G. W. WOOD.
Clothes-Pounder.

No. 200,116. Patented Feb. 5, 1878.

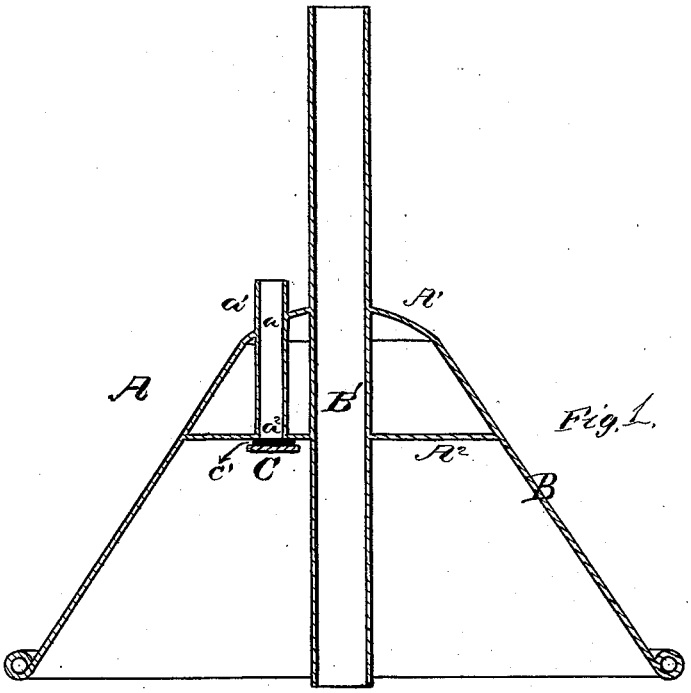

Fig. 1.

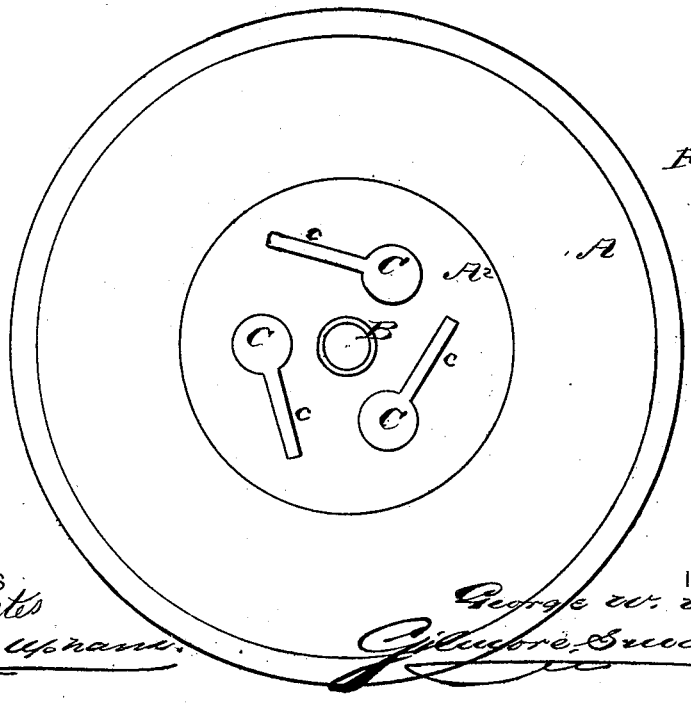

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES.
E. H. Bates
George E. Upham.

INVENTOR.
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Gilmore, Smith & Co.
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. WOOD, OF ATHENS, TENNESSEE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO HENRY T. DAVIS, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN CLOTHES-POUNDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **200,116,** dated February 5, 1878; application filed March 17, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. WOOD, of Athens, in the county of McMinn and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Clothes-Pounders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a central vertical section of my clothes-pounder, and Fig. 2 is a bottom view thereof.

This invention relates to clothes-pounders for use in washing fabrics; and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of the parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, A designates my pounder, which consists of a hollow sheet-metal truncated cone, B, slightly rounded at the top A^1, and provided with a transverse partition or false top, A^2, some distance below the former. A vertical tube, B′, passes down through this pounder to the base thereof, and extends some distance above the same, for the attachment of a plunger or handle. Top A^1 is perforated in several places at *a*, which perforations are protected by short vertical tubes a^1, extending beyond the top of the pounder, so as to communicate with the outer air, and partition or false top A^2 is correspondingly provided with perforations a^2.

C designates valves, corresponding in number to perforations a^2, and pressed against the same by springs *c*, that are secured to the under side of partition A^2. When pounder A is raised, the pressure of the external air forces said valves open and enters the space below said pounder, thus neutralizing the pressure of said air upon the exterior surface of said pounder, and thereby obviating all difficulty in raising the same. These valves are preferably faced with rubber packing *c′*. Partition A^2 and tube B brace said pounder, and aid to keep it in proper shape.

By extending the handle B′ down to or below the base of the pounder, its lower end will strike the clothes in the operation of pounding them, thus giving greater pounding-surface, and the clothes will be prevented from rising in the hollow pounder, open at its base when pressed down, by abutting against the lower end of the handle B′.

By the construction of clothes-pounders as above described, the series of vertical tubes extending above the vertex of the conical shell communicate with the external air above the surface of the water in the tube or vessel in which the pounder is operated, so that in the upward movement of the pounder the air opens the valves at the lower ends of the tubes to facilitate the raising of the pounder, while the extension of the tubular handle to the lower edge of the shell prevents the clothes from rising in the interior of the shell, and incidentally increases the pounding-surface.

I am aware that clothes-pounders having a horizontal partition, and provided with spring-valves opening on the vertical sides of the shell, are known and used, as are also pounders having a central tube prolonged downward as far as the lower edge of the shell, and these I do not claim; but

What I claim is—

A clothes-pounder consisting of the shell B, having horizontal partition A^2, valve C *c′*, opening through said partition into the vertical tube a^1, which extends above the vertex of the conical shell B, and the tubular handle B′, extending downward as far as the lower edge of said shell B, all as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

GEO. W. WOOD.

Witnesses:
J. W. HARRIS,
NATHAN KELLY.