No. 791,597. PATENTED JUNE 6, 1905.

# M. C. WILKIN.

## WASHING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 24, 1902.

Fig. 1.

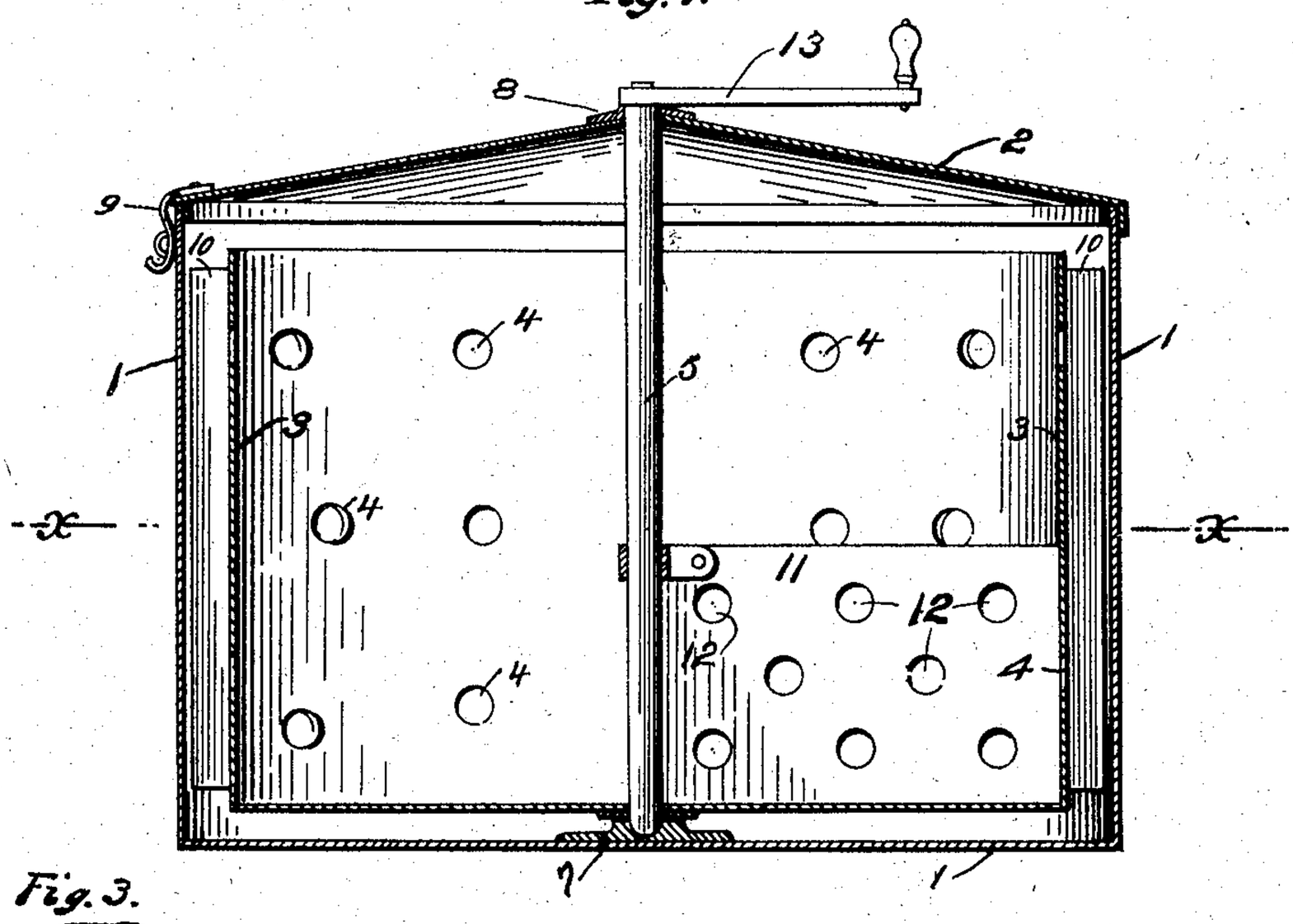



Fig. 3.

