

C. FITCH.  
WASHING-MACHINE.

No. 183,289.

Patented Oct. 17, 1876.

Fig. 1.

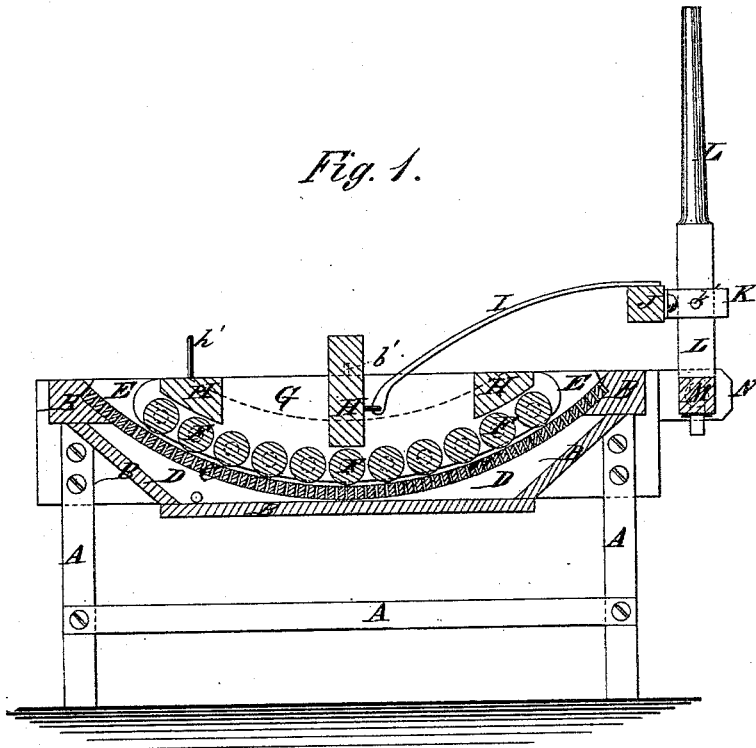
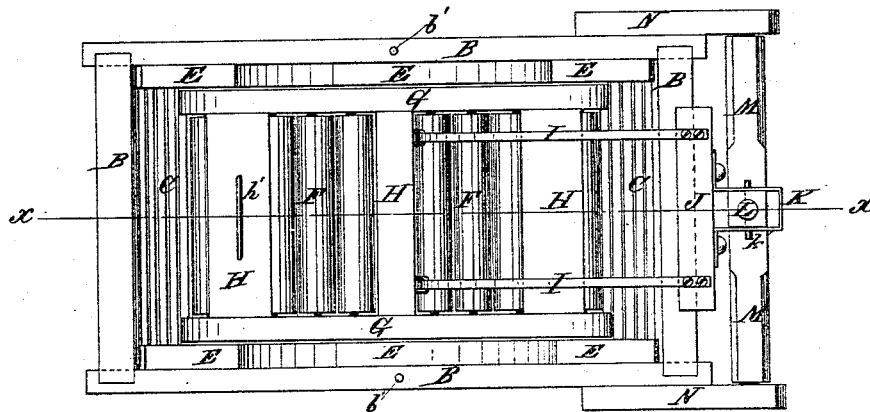


Fig. 2.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

COLLINS FITCH, OF GARNETTSTVILLE, KENTUCKY.

## IMPROVEMENT IN WASHING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 183,289, dated October 17, 1876; application filed July 31, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, COLLINS FITCH, of Garnettsville, in the county of Mead and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Clothes - Washing Machine, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of my improved machine, taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved machine for washing clothes, which shall be simple in construction, convenient in use, easily operated, effective in operation, washing the clothes quickly, thoroughly, and without injuring them, and which will work equally well whether operating upon many or few clothes.

The invention consists in the combination of the hinged arms, the cross-bar, the keeper, the lever, and the rock-shaft, with the movable rubber and with the suds-box, as herein-after fully described.

A is the frame of the machine, to the upper part of which is attached the suds-box B. The suds-box B is made with a flat bottom, vertical sides, and inclined or flaring ends. In the box B is placed the lower or stationary rubber, called by me a hurdle, and which is formed by securing the ends of a series of cross-slats, C, between the curved edges of two pairs of boards, D E. The hurdle C D E is made of such a size as to fit into the suds-box B, and the cross-slats C are so arranged as to leave narrow spaces between them for the water to pass through, and so that the dirt may settle in the bottom of the suds-box B beneath the said hurdle C D E. The upper or movable rubber is formed by pivoting a series of rollers, F, to and between the side boards G, which are connected and held in

position by cross boards or blocks H. The lower side of the rubber F G H is made convex to fit into the concavity of the hurdle C D E. To one side of the middle cross bar or block H are hinged the ends of two arms, I, the other ends of which are attached to the end parts of a cross-bar, J. To the outer side of the center of the cross-bar J is attached a keeper, K, through which passes a lever, L. The lever L is pivoted in and to the keeper K by a pin, *k'*, and its lower end is attached to a roller or rock-shaft, M, the ends of which are pivoted to arms N attached to the ends of the side boards of the suds-box B. By this construction the rubber F G H is moved back and forth upon the clothes interposed between it and the hurdle C D E by operating the lever L, the hinges of the arms I enabling the rubber to adjust itself according to the amount of clothes being washed. To put in and take out the clothes the lever L is moved outward, drawing the rubber F G H as far as it will go. The further end of the rubber F G H is then raised by means of a loop or other handle, *h'*, attached to the end cross-bar H, and a rod is placed beneath it, resting upon the side boards of the suds-box B, where it is kept in place by pins *b'* attached to the upper edges of said side boards.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of the hinged arms I, the cross-bar J, the keeper K, the lever L, and the rock-shaft M, with the movable rubber F G H and with the suds-box A, substantially as herein shown and described.

June 19, 1876.

COLLINS FITCH.

Witnesses:

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