

No. 780,408.

PATENTED JAN. 17, 1905.

G. R. CHAPMAN & W. S. KENNEL.

WASHBOARD.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 8, 1904.

Fig. 1.

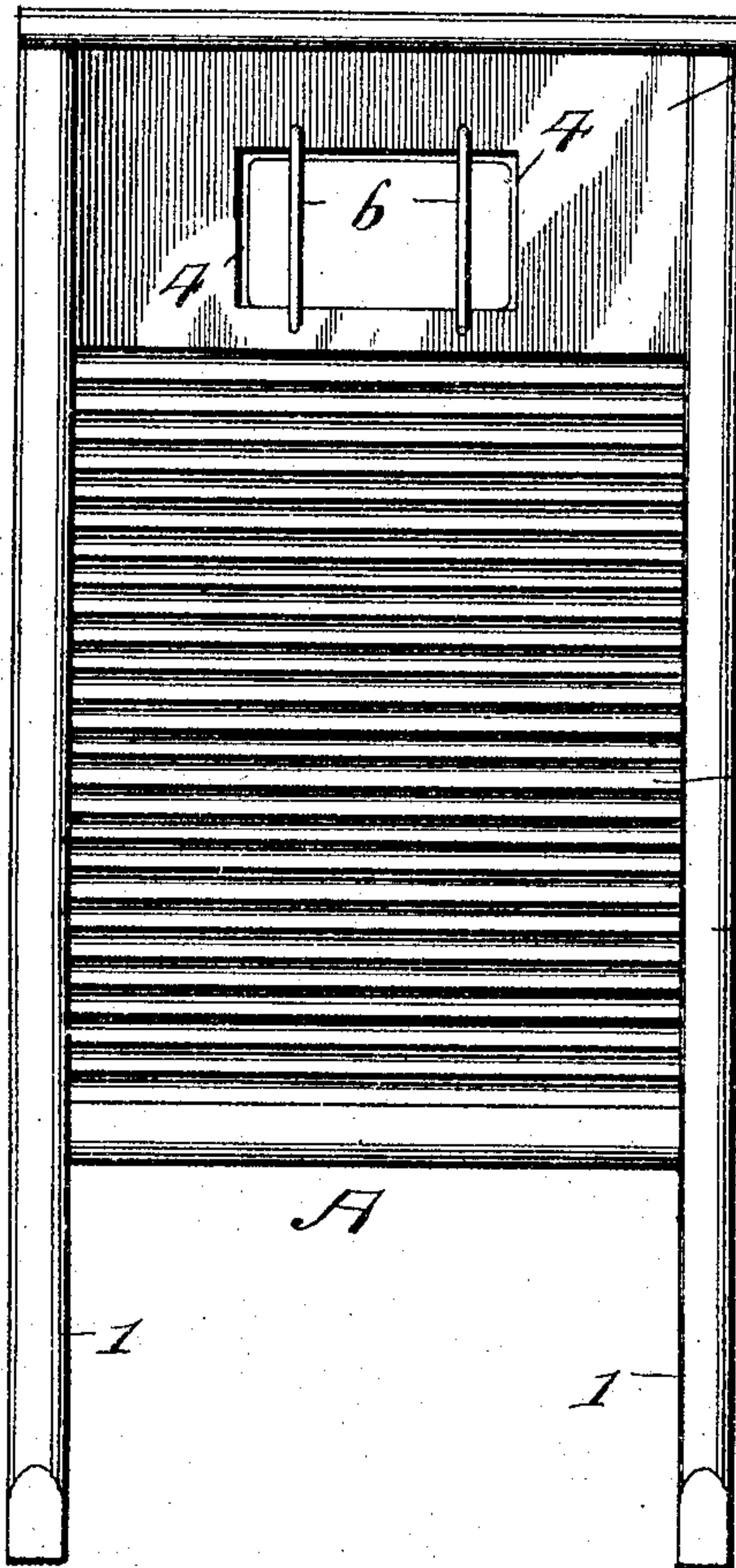


Fig. 3.