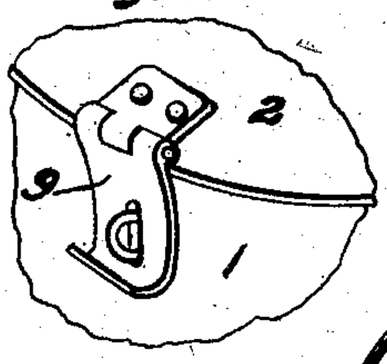
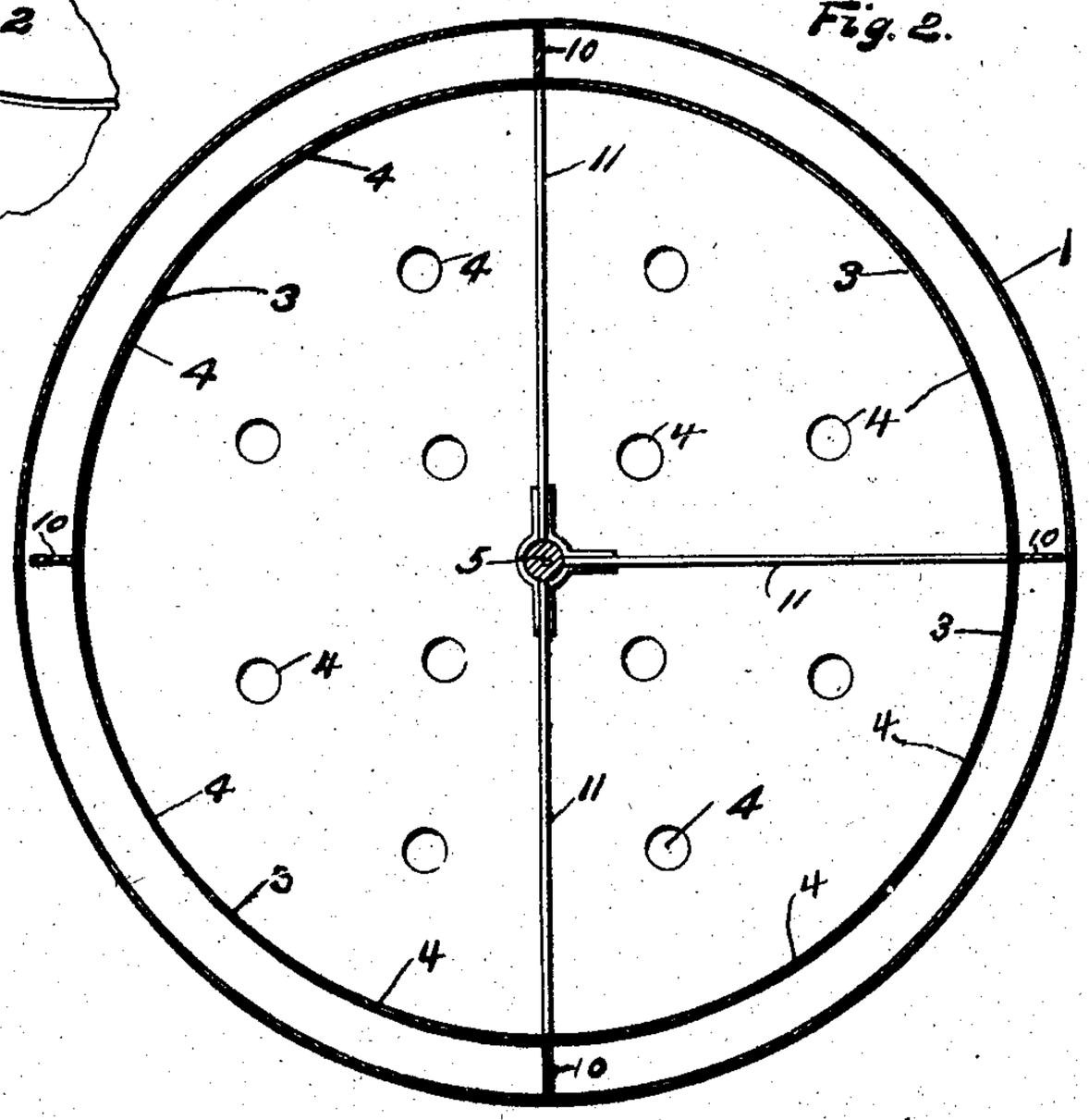



Fig. 2.




