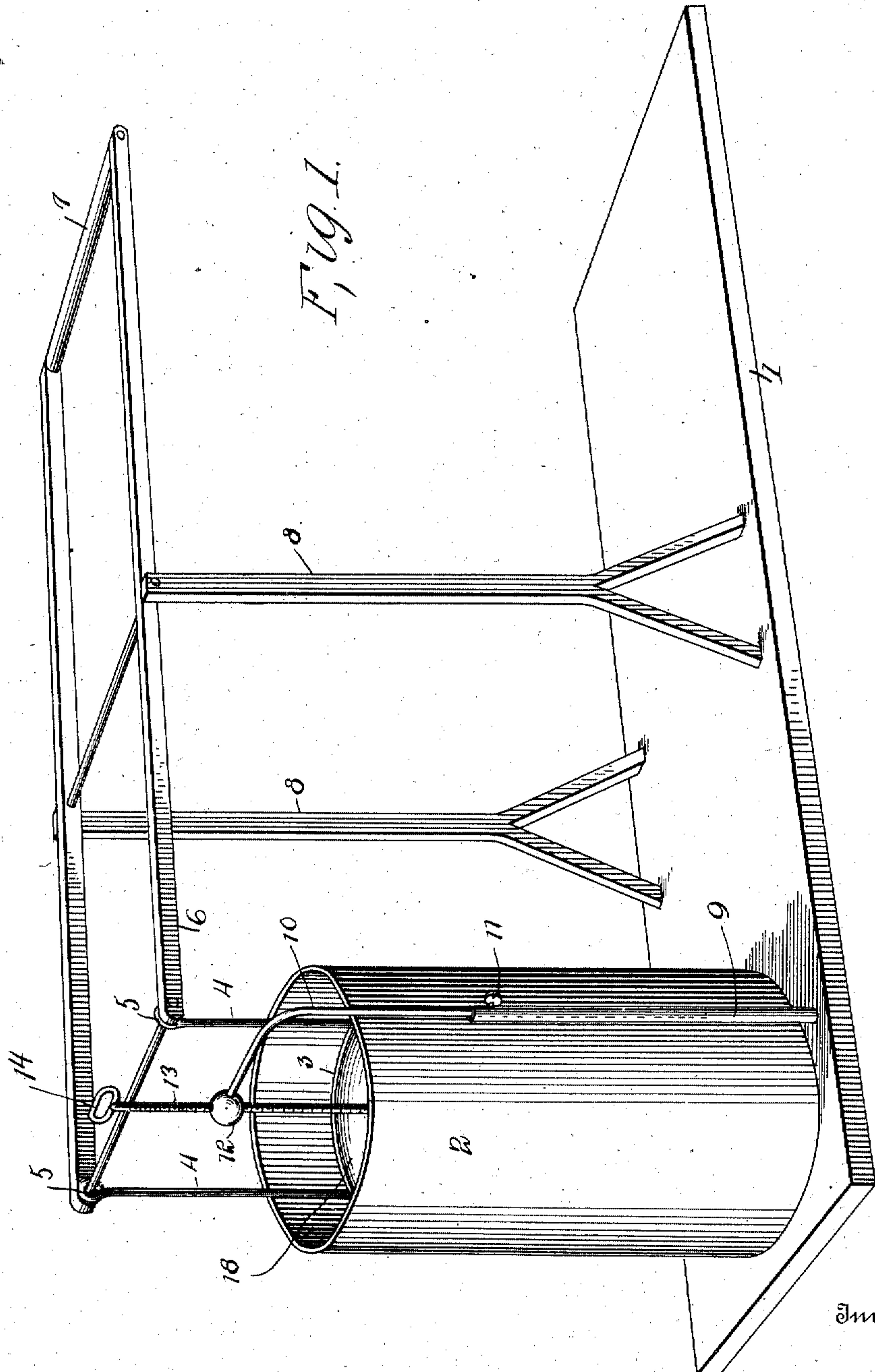


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WASHING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1910.

985,315.

Patented Feb. 28, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Inventor

Townsend Wright.