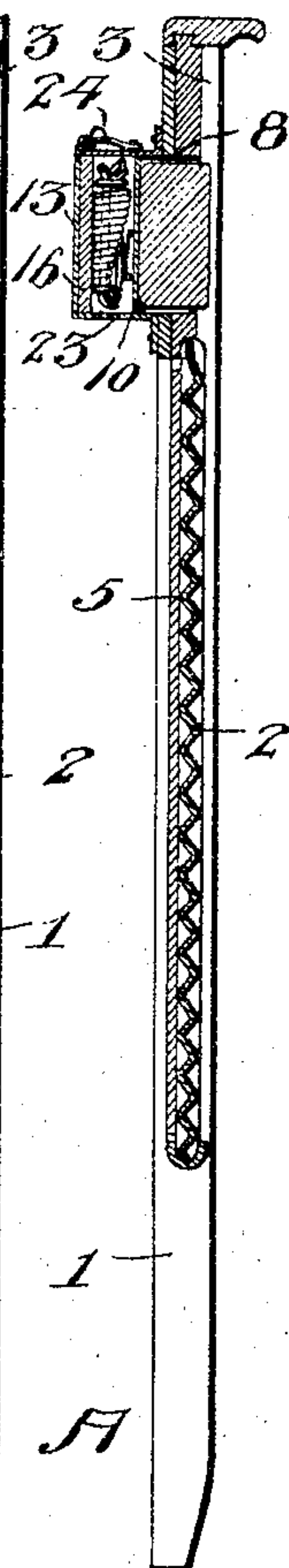


Fig. 2.

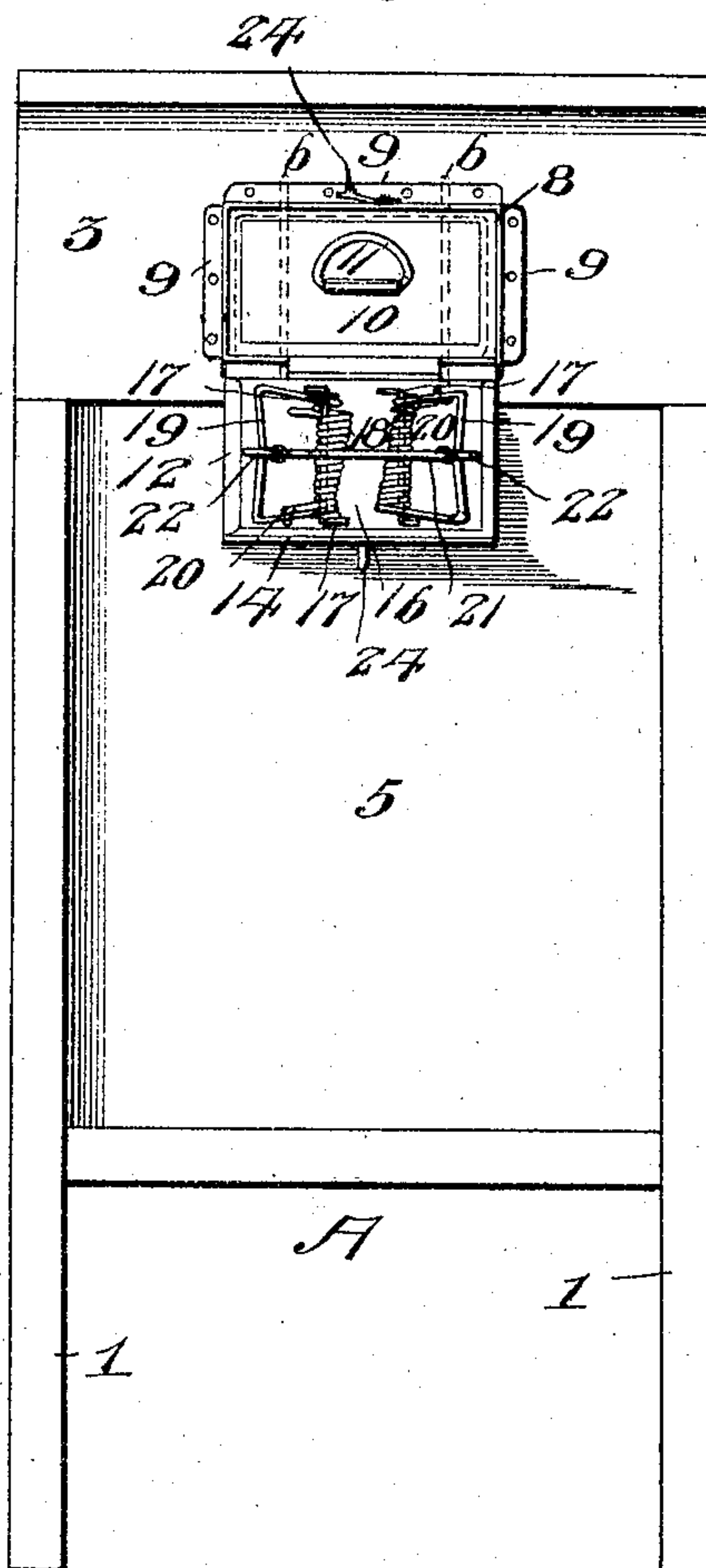
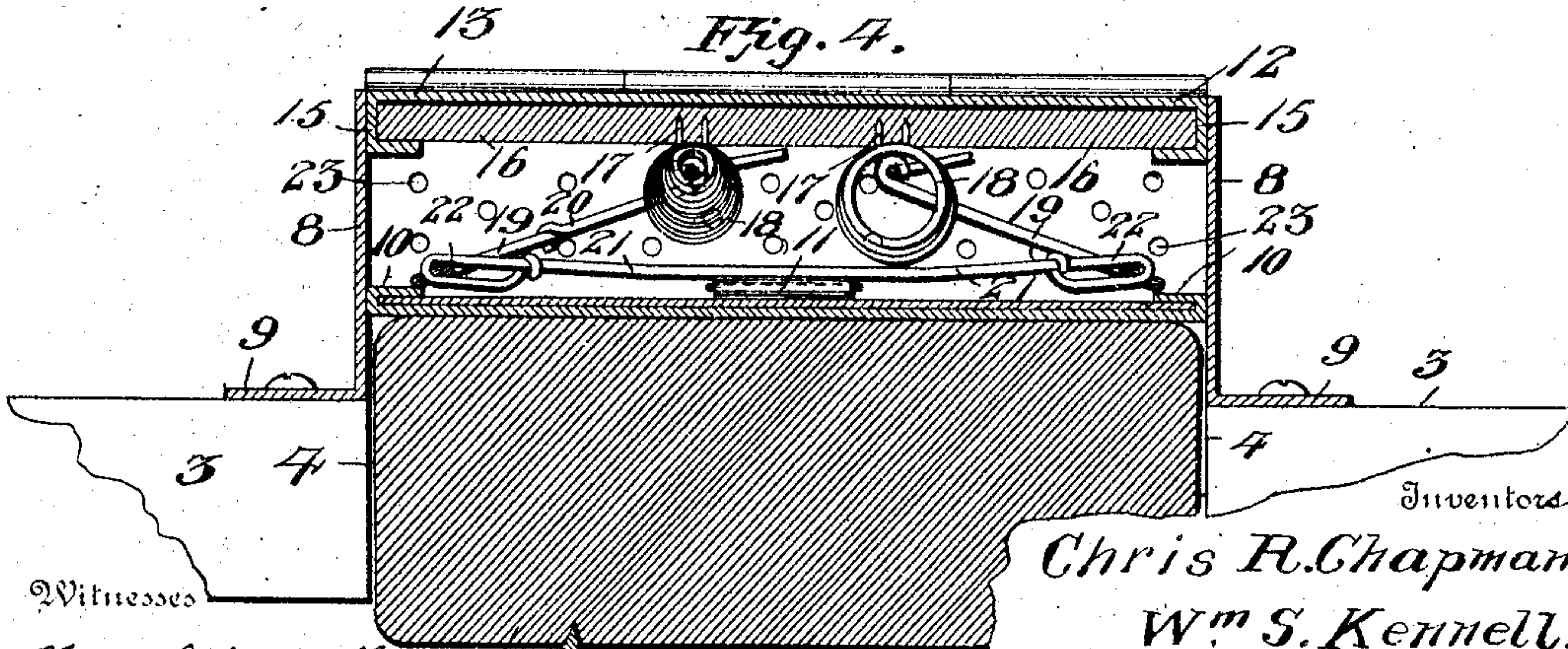


