

H. A. BIERLEY.  
WASHBOARD.  
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 10, 1909.

940,499.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

Fig. 1.

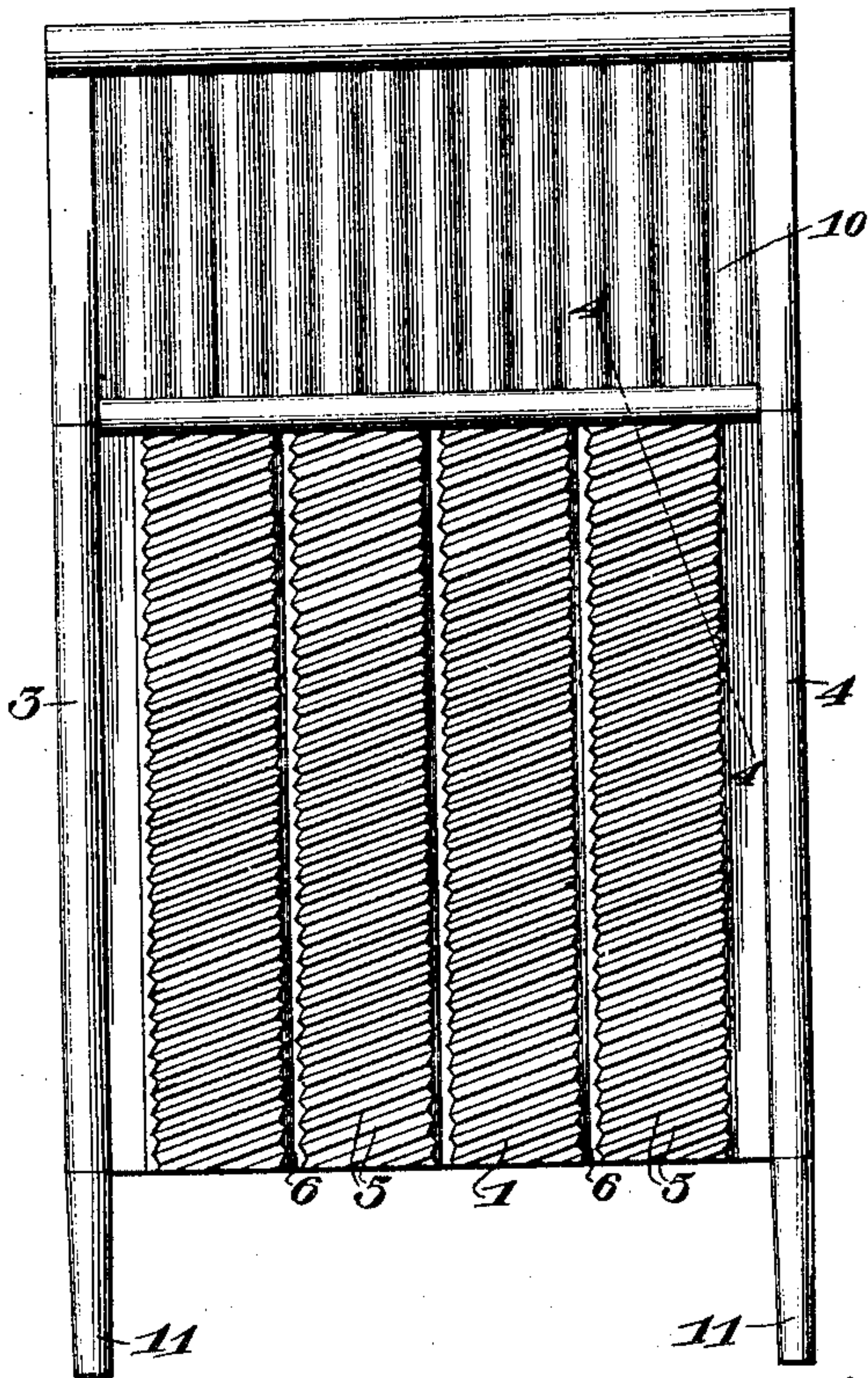


Fig. 2.

