

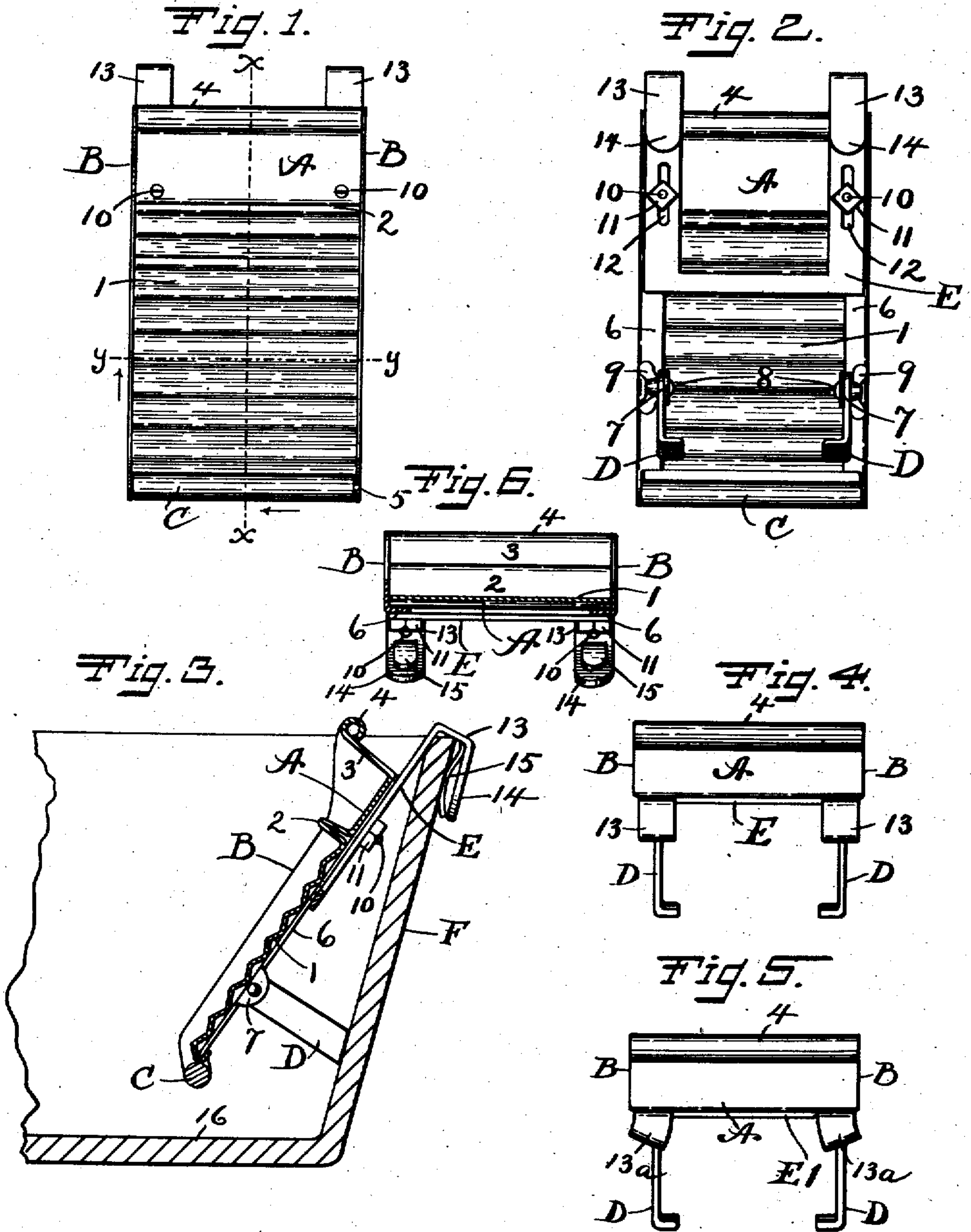
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WASHBOARD.

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962,046.

Patented June 21, 1910.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## WASHBOARD.

962,046.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 21, 1910.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ALFRED PENOVI and HARRY A. BREENE, citizens of the United States, residing at Port Chester, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improvements in washboards and the objects of our improvements are simplicity and economy in construction and convenience and efficiency in use.

In the accompanying drawing: Figure 1 is a front elevation of the washboard, with one lower corner in section. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the same on the line  $x x$  of Fig. 1, together with part of a wash tub in section. Fig. 4 is an end view of the same. Fig. 5 is an end view of a modification of our washboard. Fig. 6 is a sectional view on the line  $y y$  of Fig. 1.

A is the body of our washboard, made preferably of a strip of sheet metal, as of galvanized iron or zinc, of uniform width, having the lower portion 1 corrugated to form the rubbing surface, a sharp essentially 90° bend and return near the top to form the lower dam 2, and the surface above the same generally flat up to the top which is bent upward at 90° to form an upper dam 3 having the extreme outer end turned over into a loop 4. Flush with the sides of the said body A, are two side strips B also of sheet metal, one on each side, extending the entire length of the said body A from the upper dam 3, past the lower dam 2, along the corrugated portion 1, and also extending below the said lower portion 1, the said extended portion having lateral holes 5, one on each of said side strips B to form bearings for rotatively mounting a roll C. The said side strips have inwardly turned flanges 6 which bear along the bottom of the said body A, and downwardly projecting ears 7 projecting from said flanges 6 near the lower part of the said corrugated portion 1 to which are adjustably mounted in some suitable manner, as by screws 8 and nuts 9, downwardly projecting legs D. The height of the said side strips B along the upper side is such as to extend well above the corrugations of the said corrugated lower portion 1 along the sides and it widens above the lower dam 2 up to the outer corner of the upper