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WASHBOARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 780,408, dated January 17, 1905.

Application filed July 8, 1904. Serial No. 215,779.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHRISTOPHER ROWE CHAPMAN and WILLIAM SHERMAN KENNEL, citizens of the United States, residing at Amethyst, in the county of Mineral and State of Colorado, have invented new and useful Improvements in Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in washboards; and the object is to provide an improved soap-receptacle associated or combined with the board whereby the rubbing-surface of the soap will be moved and held automatically into position for readily applying the necessary amount of soap to the materials being subjected to the cleansing process.

The invention consists in the novel construction of parts and their combination in operative combination, as will be hereinafter fully specified and then the alleged novelty particularly and definitely pointed out in the claims.

We have fully and clearly illustrated our improvements in the annexed drawings, to be taken as a part of this specification, and wherein—

Figure 1 is a front plan view of the entire board, showing the opening in the upper plate of the board with the retaining-bars arranged across the same. Fig. 2 is a rear or back view of the board, showing the soap-receptacle as positioned therein and the lid of the receptacle turned back. Fig. 3 is a vertical central section through the board and the soap-receptacle, indicating a piece of soap as being held in the required position. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal vertical section through the soap-receptacle, indicating the follower, which moves the soap into rubbing position, and the springs as applied between the cover of the box and the follower.