By

Victor J. Evans

Attorney

Witnesses
William Smith

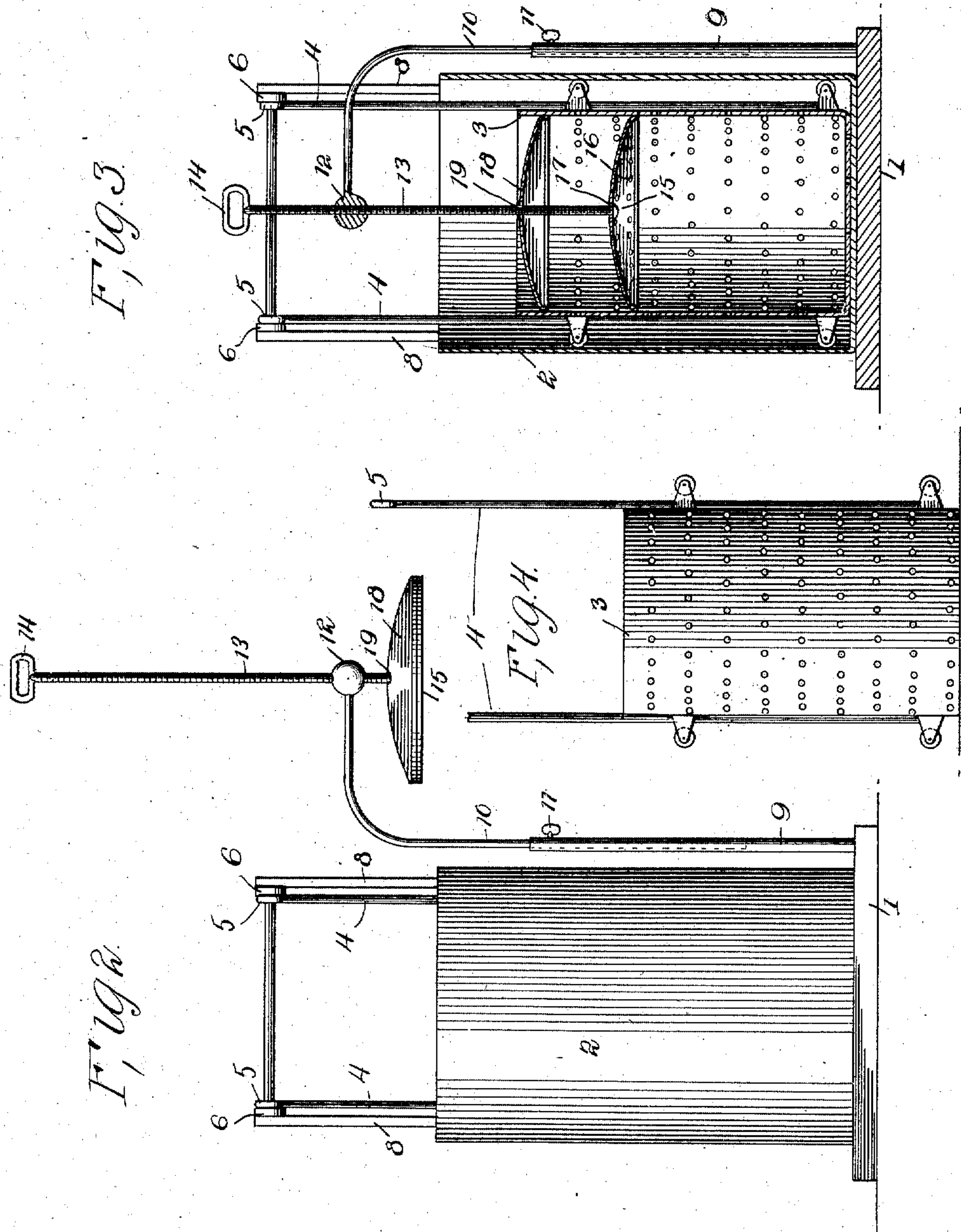
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TOWNSEND WRIGHT, OF FAYETTE, MISSOURI.

WASHING-MACHINE.

985,315.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 28, 1911.

Application filed June 8, 1910. Serial No. 565,882.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TOWNSEND WRIGHT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fayette, in the county of Howard and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to washing machines, the object being to provide an easily operated and simple construction of machine which will insure an effective agitation of the clothes and suds water, and the thorough cleansing of the clothes within a minimum period of time.

The invention consists of the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a washing machine embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a detail view, showing the cover and abutment swung back for the removal of the basket from the casing; Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section through the casing and basket; Fig. 4 is a detail view of the basket.

Referring to the drawing, 1 designates a supporting base or stand, on which is arranged an imperforate washing cylinder, tub or casing 2 which may be constructed of any suitable material. This tub or casing is designed to contain the suds water or cleansing solution used in the washing operation.