dam 3. The extreme bottom edge of the said body A, below the said corrugated lower portion 1 is turned back over the said inwardly turned flanges 6 and is rigidly attached to the same, forming a strong and reliable binding for securing the said parts together. The said body A and side strips B are rigidly united at all points of contact in some suitable manner, as by soldering, being thus made water tight generally at such points of contact and particularly so along the corrugated lower portion 1 of said body A and at the ends of said lower dam 2, so that the said lower portion 1 or rubbing portion of the washboard is inclosed at the sides and top by a dam or wall impeding the overflow of water at the sides and the splashing of water upward against the operator, resulting in a more efficient use of water and washing fluid and comparative immunity of the operator from splashing of washing fluid. In case any of the washing fluid happens to splash upward beyond the said lower dam 2 it will practically all be caught against the upper dam 3, under normal conditions, so that the body of the operator is practically protected from danger from wetting in using our improved washboard. The flat portion of the body A between the said lower dam 2 and the said upper dam 3, together with the said lower dam 2 forms a receptacle suitable for retaining soap, scrubbing brushes, and small pieces of washing. The roller C is rotatively mounted between the ends of the said side strips B and forms the extreme lower portion of the washboard. Adjusting screws 10 provided with nuts 11, pass through holes in the said upper flat part of said body A, and the side strips B, and through longitudinal slots 12 in the two arms of an adjustable supporting frame E. This adjustable supporting frame E is made preferably of malleable iron, of essentially U shape with square corner, the two arms provided at the top with hooked ends 13, suitable for hooking onto the edge of the tub F, the outward downwardly projecting end 14 provided with springs 15 for bearing against the side of the tub F. The said adjustable supporting frame E through the said hooked ends 13, serves as the general main support for the board and through the said slots 12 and adjusting screws 10 and nuts 11 permits of longitudinal adjustment of the said body A of the washboard, and the said adjustable



legs D, bearing at their lower ends against the side of the tub F, serve as an adjustable lateral support, so that in use the working part of the board may be adjusted as to height and inclination and furthermore is sustained clear of the bottom 16 of the tub, there being no legs projecting downward in the way, the extreme lower part of the board consisting of simply the roller C, as has been mentioned above. The said roller C makes easier the pulling the clothes up onto the rubbing corrugated lower portion 1 of the body A and in consequence thereof saves in wear and tear of clothes as well as labor of the individual.

The description given applies to a board particularly adapted for a stationary or set tub with a plane front side, but the same may be used for an ordinary portable, cylindrical tub, though in such a case it would be better to use a special supporting frame as E<sup>1</sup>, Fig. 5, having a special formation of the hooked ends 13<sup>a</sup>.

In special cases it might be desirable to make the adjustable lateral supporting legs D of special length or shape, and other features may be changed in detail.

As described, our washboard is made entirely of metal, and consequently constitutes a sanitary washboard, having the especial features of adjustable legs, an adjustable supporting frame, and a roller forming the extreme lower portion.

It is apparent that some changes from the specific construction herein disclosed may be made and therefore we do not wish to be understood as limiting ourselves to the precise form of construction shown and described, but desire the liberty to make such changes, in working our invention, as may fairly come within the spirit and scope of the same.

We claim as our invention:

1. A washboard having a body mounted between side pieces, the said body made of a single strip of metal, generally rectangular, and comprising a bottom edge, the general lower portion above said bottom edge corrugated for a rubbing portion, bent outward above said rubbing portion to form a lower dam, flat above said lower dam, and bent outward at the top to form an upper dam, the said side pieces comprising angle pieces having respectively an upwardly directed member and an inwardly directed member, the said upwardly directed member attached to the edges of the said body, the said inwardly directed member attached to the under face of the said body, and the said bottom edge of said body turned under and back of the said inwardly directed members.

2. A washboard having a body, side pieces and a roller, said body rigidly mounted between said side pieces and having a lower corrugated rubbing portion, the said roller being rotatively mounted between the lower ends of the said side pieces immediately below the said lower corrugated rubbing portion.

3. A washboard comprising a body member having lateral edges and a rubbing portion and a supporting member provided with means of support from the top edge of the tub, combined with means for rigidly and adjustably securing the said body member on the upper side of said supporting member, the said latter means comprising clamping bolts and nuts, working in slots in said supporting member and holes in said body member.

4. A washboard laterally adjustable as to inclination, supported from the top and side of a tub, and comprising essentially two members, one member composed of a body and side pieces rigidly secured together and provided with pivotally mounted and adjustable lateral supporting legs, and the other member comprising a supporting frame adapted to hook over the top edge of the tub and to adjustably receive the first member on its front face.

5. A washboard having in combination a body, side pieces, a roller, lateral adjustable supporting legs and adjustable supporting frame.

6. A washboard having a body, side pieces, a roller, means for supporting laterally, and an adjustable supporting frame for supporting from the top edge of tub, said supporting frame comprising a substantially U shaped frame having lateral arms provided with longitudinal slots for adjusting screws and with hooked upper ends.

7. A washboard having a body, side pieces, a roller, adjustable means for lateral support and adjustable means for longitudinal support from the top, said body rigidly mounted between said side pieces, said roller rotatively mounted between said side pieces, said means for lateral support attached to said side pieces, said means for longitudinal support comprising a U shaped frame provided with slots and adjustably clamped to said side pieces by means of clamping screws passing through said slots and clamping nuts.

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Witnesses:

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