In the drawings the same parts appearing in different figures are designated by similar reference-notations, and reference being had thereto, A designates a washboard of the usual construction, consisting of a suitable frame 1, a metal rubbing-surface 2, above which is a solid wooden plate 3, formed with an opening 4 to take in the soap, and the board is

provided with a wooden back 5. All the parts of the board may be of any suitable construction and our improvements be applied thereto, which are applicable to any style of boards now on the market of the general make-up of that shown in the drawings.

6 designates wires secured across the opening 4, as shown in Fig. 1. These wires serve to keep the cake of soap in proper position while being used, and being made with sharpened under edges, as indicated at 7 in Fig. 4, the soap is pressed upward against them, and thus the wires cut into the soap, so that the rubbing-surface of the soap will always project above them and present its surface in position to be applied to the clothes.

To the rear face of the plate 3 is positioned a box-frame 8, made of some suitable non-corrodible sheet metal and of such dimensions as will suit to the purposes intended of permitting the cake of soap to be inserted and to provide room for the convenient housing of the mechanism. The box-frame is formed with base-flanges 9, through which fastening screws or nails are projected to hold the box-frame in position to the plate and with the inner walls in registration with the walls of the opening in the plate, substantially as seen in the drawings. A follower 10 is fitted in the box-frame and provided with a finger-piece 11, whereby the follower may be withdrawn and replaced in the box as occasion may require. This follower is adapted to set with its inner face against the soap cake and by the means provided push the cake into contact with the bars 6 and, as mentioned, keep the rubbing-surface of the soap always in position for supplying the soap to the wash material. To the upper edge of one side of the box is hinged a cover 12, which is made up of a metal top 13, having a downwardly-extending flange 14 along its free front edge to lap down over the upper edge of the box side and having its ends turned down vertically and then under parallel with the cover, as seen at 15, to form channels or ways in which the ends of a wooden plate 16 are loosely disposed, as indicated in Fig. 4 of the drawings. In the wooden plate are secured staples or eyes 17,

wherein are mounted two torsional springs 18, and on the central bars of the spring are pivotally mounted the arms of yokes 19, having the spring-acting arms of the torsional springs 5 secured to one of the side arms of the yokes, as seen at 20, in such a manner as that the yokes will be swung upward by the force of the springs, which force will be continuously exerted. To the cross-bar of each yoke are 10 slidably connected the ends of a lifting-bar 21. This bar 21 is made of some reasonably stiff wire and formed with loops 22, which loosely embrace the cross-bars of the yokes, as indicated in Fig. 4 of the drawings. The 15 bar 21 may be somewhat arched or bent to incline upward from their connections toward the middle and then have a straight middle portion, so that the bar will set over the springs and also bear with its middle portion 20 against the follower. The lower or rear wall of the box-frame is provided with a series of perforations 23, through which the drippings from the soap escape, and to hold the cover or lid in place when the device is in use, a hook 25 and staple 24 are properly placed to serve the purpose.

The utilization of the device is apparent from the description taken in connection with the drawings. All that is necessary to suc- 30 cessfully use it is to place the cake of soap in position, then put the follower in place, and then close down the cover and secure it.

It will readily be seen that the device is cleanly and economical in use, that it will al- 35 ways automatically move the soap into the position for handy application of the wash material, and the washer will never have to hunt for missing soap, since it can neither be knocked off the board onto the floor nor be lost in the

suds. When the soap becomes depleted by 40 use, a new cake can be placed behind it, and thus the diminished cake be entirely used up.

What we claim is—

1. The combination of a washboard having a soap-opening in its upper portion, bars se- 45 cured across the opening to prevent the soap from passing out of the opening, a box-frame secured to the rear face of the washboard in registration with the soap-opening, a follower 50 in the box, a cover hinged to the box-frame, yokes pivotally secured to the cover, a bar slidably connecting the free ends of the yokes, springs to swing the yokes to lift the bar against the follower, and means to hold the cover closed. 55

2. The combination of a washboard having a soap-opening in its upper portion, bars se- cured across the opening to prevent the soap from passing out of the opening, a box-frame 60 secured to the rear face of the washboard in registration with the soap-opening, a follower in the box, a cover hinged to the box-frame, a wooden plate detachably secured to the in- 65 ner face of the cover, torsional springs secured to the wooden plate, yokes pivotally supported on the torsional springs and swung thereby, a bar formed with loops at the ends to slid- 70 ably engage over the cross-bars of the yokes and adapted to bear against the follower, and locking means to hold the cover down on the box.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

CHRIS. ROWE CHAPMAN.

WILLIAM SHERMAN KENNELL.

Witnesses:

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C. A. WEBBER.