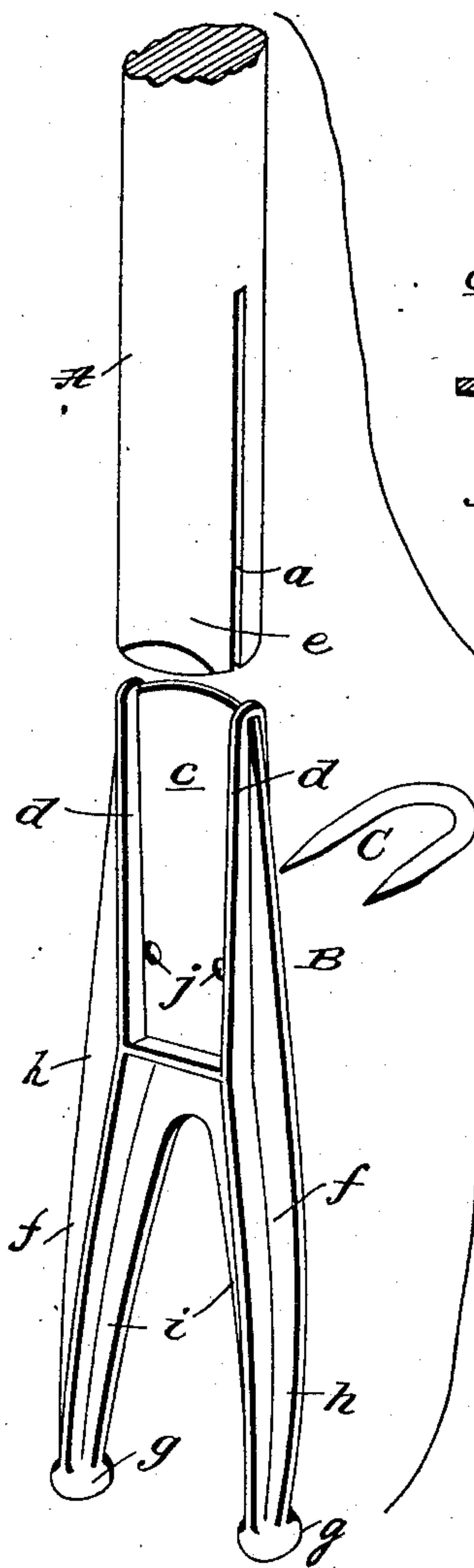


Fig. 3.



witnesses:

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FRANK X. KRABACH, OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA.

LAUNDRY-FORK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 728,938, dated May 26, 1903.

Application filed September 15, 1902. Serial No. 123,469. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK X. KRABACH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Wayne, in the county of Allen and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Laundry-Forks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to laundry-forks, and is designed more particularly as a simplification of the fork disclosed in my Letters Patent No. 597,987, of January 25, 1898. Its novelty, utility, and advantages will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the fork with the handle thereof broken. Fig. 2 is a transverse section taken in the plane indicated by the broken line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 comprises disconnected perspective views of the fork proper, a portion of the handle of the fork, and the device for connecting said fork proper and handle.

In the said drawings similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the several views, referring to which—

A is the handle of the device, which is of wood, and is bifurcated at one end, as indicated by *a*.

B is the fork proper, which is preferably cast in one piece of metal, and C is the staple, of ductile metal, for connecting the handle and the fork proper. The fork proper is provided with a longitudinal central portion *c*, designed to rest in and fully occupy the bifurcation *a* of the handle, and is also provided at the inner end and side edges of said portion *c* with lateral flanges *d*, which have for their purpose to form sockets at opposite sides of the portion *c* for the reception of the portions *e* at the inner end of the handle, the said sockets being, by preference, slightly reduced in width toward their inner ends, as shown in Fig. 1. Said fork proper is further provided with tangs *f*, equipped with tips *g*, and is reinforced and strengthened by exterior ribs *h* and interior ribs *i*, arranged as best shown in Fig. 3. The outer end portions of the tangs *f* are approximately parallel, as shown in Fig. 1—this in order to permit clothes to freely drop from the fork when the same

is held in an upright position. The connecting device or staple C is formed of ductile metal, as before stated, and has the ends of its legs pointed, as shown. It is applied by driving its legs through the transverse apertures *j* in the portion *c* of the fork proper, so that its bight and legs are sunk or embedded in the handle, and then driving the pointed ends of its legs into the handle, as best shown in Fig. 2. When the staple is thus applied, it draws and holds the handle portions *e* to the portion *c* of the fork proper and effects a strong connection between the handle and fork proper. It is also advantageous because in the event of the handle becoming loose the looseness may be taken up and the connection rendered tight again by simply driving the pointed ends of the staple farther into the handle.

It will be observed that by reason of the portion *c* of the fork proper resting in and fully occupying the bifurcation *a* of the handle and the portions *e* of the handle resting between the flanges *d* of the fork proper the connection of the handle and fork proper is reinforced and rendered strong and durable. It will also be observed that as compared with the fork disclosed in my aforesaid Letters Patent my present fork is very simple, inexpensive, and light; also, that the connection between the handle and fork proper is susceptible of being tightened much more quickly and easily than in the patented fork.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The clothes-fork comprising the bifurcated handle of wood, the metallic fork proper having a portion *c* arranged in the bifurcation of the handle, and provided with transverse apertures *j*, and the staple having legs passed through said apertures *j*, and straddling the handle, and also having its ends sunk in said handle, whereby it is enabled to draw and hold the portions of the handle at opposite sides of the bifurcation thereof to the portion *c* of the fork proper.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, the herein-described clothes-fork comprising a handle of wood having a bifurcation at one end, a metallic fork proper formed in one piece and having the longitudinal central por-

tion *c* fully occupying the bifurcation of the handle, and the flanges *d* at opposite sides of said portion *c*, forming sockets which receive the portions of the handle at opposite sides
5 of the bifurcation thereof, and also having transverse apertures in the portion *c* adjacent to the flanges *d*, and the staple having its legs passed through the apertures in the portion *c* of the fork proper, and also having
10 its ends sunk into the handle, whereby it is

enabled to draw and hold the portions of said handle to the portion *c* of the fork proper.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK X. KRABACH.

Witnesses:

P. R. ALBUS,

H. W. KERR.