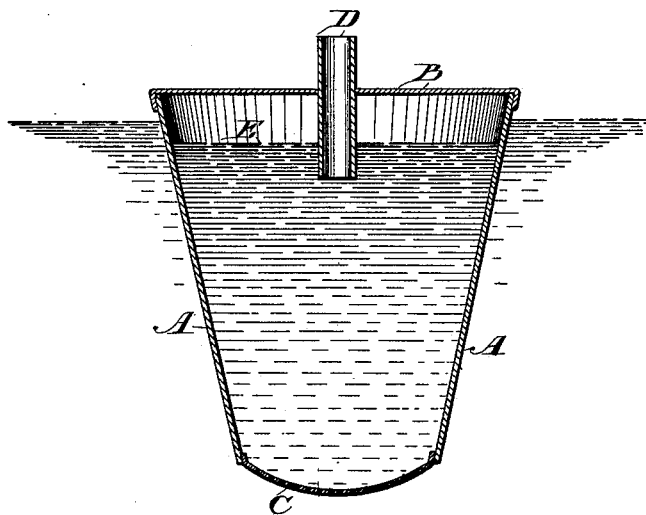


F. G. JOHNSON.  
Clothes-Sprinkler.

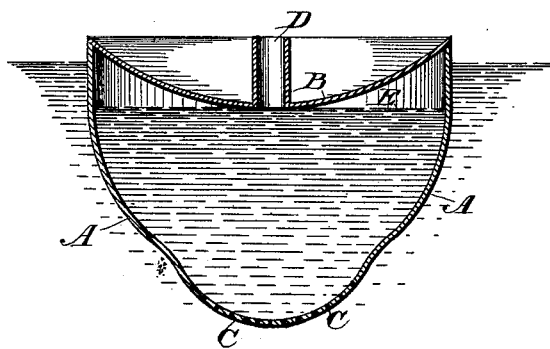
No. 220,077.

Patented Sept. 30, 1879.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*R. E. Johnson.*

*C. G. Lund.*

*Inventor:*

*Frank G. Johnson*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK G. JOHNSON, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-SPRINKLERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,077**, dated September 30, 1879; application filed September 16, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK G. JOHNSON, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Sprinkler; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a vertical section of my device, and Fig. 2 a like view of a modification thereof.

The nature of my invention relates to improved means for dampening or sprinkling clothes preparatory for the smoothing-iron, as for laundry uses; and consists in a vessel made from tin or other metal or metals, and of convenient size and shape for use with one hand, and so constructed that when dropped into water it will fill itself properly and float on the surface in a position ready for use. It is, furthermore, provided with a means to regulate the outflow of the sprayed water by the actuating-hand which controls it, as a valve.

The sprinkler is not, however, limited to laundry use, but will be found convenient for wetting floors, carpets, indoor plants, &c.

In its construction I prefer the shape of a truncated cone, as shown in the drawings, of which A represents the body or conical cylinder, and B the base, or, as in this case, the top, soldered thereon. C shows a perforated cup-shaped plate soldered to the opposite end. D represents a tube passing through and soldered to B, so that its outer end extends a short distance above the top, and the inner or lower end a proper distance below it, within the vessel, all which, when properly made and thrown into a basin of water, will fill itself by the small

punctures in the lower end at C, the displaced air passing out by the tube D. At the same time, as the vessel fills it will assume an upright position, and sink until the water reaches and closes the lower end of D to about the line E, when, as no more air can escape, no more water can enter, and the vessel will float by the air retained in the top part. A similar effect will, however, arise if a permanent air-chamber be formed in the top of the vessel by soldering a disk to the inside in a position as shown by the dotted lines at E.

In operating the sprinkler, it will be best to use two or more in the basin at a time to insure having one always filled ready for use. The top should be grasped between the ends of the fingers and the palm of the hand, which will also close the tube-orifice at D, when, on lifting the vessel, the atmospheric pressure will prevent the water from escaping. Raise the hand even with the ear and strike sharply forward, pointing toward the work. The motion will admit air and spray the water. With a little practice the action will be easily controlled and effected.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A floating self-filling clothes-sprinkler provided with an air-space and vent-tube, substantially as described.

2. A floating self-filling clothes-sprinkler provided with a vent-tube, adapted to be operated by the hand of the operator as a valve to admit air to the sprinkler, substantially as described.

FRANK G. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

R. E. JOHNSON,  
E. G. LUND.