

No. 837,186.

PATENTED NOV. 27, 1906.

A. H. BRUCE.
SOAP HOLDER FOR WASHBOARDS.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 10, 1906.

Fig. 1.

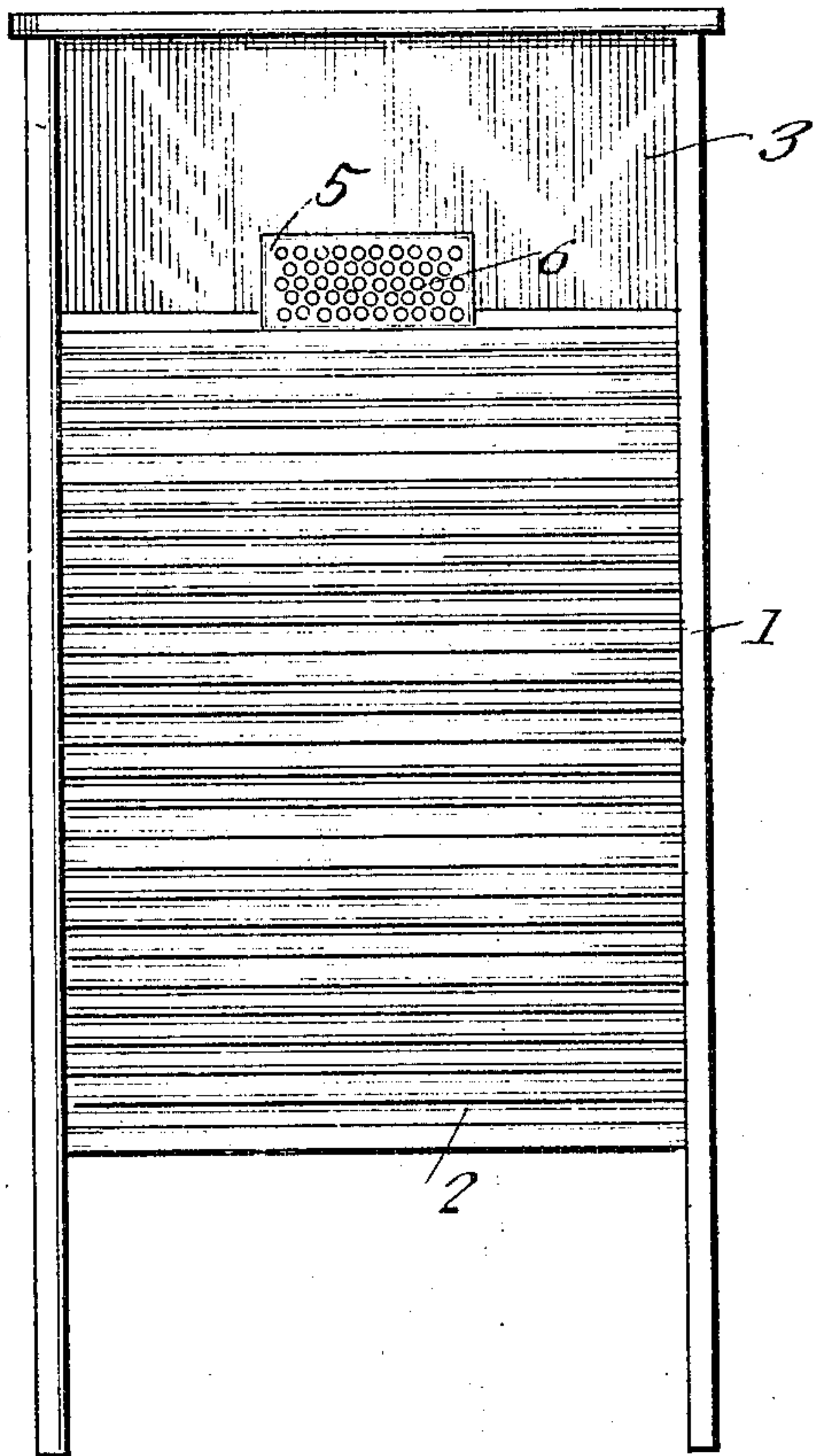


Fig. 2..

