

G. BAUMAN.  
Wash-Bench.

No. 165,149.

Patented July 6, 1875.

Fig. 1.

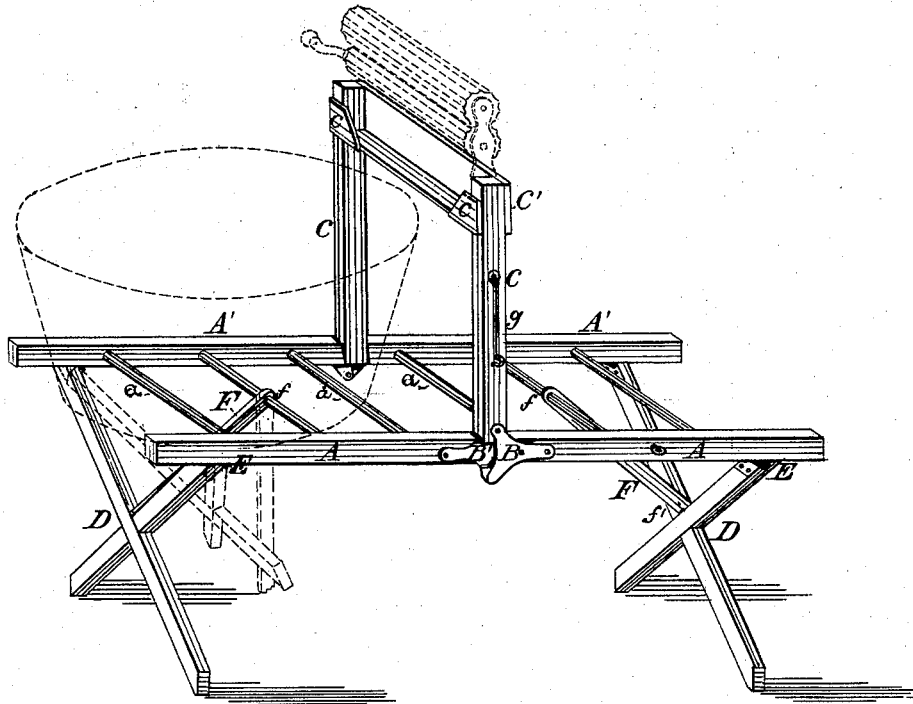


Fig. 2.

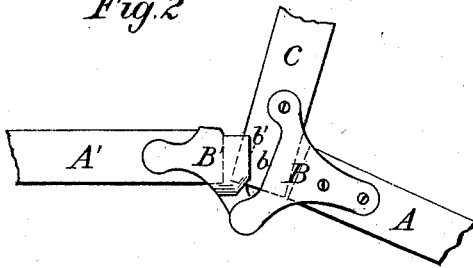
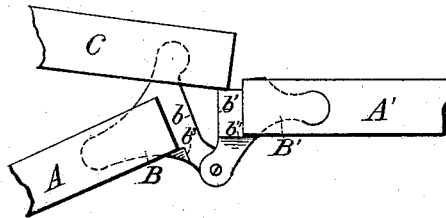


Fig. 3.



Attest:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN WASH-BENCHES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 165,149, dated July 6, 1875; application filed February 21, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GERHART BAUMAN, of Middletown, county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wash-Benches; and, to enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, I will proceed to describe it, referring to the drawings, in which the same letters indicate like parts in each of the figures.

The object of this invention is to present a compact, strong, and cheap wash-bench, which can be readily unfolded for use, or folded together when not in use, or for packing or storing; and it consists, more particularly, first, in the peculiar construction and adaptation of the central hinges, whereby the longitudinal parts are joined to the central uprights, and all are stayed, supported, and maintained firm in position when the bench is open and ready for the tubs; second, in the general construction of the several parts, pieces, braces, and hinges, and in their combination, to form and compose a compact, portable, and strong wash-bench, all as will now be more specifically and in detail set forth.

In the accompanying drawing, A A' respectively denote the two portions of parallel longitudinal strips, which are united at their inner ends, by the hinges B B', to each other and to the central pieces C. These pieces C are joined together at their upper or outer ends by the strips or pieces C', which may be so constructed as to have boxes or trays *cc* for pieces of soap. The said parts C C' constitute the wringer support or standard, to which a wringer can be applied in any usual manner. To the outer ends of said parallel longitudinal strips A A' are attached the legs D, by hinges E, in such a manner that when the said legs are unfolded and set in place as the bench is made ready for use, the ends of said strips A A' rest upon the tops of said legs. To stay these legs in their extended position there is provided the brace F, pivoted in any convenient way, as now illustrated at *f*, with its forked end *f'* pressed upon the

legs at the point where they are crossed. Any convenient number of rungs, *a a*, may be used to unite the parallel strips A A and A' A'. One side or leaf of the hinge is somewhat triangular in shape, and one angle is secured to the end of the strip A, another to the end of piece C, and the lower by any suitable point or pivot to the lower end or side of the other leaf B', which, in its turn, is secured to the adjacent end A' of the other portion of the parallel strips.

When the bench, as thus constructed, is unfolded and set in place for use, it will be found that the lower ends of the central pieces C match and fit in exactly between the adjacent ends of the parallel strips A and A', so as to key and wedge the parts firmly together. In accomplishing this the hinge B B', by the peculiar construction of its two leaves or parts, and its adaptation, as above described, to the strips and central pieces, performs an important part.

The inner lateral edge *b'* of the leaf B' is so made as to afford a firm and solid stay for the abutting edge *b* of the other leaf, while on the inner face is a ledge, *b''*, which affords support to the ends of A and C. Likewise, on the inner face of B is a ledge, *b'''*, to support the end of A.

Thus said hinge assists to support and stay the several parts and pieces securely and firmly together.

When this bench is in position for use an ordinary wash-tub, with its full contents of water and clothes, can be safely set on each side. Indeed, it is designed to make the device so strong that it shall be very much more than equal to any weight that can, in use, ordinarily be put upon it.

As thus made and constructed, it will be seen that the several parts can be folded compactly upon each other, the parts A and A' coinciding and coming nearly upon each other, while the legs D and braces F are closely packed in between them. The wringer-support C C' turns down flat upon said parts A at one side.

When thus set closely and compactly to-

gether, all these pieces and parts can be held by a hasp, G, or by any convenient means.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. The combination of strips A A' with the vertical pieces C and the hinges B B', substantially as and for the purposes set forth.
2. The wash-bench herein described, con-

sisting of strips A A', hinges B B', wringer-support C C', hinged legs D, and movable braces F, the several parts constructed and combined substantially as described.

GERHART BAUMAN.

Witnesses:

ALFRED MILTON,  
JEREMY W. BLISS.