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L. S. & E. M. ELLIOTT.

CLOTHES POUNDER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 1, 1903.

NO MODEL.

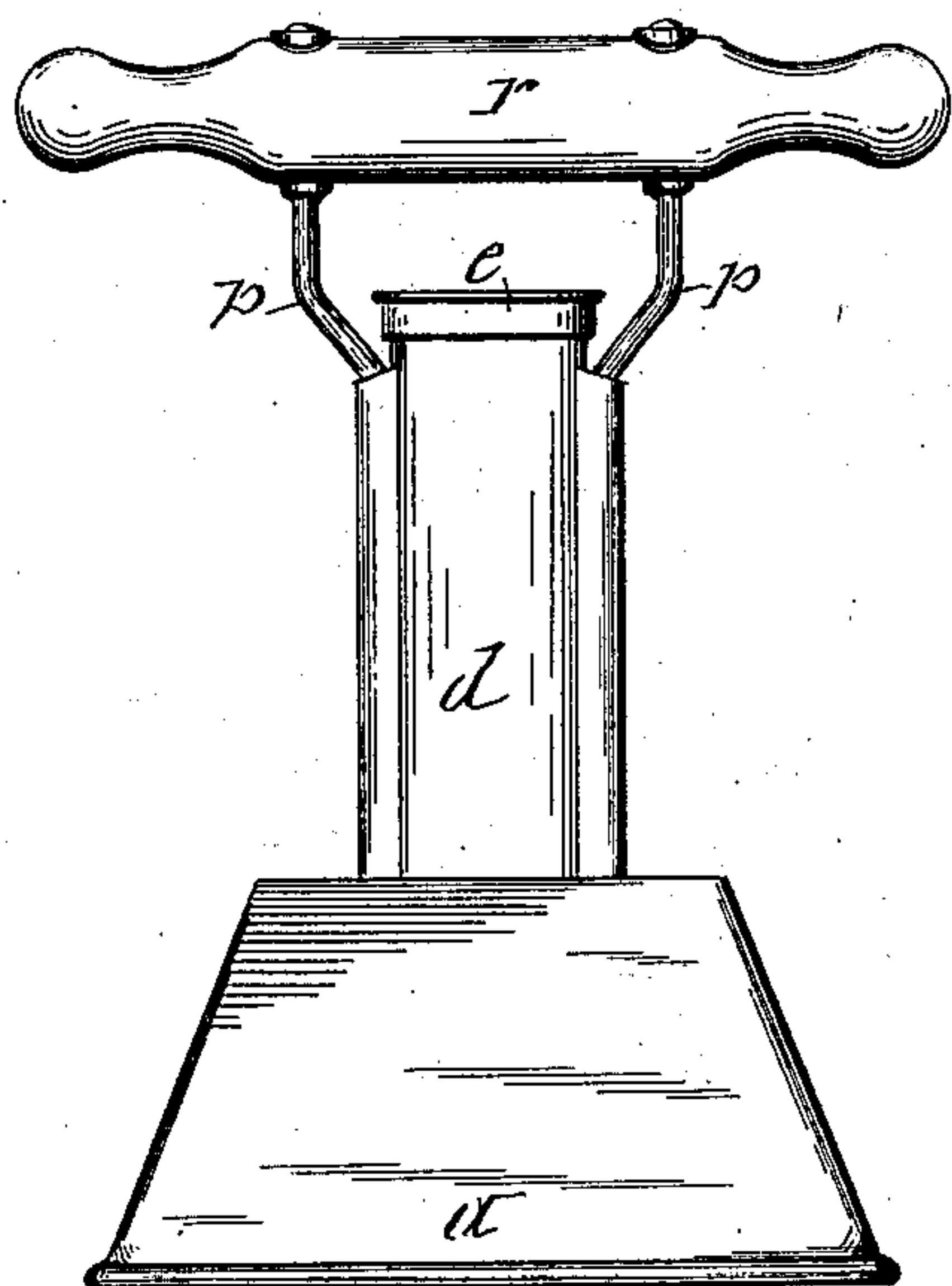


Fig. 1

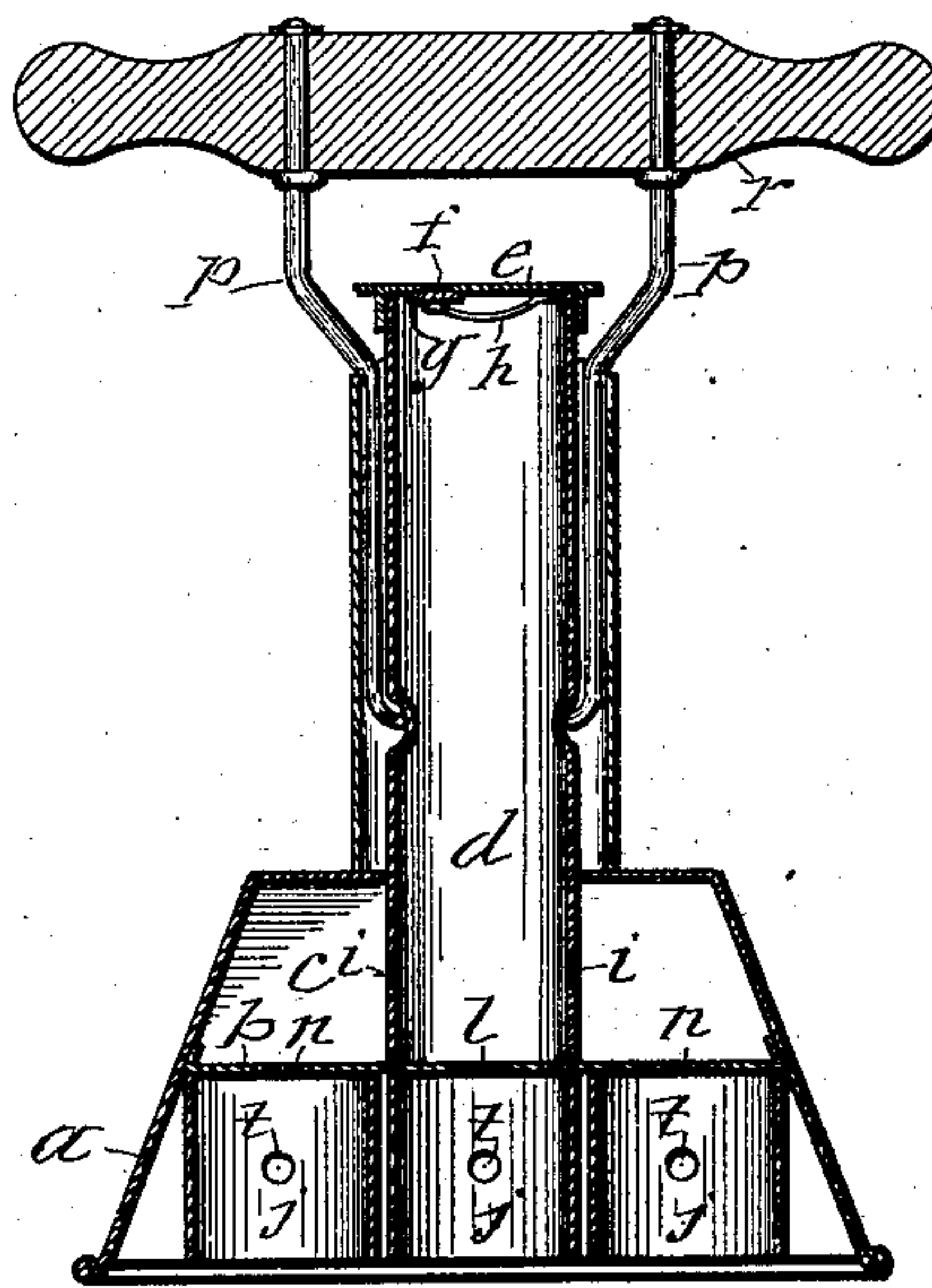


Fig. 2

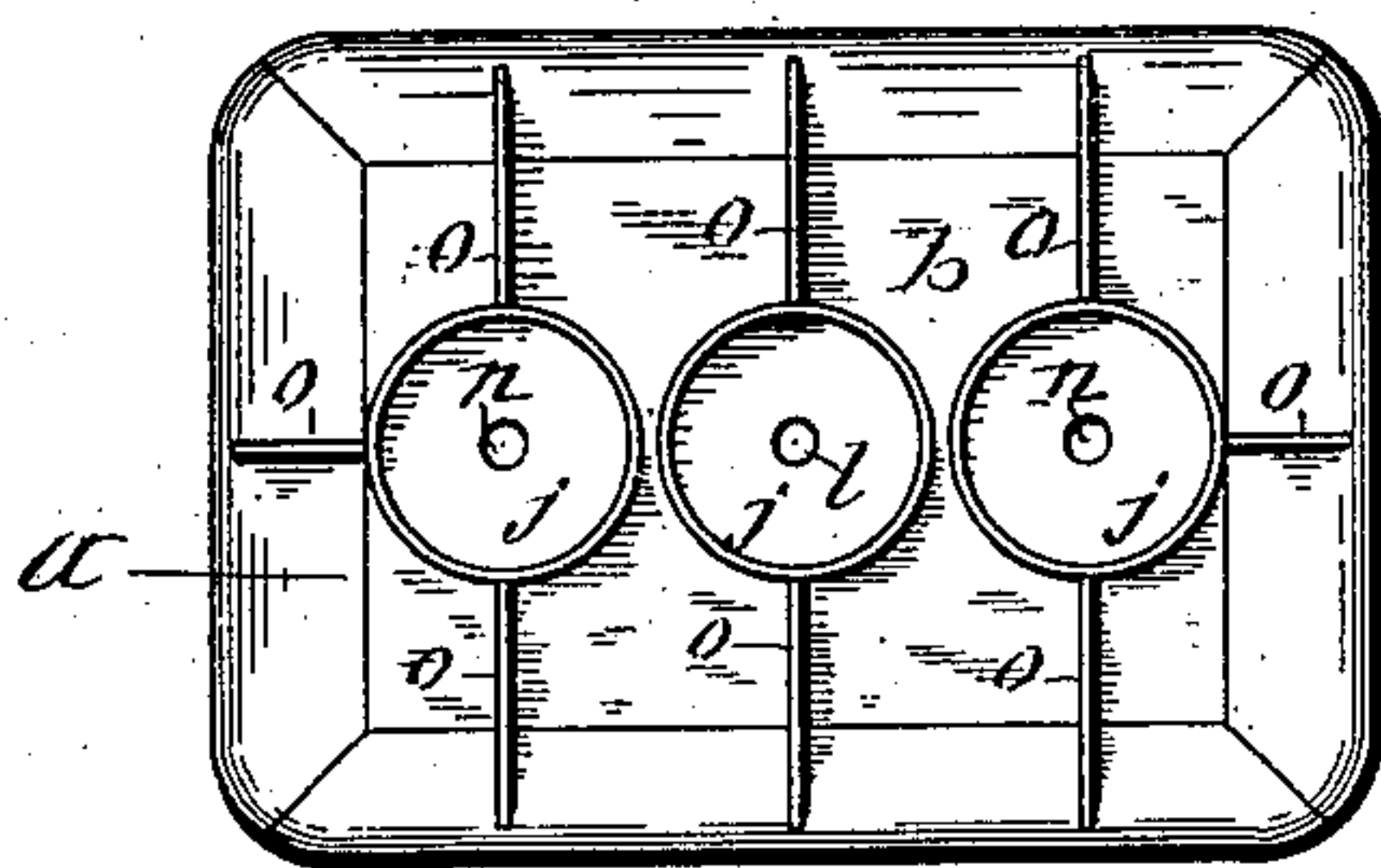


Fig. 3

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CLOTHES-POUNDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 744,518, dated November 17, 1903.

Application filed September 1, 1903. Serial No. 171,562. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LOIS S. ELLIOTT and EDWARD M. ELLIOTT, both citizens of the United States, and residents of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Clothes-Pounders, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to the class of clothes-pounders which are formed hollow and with air-circulating ducts which extend through the pounder and are provided with valves arranged to produce alternately air-pressure and suction on the clothes during the operation of the pounder in washing said clothes; and the invention consists in novel details of the construction of the clothes-pounder, which is very efficient in its operation, as hereinafter described, and illustrated in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of our improved clothes-pounder. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same, and Fig. 3 is an inverted plan view.