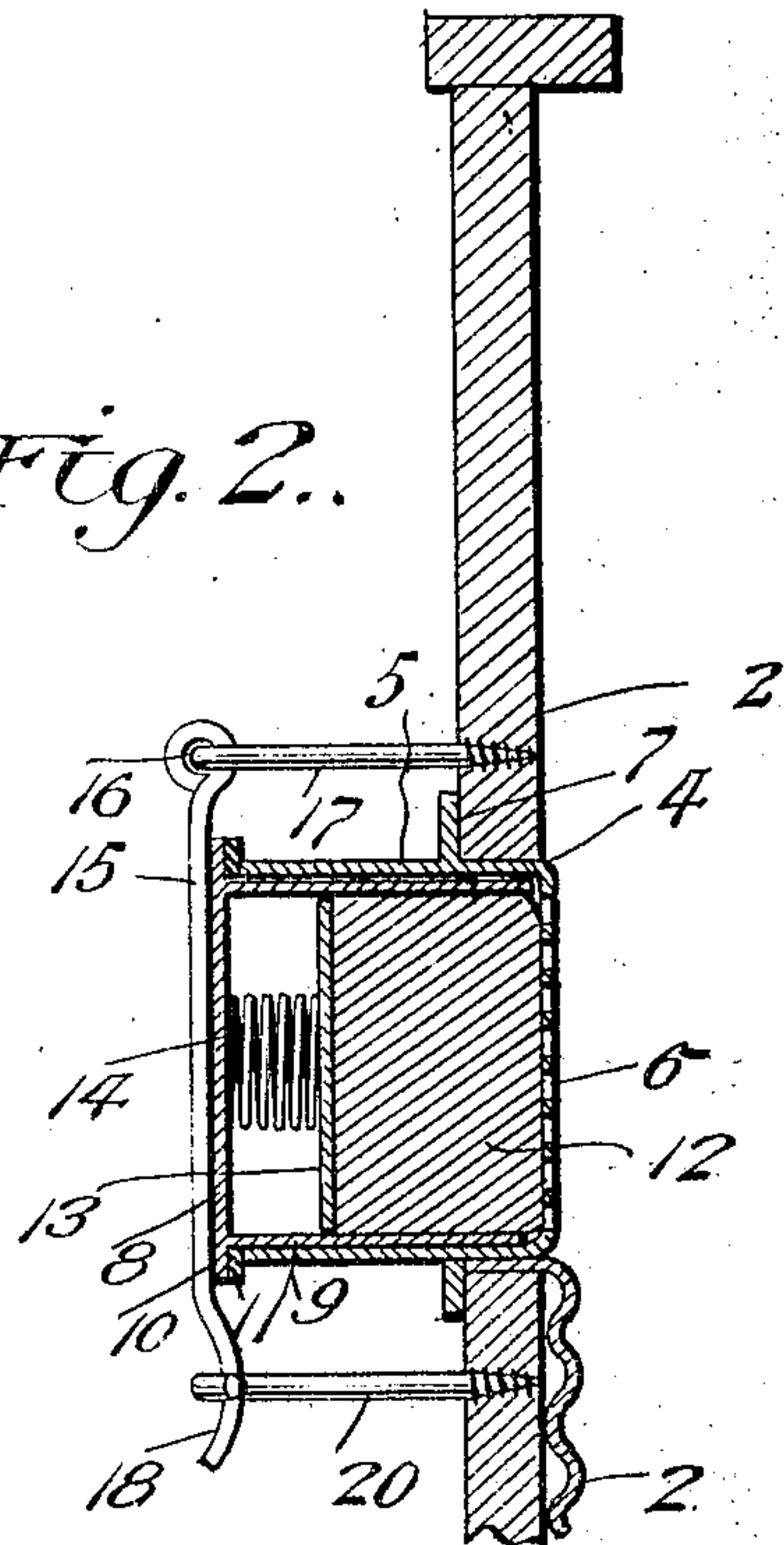


Fig. 4.

