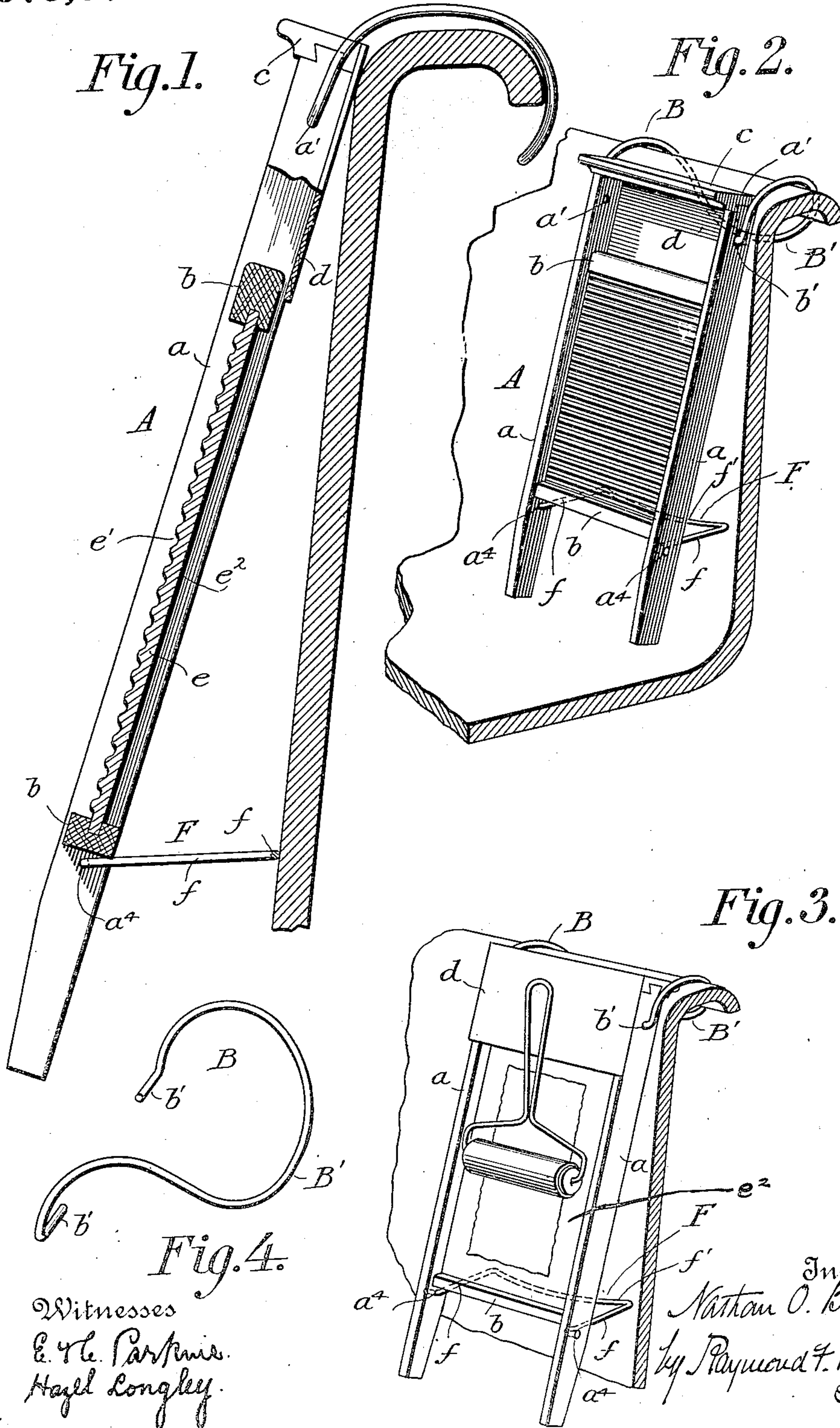


Patented Dec. 20, 1910.

979,371.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHAN O. BOND, OF HYANNIS, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO BERNARD F. MACY, OF ROSLINDALE, MASSACHUSETTS.

WASHBOARD.

979,371.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 20, 1910.

Application filed March 14, 1910. Serial No. 549,368.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHAN O. BOND, citizen of the United States, residing at Hyannis, in the county of Barnstable and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washboards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to means for temporarily holding or securing a washboard in operative position on the side of a bath-tub.

