H. C. PERRY.

Washing-Machine.

No. 211,667. Patented Jan. 28, 1879.

FIG. 1.

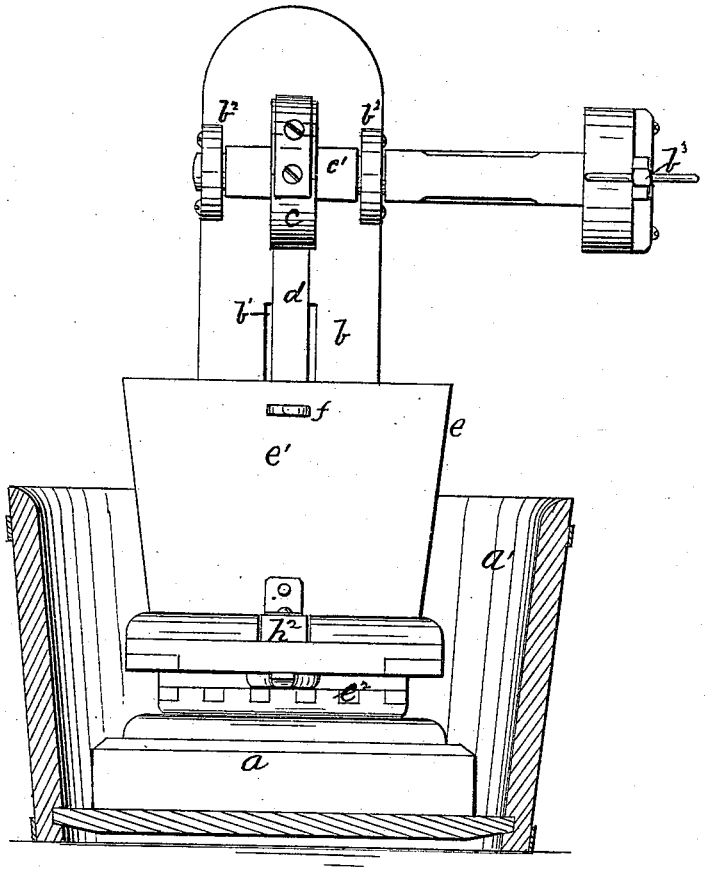


FIG. 2.

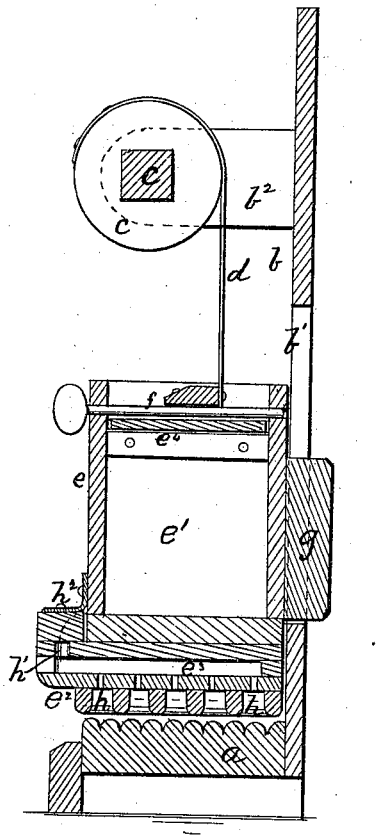


FIG. 3.

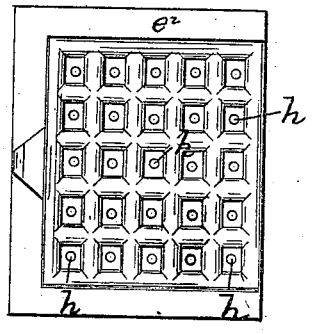
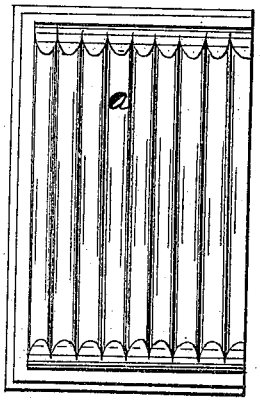


FIG. 4



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY C. PERRY, OF WILKESBARRE, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN WASHING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **211,667**, dated January 28, 1879; application filed November 13, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY C. PERRY, of Wilkesbarre, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Washing-Machines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention belongs to that class of clothes-washing devices whereby the cleansing is done by a pounding mechanism.