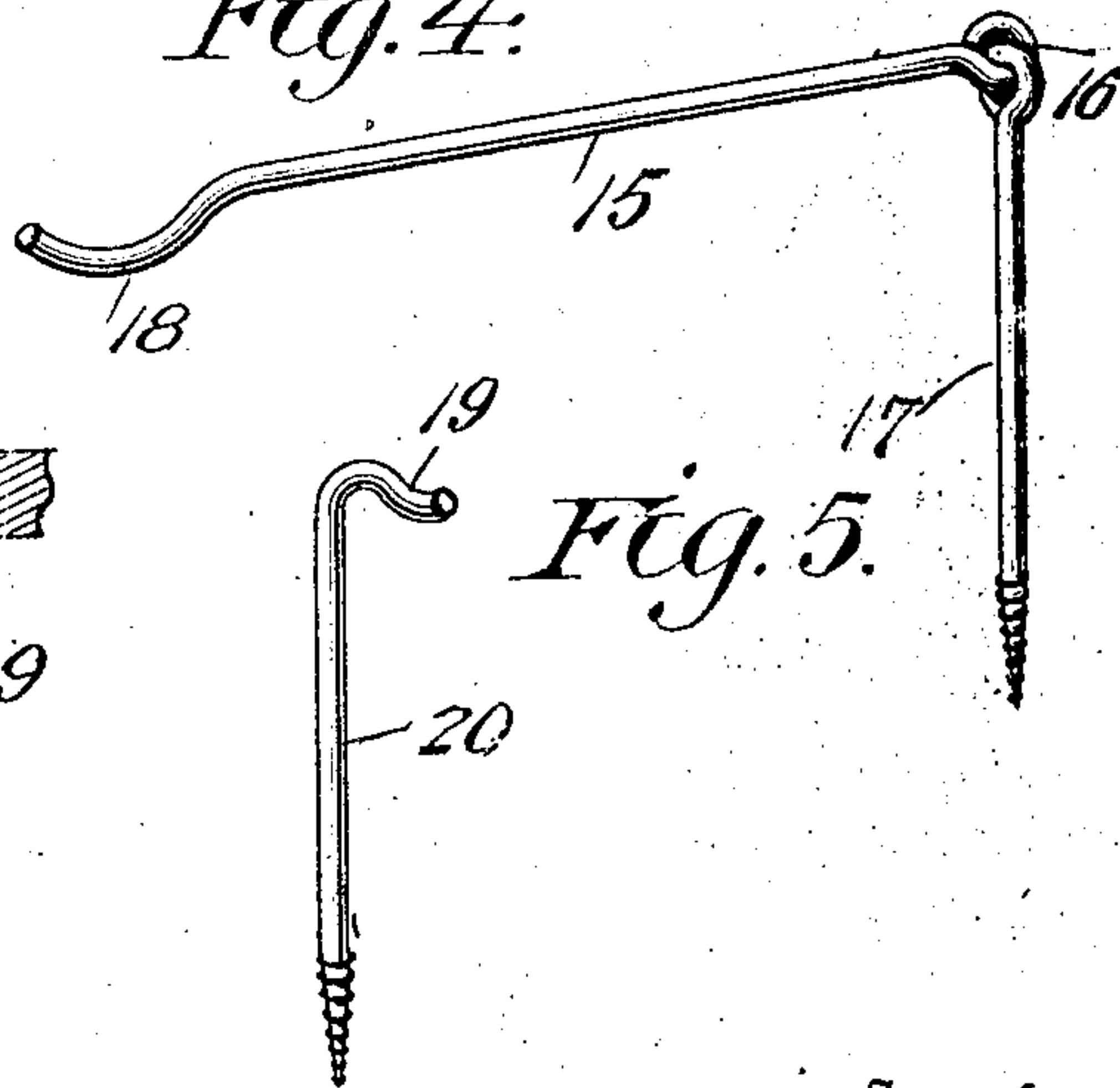