Under present conditions of living in large cities many people occupying flats and small apartments have access to a bathroom but have no means for performing small laundry work involving the washing and drying of small articles of apparel, such as collars, cuffs, laces, neckwear, stockings, &c., and under these circumstances it has become customary to utilize the bath-tub for laundry purposes. The ordinary washboard, owing to its shape and construction and to the conformation and smoothness of the surface of the tub, does not readily lend itself to this use and is difficult to retain in proper position.

The object of this invention is to provide means whereby a washboard may be readily attached temporarily to the side of a bath-tub and held firmly and securely in proper operative relation, and thereby adapted to this specific use.

The invention consists in providing a washboard with an attaching bail adapted to embrace the rim of the bath-tub and thereby secure the upper end of the board in proper relation to the edge of the tub, and in combining with the board a brace whereby the lower end of the board is supported and its proper angle in relation to the side of the tub assured, whether the legs of the board rest upon the bottom of the tub or not.

The details of construction and method of operation of the invention are clearly illustrated in the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section through a washboard constructed in accordance with my invention, the board being shown in attached relation to the side of a bath-tub.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view, illustrating the relative position of the board in relation to

the side of a tub. Fig. 3 is a similar view, with the board reversed, to present its rear surface for use in drying small articles, laces, &c.; and Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view of the supporting bail separated from the board.

In the drawings, A is a washboard comprising side bars *a, a*, cross-bars *b, b*, a top rail *c*, backing board *d*, and a rubbing board *e*. All of these parts may be of the ordinary and usual construction; it is preferred, however, that the rubbing board *e* shall be made of glass, and shall be corrugated on its front side *e'*, and smooth on its rear surface *e''*.

To the upper ends of the side bars *a, a*, is pivotally attached a bail B, preferably formed from heavy resilient wire. This bail is bent or curved backward as clearly shown in the drawing to form a loop B' of such form that it will embrace and hold over the lip formed on the upper edge of the bath-tub, and securely retain the board against downward and lateral displacement. The ends *b' b'* of the bail B are bent inward and form pivots adapted to engage holes *a' a'* in the upper ends of the side bars *a, a*, the spring of the bail serving to hold the pivots in positive engagement therewith, but permitting removal of the bail for the purpose of reversing the board as will be further described.

A brace F is pivotally secured between the side bars *a, a*, at a point slightly below the lower cross-bar *b*. This brace F comprises side arms *f, f*, and a cross-bar *f'* curved inward toward the board at its center in order to present two points of contact only to the side of the tub when in position. The ends of the arms *f, f*, are bent outward to form pivots adapted to engage in holes *a'' a''* situated a slight distance below the cross-bar *b*, the arrangement being such that when the brace F is rotated on the pivots to bring it into operative relation to the side of the tub, the brace F will assume a position considerably less than a right angle with the face of the board, in which position it will be held both by the weight of the board and by any pressure imposed upon the board while in use. When in this position the ends of the arms *f, f*, adjacent to the pivots bear firmly against the edge of the lower bar *b*, and hold the brace rigidly in position.

In order to adapt the board for use in drying small articles, the bail B is made re-

movable and reversible, and when so removed and reversed the board can be attached to the side of the tub with its smooth rear face in position to be used. When so arranged, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, the board may be used for drying laces and delicate articles, for which purpose a rubber covered roller or similar device may be used to press and force out the extra moisture.

While I prefer to construct the invention in the manner described, the attaching means can be variously modified and changed, as will be evident without substantial variation from this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to claim and secure by Letters Patent is:

1. The combination with a washboard, of a pivoted bail mounted at the upper end thereof and adapted to engage and hold the same upon the edge of a bath-tub, and a pivoted brace secured to the lower end there-

of adapted to bear against the inner side of the tub and retain the board in operative position.

2. The combination with a washboard of a pivoted bail detachably secured to the upper end thereof and comprising a curved central portion adapted by its configuration to engage the edge of a bath-tub, and ears adapted to engage in holes in the upper ends of said board, and a pivoted brace mounted in holes in the side bars of said board near the lower cross bar and adapted to bear against said bar and against the side of the tub in such manner as to hold the board in operative relation to said tub, substantially as described.

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

NATHAN O. BOND.

Witnesses:

E. H. PARKINS,
HAZEL LONGLEY.