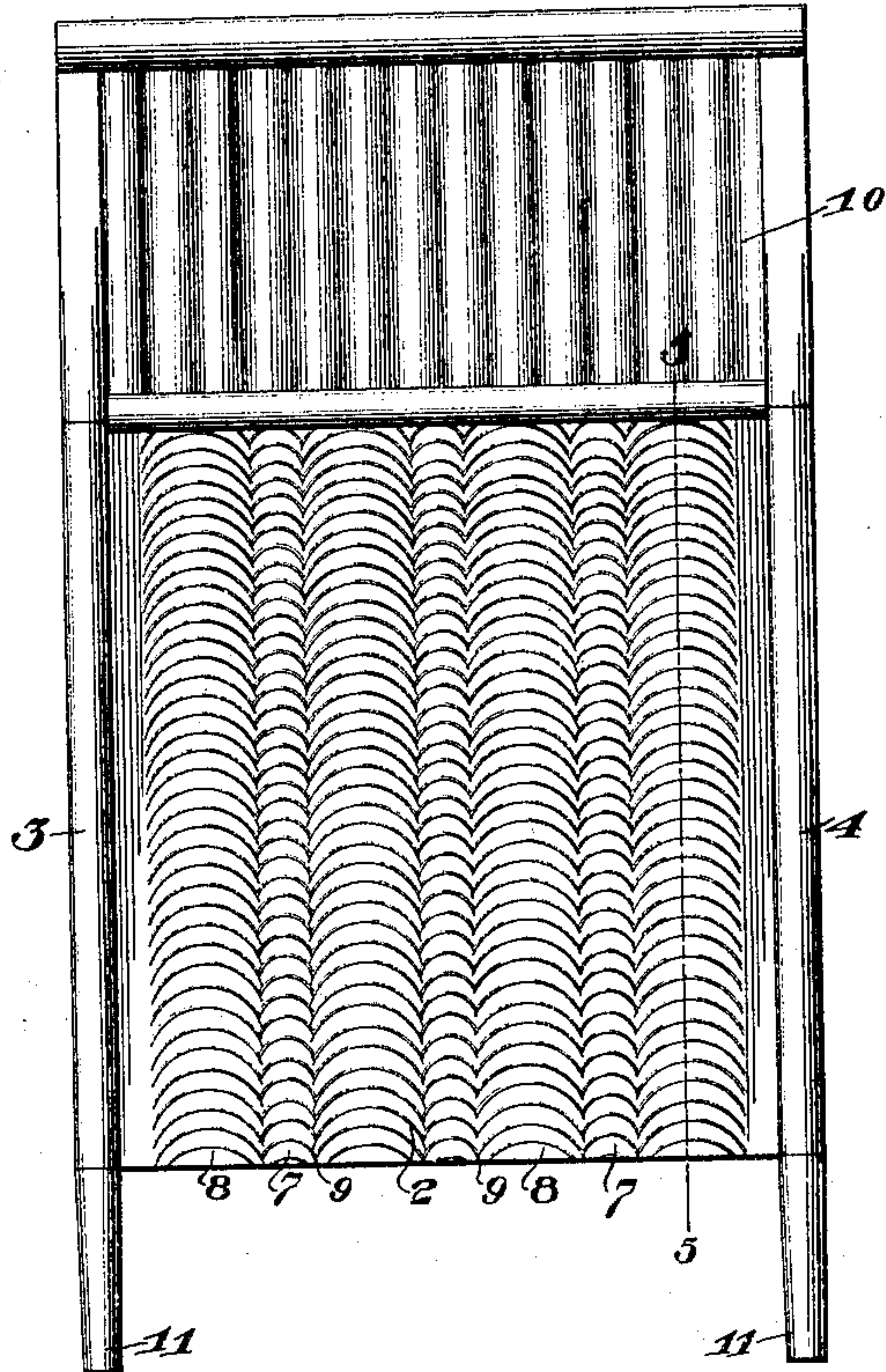


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

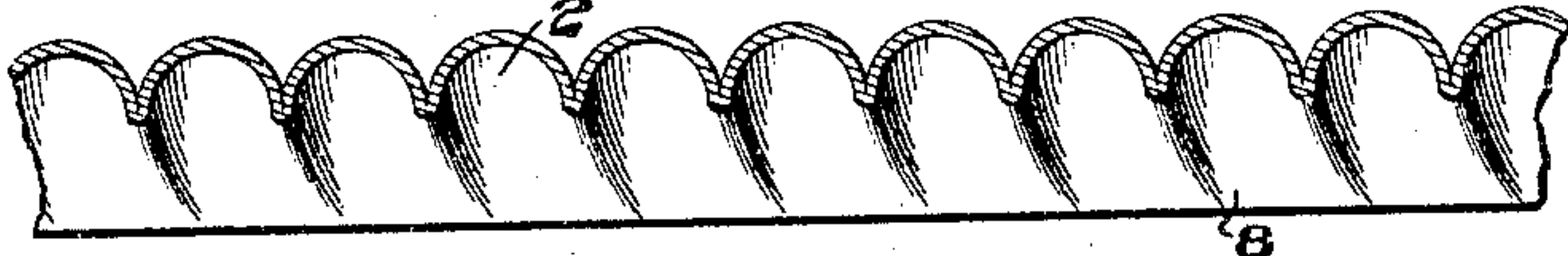
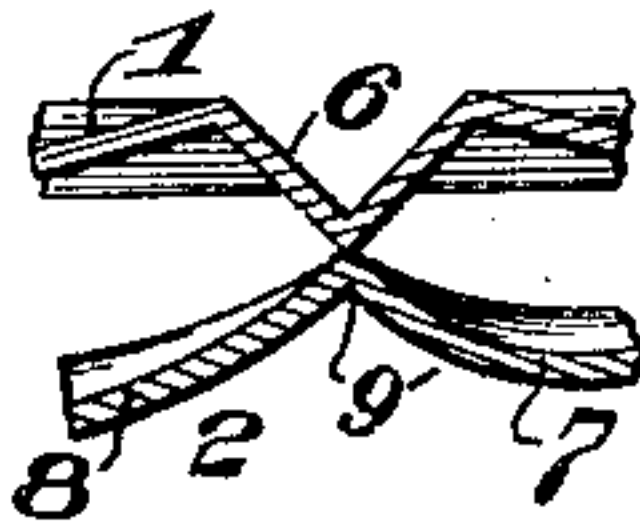