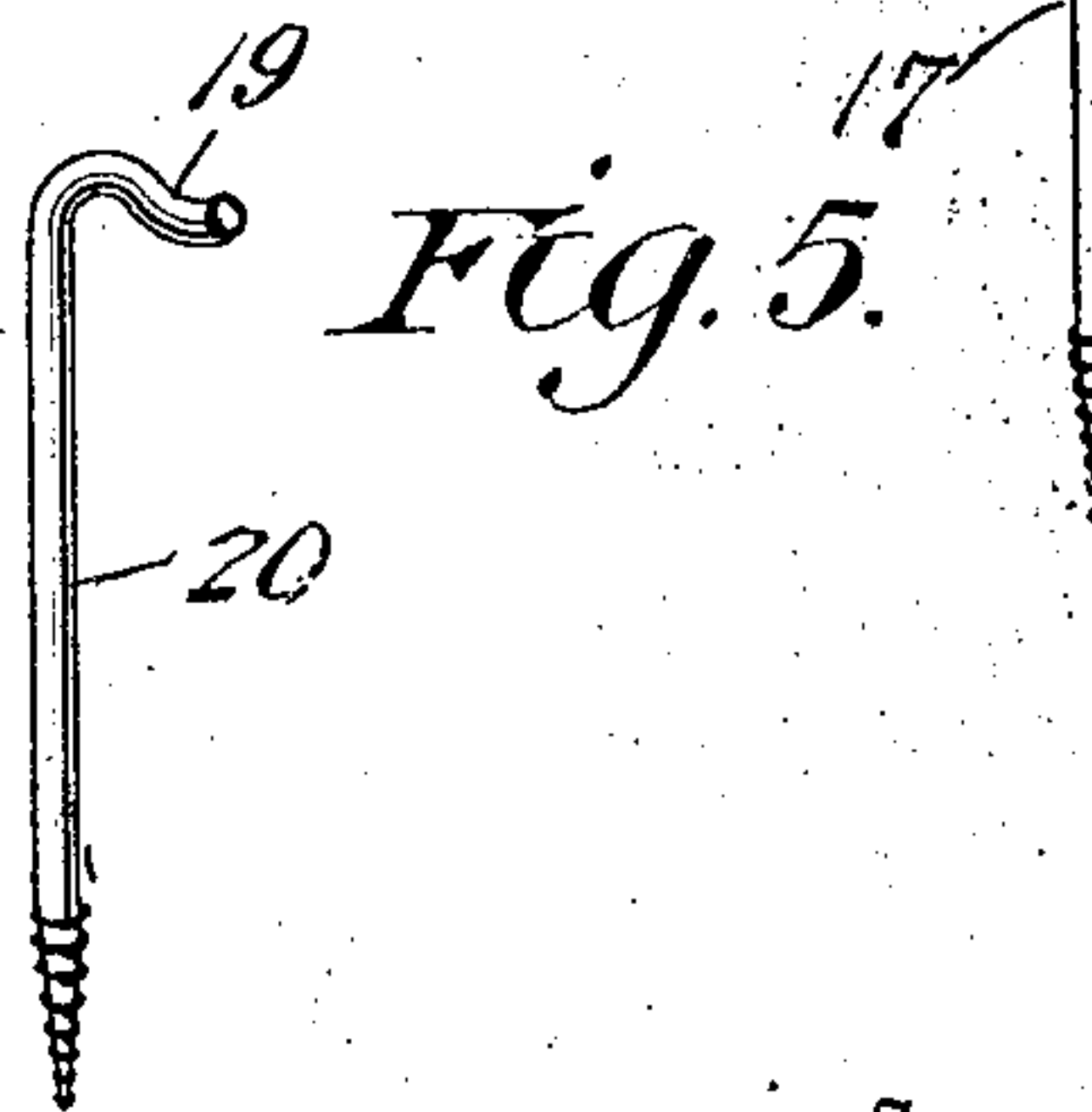