WITNESSES
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No. 791,597. Patented June 6, 1905.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARGARET C. WILKIN, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

## WASHING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 791,597, dated June 6, 1905.

Application filed February 24, 1902. Serial No. 95,470.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARGARET C. WILKIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Decatur, in the county of Macon and State of Illinois, (whose post-office address is 843 North Edward street, Decatur, Illinois,) have invented a new and useful Improvement in Washing-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in washers or washing-machines in the operation of which clothes, dishes, or other articles are placed in a vessel containing water, whereby such articles are cleansed; and the object of my improvement is to present improved means by which the water is forced upon, through, or between the articles to be cleansed, so as to wash and clean the same with a small amount of physical exertion and with thoroughness of result. I attain these objects by the mechanism shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of my machine; Fig. 2, a transverse section of the same through the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail showing the manner of securing the cover upon the machine.

Similar numerals refer to the same parts throughout the several views.

The machine comprises an outer water-tight vessel or boiler 1, which is open above and is covered by the lid or cover 2. Within the outer boiler is placed a perforated cylindrical vessel 3, which is open above and closed at the lower end, the side walls and bottom thereof being provided with perforations 4. Said perforated vessel 3 is secured to a shaft 5, the inner end of which works in a bearing 7, secured to the bottom of the outer vessel 1, while the outer end of the shaft 5 works within a bearing 8, secured to the cover 2. Hinged clips 9 or other desirable means may be employed for the purpose of securing the cover upon the vessel 1. Upon the outside of the perforated wall of the inner cylinder 3 I provide flanges 10. These flanges operate within the space between the outer and the inner vessels 1 and 3.

Partitions 11 are secured to the shaft 5 and upon the walls and bottom of the perforated vessel 3, forming compartments therein. These partitions are also provided with perforations 12. Upon the outer end of the shaft 5 is placed a crank or lever 13, which is adapted to turn or oscillate the inner vessel 3, operating through the shaft. When clothes or garments are to be washed, the partitions 11 may be removed or omitted from the machine.

The operation of my machine is as follows: The machine is placed upon a stove or other desirable heating appliance and a suitable amount of water placed within the machine, usually one-half to two-thirds full. When the water is well heated, preferably boiling, the garments or other articles are placed within the same. For best results clothes should be well soaked in water and "soaped" before putting them into the machine. When dishes or other utensils are to be washed, such articles may be sorted and placed in the different receptacles of the inner vessel 3, formed by the partitions 11. These partitions not being necessary in the washing of garments, the latter may be placed simply within the vessel 3. All being now ready for the operation of the machine, it is left standing upon the stove, so as to insure that the water will be kept hot or boiling while the operation proceeds. The crank 13 is given a turn—say three-fourths of a revolution—causing a corresponding action of the perforated vessel 3 and the articles which it contains. At first the water is not disposed to follow the motion of the machine and forces its way backward through and between the articles to be cleansed and through the various perforations, but shortly takes up the motion of the machine at about the time that the said three-fourths turn of the crank 13 is completed. At this point the motion of the crank 13 and of the same parts before mentioned is reversed by turning the crank in the opposite direction by a sudden or jerking motion. This causes the water to be forced through and between the articles to be cleansed from the opposite direction. The second stroke or turn of the crank is kept up for about the same portion of a revolution as the first, when it in turn is arrested and reversed as in the first case. So the action proceeds by succes-

sive reversals of the revolutions of the inner vessel until the articles are thoroughly cleansed, when they are removed from the machine in any desirable manner and other articles treated *ad libitum*. The perforations 4 and 12 not only permit the thorough circulation of the water throughout the entire machine, but they assist in agitating the water and in causing it to flow in currents through and upon the articles to be cleansed. I prefer to have said perforations in the side wall and partitions arranged in rows running at about an angle of forty-five degrees to the horizontal line, as shown in Fig. 1. Such arrangement best directs said flow. The flanges 10 likewise assist in the same operation. By this washer articles may be thoroughly cleansed in a very short time and with very little physical exertion.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination with the stationary outer vessel 1 and the cover 2 therefor, of a vertical shaft journaled in the bottom and in the cover of the outer vessel, an inner revoluble dish-carrying vessel secured to said shaft and having a perforated bottom and perforated sides, imperforate radial flanges projecting outwardly from the sides of the inner vessel and disposed parallel with the axis of the shaft, and perforated radial partitions secured to the shaft and to the inner vessel to rotate therewith, whereby compartments are formed in the inner vessel, substantially as specified.

MARGARET C. WILKIN.

Witnesses:
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