It consists in a pounder composed of an open hopper, provided with a removable cap or lid and a corrugated or recessed bottom plate, having openings or perforations leading into an air-chamber, which is provided with an automatic valve, the said pounder being attached, with capability of a vertical movement, to a slotted standard and corrugated base, and operated as hereinafter fully set forth.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation, Fig. 2 is a cross vertical section, and Figs. 3 and 4 are detail views, of my invention.

a is the base, having its upper surface corrugated or channeled, as shown, and made of such size as to adapt it to be set in a tub or other vessel, *a'*. Affixed to one side of the base *a* is the vertical standard *b*, in which is formed the vertical slot *b'*, and to the upper end of which is attached the horizontal arms b^2, which project over the base *a*. *c* is a windlass supported on the axle *c'*, journaled in the arms b^2, and operated by a suitable lever or crank, b^3. The windlass is operated by a forward and reverse movement, by which the pounder, hereinafter described, is raised or dropped. The axle *c'* is extended outward, as shown, as a matter of convenience, to bring the crank b^3 nearer to the hand of the operator.

Affixed to the windlass *c* is one end of a flexible strap or belt, *d*, the opposite end of which is affixed to the lid or cap of the pounder.

e is the pounder, composed of the hopper e^1 and the bottom plate, e^2, so united as to provide an air-chamber, e^3, between them. The hopper e^1 is open at its top, and is provided with a removable lid, e^4, to which the end of the strap *d* is affixed. The lid e^4, when placed in the hopper, is held rigidly in place by a pin, *f*, passing over it and through the sides of said hopper, as shown.

On the rear side of the hopper there is fixed the guide-block *g*, which projects through the slot b^1, and holds the pounder to the standard *b*. The pounder, by means of the block *g*, is maintained in its position over the base *a*, and is given steadiness and regularity in its vertical movements thereby.

The plate e^2 has its under side corrugated or recessed, as shown, and is perforated by a series of openings, *h*, which go through into the air-chamber e^3. The air-chamber is provided with an outlet, h^1, over which is placed an automatic valve, h^2.

The object of the hopper e^1 is to give facilities for increasing the weight of the pounder by placing therein stones, metal weights, or other suitable material, according to the character or dirtiness of the goods to be washed.

The operation of the device will be readily understood. The pounder is lifted by the windlass *c* and strap *d*, and is then permitted to drop of its own gravity onto the goods on the base *a*. The descent of the pounder forces the air out of the chamber e^3 through the valve-opening h^1. The raising of the pounder closes the opening h^1 by the valve h^2, and thus provides the necessary suction to lift the clothing and keep the latter moving in the tub *a'*.

I do not confine myself to the particular means described for lifting the pounder—namely, the windlass and strap—for it will be readily understood that the same may be lifted by a lever made after the manner of an ordinary pump-handle fulcrumed on the arms b^2, and provided with a rod or pitman connecting with the lid e^4.

I prefer to use the means described, as thereby I secure more even results attended with little or no noise other than the movement of the pounder in the water.

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

1. A gravity clothes-pounder, *e*, constructed with a hopper, e^1, and perforated bottom plate, e^2, arranged so as to provide an air-chamber, e^3, between them, and having the valve-opening h^1 and valve h^2, and supported and operated so that it is given a vertical movement into and out of the vessel containing the clothing to be washed, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the gravity-pounder *e*, having the block *g*, of the base *a*, standard *b*, having slot b^1, and arms b^2, windlass *c*, and flexible strap *d*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I hereto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY C. PERRY.

Witnesses:
E. J. ULMAN,
EVAN JONES.