Fig. 5.



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Witnesses

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER H. BRUCE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

SOAP-HOLDER FOR WASHBOARDS.

No. 337,186.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 27, 1906.

Application filed March 10, 1906. Serial No. 305,376.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER H. BRUCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Soap - Holders for Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to washboards, the object of the invention being to provide a soap-holder for washboards, the said soap-holder being carried by the board and forming a part thereof and so constructed as to expose a cake of soap to the action of the water carried by the clothes over the front or working face of the washboard, whereby the soap is supplied in the proper quantity to the clothing during the rubbing operation.

A further object of the invention is to provide means whereby the various parts of the soap-holder are accessible, so that the soap may be readily removed and replaced or renewed, as found necessary, the soap-holder embodying means for advancing the soap as it is worn away in the washing operation until the last remnant of the cake is completely used up.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a washboard embodying the present invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged vertical transverse section through the upper part of the washboard, showing the soap-holder, the construction thereof, and the relation thereof to the washboard proper. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section through the soap-holder, showing also a portion of the washboard. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the latch and its support. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the latch-keeper.

In the drawings I have illustrated a familiar form of washboard, comprising the frame 1, the corrugated rubbing-surface 2, and the head part 3, which is ordinarily offset rearwardly to provide a pocket for containing the soap.

Under the improvement contemplated herein the upper portion of the frame of the washboard may be flush with the rubbing-surface 2 thereof, if so desired, and such head portion is provided with an aperture 4, in which is arranged a cup 5, the forward face

of which is perforated, as shown at 6, to allow the soap-suds to pass therethrough and downward over the working face of the washboard. The cup 5 may be of any suitable depth from front to rear and is provided with an attaching-flange 7, by means of which the cup and the soap-holder as a whole is secured to the back of the washboard, it being understood that the perforated face 6 of the cup is located about flush with the corresponding face of the washboard.

Within the cup 5 is arranged a sliding soap-holder comprising a back 8 and a flange 9, which flange is shaped to correspond to the interior shape and size of the cup 5, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 3. The back 8 is extended to form a projecting flange 10, and to the inner surface of said flange is applied a gasket 11, adapted to rest in contact with the rear edge of the cup 9, so as to form a tight joint and prevent leakage. The forward end of the holder is left open and the front portion of such holder is occupied by a cake of soap, as indicated at 12, behind which is arranged a follower 13, which consists of a plate forming a seat for one end of a soap-advancing spring 14, the opposite end of which bears against the back 8 of the holder. The length of the spring is such that it will cause the follower 13 to traverse the soap-holder until it reaches and bears against the perforated face-plate 6, so as to subject every particle of the soap to the action of the water.

The soap-holder 8 is held in place within the cup 5 by means of a latch 15, pivotally connected at 16 to a support 17, shown in the form of a screw-eye, which is screwed into the back of the washboard. The free end of the latch is deflected or curved, as shown at 18, to engage the hooked extremity 19 of a keeper 20, which is also screwed into the back of the washboard, as shown, the arrangement of latch and its support and keeper being such that the latch extends across the back 8 of the soap-holder and holds the same with the gasket 11 pressed firmly against the cup 5 to prevent leakage.

To place the soap in the holder, it is only necessary to disengage the latch 15 from the keeper 20 and withdraw the box or holder 8. A cake of soap of the proper size is then placed within the holder and in front of the follower 13 and the holder returned to its place within the cup 5 and secured by means of the latch 15. As the wet clothes are

rubbed over the surface of the washboard water finds access to the exposed surface of the cake of soap and dissolves the latter, which passes outward through the perforations in the face-plate 6 and combines with the clothes being washed.

I claim—

1. The combination with a washboard provided with an aperture, of a flanged cup secured to the back of the washboard and provided with a perforated face which lies substantially flush with the working surface of the washboard, a flanged soap-holder removably fitted into the back of said cup and carrying a gasket which fits against the rear edge of the cup and forms a liquid-tight joint, a spring-pressed soap-follower mounted within said holder, and a latch for fastening said holder in place within the cup.

2. The combination with a washboard having an aperture therein, of a flanged cup se-

cured to the back of the washboard and provided with a perforated face which lies substantially flush with the working surface of the washboard, a flanged soap-holder removably inserted in the rear end of said cup and carrying a gasket which fits against the rear edge of the cup, a spring-pressed follower mounted in said holder, a latch connected to a support projecting backward from the washboard, said latch being arranged to extend across the back of the soap-holder and fasten the latter in place within the cup, and a keeper for said latch connected to and projecting backward from the washboard, substantially as described.

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

ALEXANDER H. BRUCE.

Witnesses:

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E. FAGUE.