The clothes to be washed are placed within a basket or receptacle 3 having perforated side and bottom walls and open at the top, said basket being of sufficiently less height and diameter than the casing to provide for its reciprocation in a vertical plane and to form an intervening surrounding channel or space for the circulation of the suds water. The basket shown in the present instance is formed of sheet metal having perforations therein, but it may be formed of wire or other suitable reticulated material. Supporting rods 4 are secured longitudinally to diametrically opposite sides of the basket and project above the same and are pivotally connected at their upper ends 5 to one end of a walking beam lever 6 having an operating bar or handle 7, said lever being pivotally mounted upon spaced standards 8 projecting upwardly from the base 1. By oscillating this lever in a vertical plane, the

basket will be reciprocated within the casing, as will be readily understood.

Mounted upon the base, adjacent the casing, is a hollow post or standard 9 receiving a rod or crane arm 10, adjustably secured thereto by a set screw 11. The curved end of the arm of the crane is designed to overhang the casing 2 and is provided with a threaded bearing 12 for a vertically disposed screw rod 13 provided at its upper end with a manipulating handle 14.

Mounted upon the rod is a concavo-convex abutment or stationary pounder 15 of a diameter to tightly fit the basket and having its concave side facing downwardly, the body of said abutment being formed with perforations 16. The central opening or perforation 17 of the abutment through which the rod extends is threaded for engagement with the threads of the rod by which the abutment is rendered vertically adjustable on the rod to hold it at a proper elevation above the bottom of the basket in accordance with the amount of clothes contained therein. Also mounted upon the rod is a concavo-convex cover 18 of a diameter to snugly fit and close the basket above the abutment, said cover being imperforate to prevent the escape or splashing out of the suds water at the top of the basket. The cover has a central opening or perforation 19 for the passage of the rod, which portion of said cover is threaded for engagement with the threads of the rods, whereby the cover may be adjusted to lie at the desired elevation above the abutment.

In the operation of the machine, the desired amount of suds water or cleansing solution is placed within the casing 2, after which the clothes are placed within the basket and the latter lowered by the lever 6 into the casing. The crane arm which is normally swung outwardly to the inoperative position shown in Fig. 2, is then swung inwardly to dispose the perforated abutment and cover above the casing, after which the rod 13 is swung downwardly by means of its manipulating handle 14 until the abutment contacts lightly with the body of clothes within the basket and the cover is arranged at the proper elevation to prevent escape of the water from the top of the basket. The crane arm is then fixed in position by tightening the set screw 11. Upon then operating the lever 6 up and down, the basket will be reciprocated within the casing. On

the downward movement of the basket, the suds water will be agitated and forced from the casing into the basket through the perforations therein, thus loosening up and
5 thoroughly agitating the clothes. In this part of the operation, the water will pass through the clothes which will float therein, whereby they will be turned over and over to present new surfaces for the passage of
10 the cleansing fluid therethrough. On the upward movement of the basket, the clothes will come in contact with the stationary abutment and will be squeezed and compressed between the same and the walls of
15 the basket, the water thus being pressed from the clothes and forced out through the perforations in the basket and abutment. In the reciprocations of the basket, the clothes will thus be alternately loosened up
20 and turned over and subjected to a squeezing or pounding pressure, whereby the clothes and suds water will be thoroughly agitated and caused to flow back and forth to and from the casing and basket, thereby
25 washing the clothes thoroughly and effectively within a minimum period of time. It will, of course, be understood that the amount of squeezing pressure applied to the clothes may be regulated by adjusting the
30 fixed abutment. After the clothes have been washed, the crane arm is released by relaxing the set screw 11, then elevated and swung outwardly to the position shown in Fig. 2, thus withdrawing the abutment and
35 cover from the basket and casing. The

basket is then elevated from the casing through the arm or lever 6, the water allowed to drain therefrom back into the casing, and the clothes finally removed.

From the foregoing description, the construction and mode of use of my improved washing machine will be readily understood and it will be seen that a simple and inexpensive construction of machine is provided which may be easily operated, and which
45 insures the effective agitation of both the suds water and clothes, whereby the latter will be effectually cleansed.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

A washing machine comprising a casing, a reciprocatory perforated basket removable therefrom and adapted to be reciprocated therein, means for raising, lowering and reciprocating the basket, a standard having a
55 laterally swinging vertically adjustable crane arm adapted to be moved into and out of alinement with the casing, a screw rod adjustable vertically in a threaded bearing on said crane arm, a perforated abutment carried by the rod and vertically adjustable
60 thereon, and an imperforate cover adjustably mounted on the rod above the abutment.

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

TOWNSEND WRIGHT.

Witnesses:

U S. WRIGHT,
C. O. LEWIS.