The base or lower end of the pounder is of the form of a horizontally-elongated pan *a*, the top plate *b* of which forms the bottom of an air-circulating compartment *c*, disposed directly upon the inverted pan *a* and extending across the top thereof.

d represents the main air-circulating tube, which extends vertically from the center of the plate *b* through the top of the compartment *c* and is provided on its upper end with a removable cap *e*, which is provided with a vent *f*. On the under side of the cap *e* is a valve *g*, which is caused to normally close the vent *g* by means of a spring *h*, attached at one end to the cap and at the opposite end to the valve. The lower end portion of the main tube *d*, which is inclosed in the compartment *c*, is provided in its sides with vents *i i*, which communicate with the said compartment.

To the under side of the top plate *b* of the inverted pan is attached a plurality of depending tubes *j j j*, the central tube of which is disposed directly under the lower end of the main tube *d* and communicates with the said tube through a vent *l* in the plate *b* cen-

tral of the depending tube *j*. The other depending tubes *j j* communicate with the air-circulating compartment *c* through vents *n n* in the plate *b*. The said depending tubes are sustained in their relative positions by means of partitions *o o*, extending radially from the exteriors of said tubes to the inner sides of the pan *a*.

To the main tube *d* are attached diverging braces *p p*, to the upper ends of which is fastened the handle *r*, by which to manipulate the pounder.

In pressing the described clothes-pounder down on the clothes deposited in the wash-tub the air in the pounder becomes entrapped and is compressed therein, and thus forms on the bottom of the pounder an elastic face pressing on the clothes and forcing the soiled water out of them. In the subsequent operation of lifting the pounder a suction is produced therein which opens the valve *g*, and thus admits air through the main tube *d*, from whence the air passes through the vents into the compartment *c* and central depending tube *j* and at the same time allows air to pass from the said compartment through the vents *n n* to the subjacent depending tubes *j j*. This influx of air releases the pounder from the clothes which may have been forced into the depending tubes and allows the pounder to be shifted to bear on another portion of the clothes. This alternate compression and suction of air in the pounder and the distribution of the circulating air through the compartment over the inverted pan and through the plurality of tubes in the inverted pan *a* cause the clothes to be thoroughly washed across the entire face of the pounder without subjecting said clothes to liability of being torn or injured during the process. To cause a more thorough circulation of the air and water in the pan *a* during the operation of the pounder, we provide the sides of the depending tubes *j j j* with vents *t*, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

What we claim as our invention is—

1. The improved clothes-pounder consisting of an inverted pan, an air-circulating compartment formed upon the top plate of the pan and extending across said plate, a main air-circulating tube extending from the said top plate and through the aforesaid compart-

ment, and being provided with air-vents communicating with said air-compartment, a cap applied to the top of said tube, a valve connected to said cap, a plurality of tubes depending from the top plate of the pan and provided with apertures in their sides, the top plate of the pan being provided with air-vents and leading from the interiors of the depending tubes to the aforesaid air-compartment, and vertical partitions extending from the sides of the depending tubes to the sides of the pan.

2. The improved clothes-pounder consisting of a horizontally-elongated inverted pan, a superposed air-circulating compartment having its bottom formed by the top plate of the pan, a main air-circulating tube extending vertically from the center of said top plate through the top of the aforesaid compartment and provided with vents in the sides of its lower portion communicating with the aforesaid compartment, a cap on the upper end of

said main tube and provided with a vent, a valve connected to the under side of said cap and normally closing the vent, a plurality of tubes depending from the top plate of the pan and disposed in a row extending lengthwise of the pan and with the central tube directly under the aforesaid main tube, and provided with vents in their sides and with a vent in the top of the central depending tube communicating with the bottom of the main tube, and with vents in the tops of the remaining depending tubes communicating with the air-circulating compartment, partitions extending from the respective depending tubes to the sides of the inverted pan, braces extending from the main tube, and the handle attached to said braces.

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