Fig. 6.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## WASHBOARD.

940,499.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 16, 1909.

Application filed February 10, 1909. Serial No. 477,139.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY A. BIERLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Portsmouth, in the county of Scioto and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in washboards, and the object is to provide a simple and inexpensive washboard, the main portions of which can be stamped out of sheet metal and when assembled, will constitute not only the washboard surface, but also the sides of the washboard.

In addition to the main object of strengthening, and economy of construction, it is the purpose of my present invention to provide means for facilitating the rapid disposal of water from the board during the scrubbing process, and to this end the strengthening ribs are utilized as drains for the quick disposal of the water.

My invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figures 1 and 2 are views of the opposite sides of the board, Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the board in its upright position, Fig. 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Fig. 1, and, Fig. 5 is a section on line 5—5 of Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a modification.

The board is mainly composed of two layers 1 and 2, of sheet metal, as shown in the drawings, placed back to back, with their opposite vertical edges bent into tubular form and fitted together concentrically or telescopically, as illustrated in Fig. 3, whereby the sides 3 and 4 of the frame of the board are rendered rigid, as well as smooth superficially, and given an attractive appearance, and they being integral with the sheet metal composing the washing surface, they afford strength to the washboard, and at the same time are easily and cheaply constructed.

The two surfaces differ somewhat from each other, although in some particulars are alike. For instance, the obverse side of the board illustrated in Fig. 1 has more or less sharp angular corrugations 5, all of which incline in one direction across the board, they being subdivided by the vertical or longitudinal channels 6, 6. These channels have two functions, one being to form strengthen-

ing ribs for the washing surface, to afford adequate rigidity to the surface, and the other being to constitute drains, each set of corrugations having an independent drain so that the water from the clothes being scrubbed is disposed of in the shortest possible interval of time.

On the reverse side, the washing surface is subdivided into alternately arranged short and long transverse corrugations 7 and 8, respectively, the line of juncture 9, similar to the rib-like drains 6, 6, on the obverse side, between said corrugations constituting strengthening ribs, and drains as alluded to previously.

The upper portion of the frame may be made of wood or other material, and the soap panel 10, of a sheet of corrugated metal, if desired, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, and the legs 11, 11, of the board, may be made of wood or other material, secured into the lower end of the side tubing or sides.

In the modification shown in Fig. 6, I have illustrated the channels back to back, and in engagement with each other, whereby each affords a support for the other, thus adding greatly to the strength of the washing surface.

In this way, I have provided a commercially inexpensive washboard, the initial cost of which is small, because so much of it may be made by machinery, and the parts may be so easily and quickly assembled. It also has the further advantage that it is of superior strength, and the construction is such that the operation of washing or rubbing is greatly facilitated.

More or less slight changes might be resorted to in the form and arrangement of the several parts described, without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, and hence I do not wish to limit myself to the exact construction herein set forth, but:—

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. As an article of manufacture, a washboard comprising in the main two plates of sheet metal, the extreme edges of which are bent correspondingly into tubular form, one fitted and held frictionally within the other and permanently joined whereby to give strength to the edges, and the metal immediately adjacent thereto bent parallel and



placed in contact with each other back to back whereby to afford support for the intermediate portion of the wash board.

2. As an article of manufacture, a wash-  
5 board containing in the main two plates of sheet metal, the edges of which are bent into corresponding tubular form, and held together frictionally whereby one reinforces the other and both together constitute a  
10 rigid frame at the opposite edges of the board and the intermediate washing surfaces ribbed or corrugated, and provided with longitudinally disposed strengthening channels which constitute drains.

3. As an article of manufacture, a wash- 15 board, the two washing surfaces of which are made of channeled and corrugated sheet metal, the channels forming strengthening ribs and drains, the backs of the channels abutting each other whereby to afford sup- 20 port to strengthen the washing surfaces of the board.

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

HENRY A. BIERLEY.

Witnesses:

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