

GEORGE W. NASH.

Improvement in Corpse-Preservers.

No. 115,229.

Patented May 23, 1871.

Fig. 1.

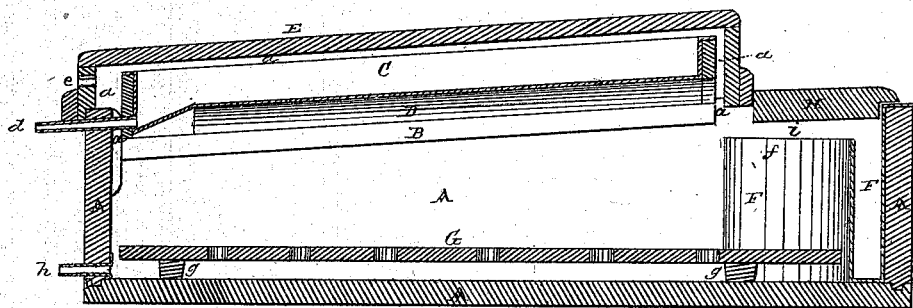
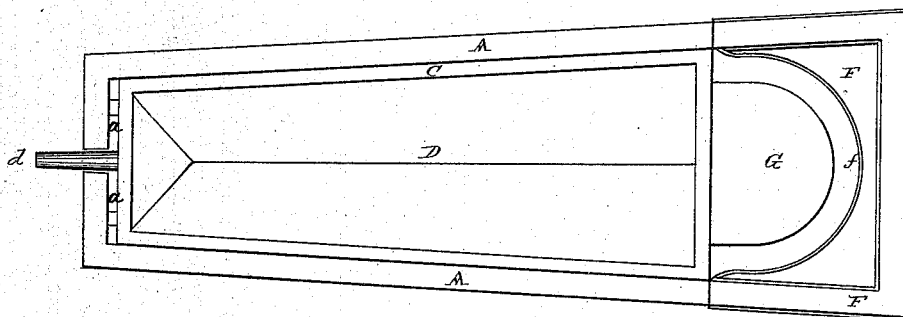


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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GEORGE JAMISON, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 115,229, dated May 23, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CORPSE-PRESERVERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

I, GEORGE W. NASH, of Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Corpse-Preservers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to refrigerators for preserving corpses, and consists in a removable ice-chest at the head end of the case, so that, when the usual ice-box is placed over the body, (and which does not extend over the head, as it is necessary from time to time to view the body,) this ice-chest surrounds that part of the head and body of the corpse not covered by the ice-box, and can be emptied and filled by merely lifting it out, without disturbing the corpse, a lid closing it when in use.

In the accompanying drawing—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal central section of my improved corpse-preserver, and

Figure 2 a top or plan view of the same with the lids removed.

A represents the box, constructed with sides inclining slightly from the head end toward the foot end.

On cleats, B, attached to the sides of the box A, rests the ice-box C, constructed with a convex bottom, D, and provided at the foot end with a pipe, *d*, through which the water from the melting ice can escape.

This ice-box extends only over part of the box A, the head end not being covered by it.

A lid, E, covers the ice-box C and case A, leaving a small space, *a*, all around the ice-box between it and the lid, which latter, at its foot end, is provided with suitable air-holes *e*.

In the head end of case A is placed a removable open ice-box, F, provided with a semicircular concave inner face, *f*, which surrounds the head end of a perforated board, G, which rests on feet *g*, and on which the corpse is laid.

The edges of this ice-box F are bent over the sides and head end of case A, and it is covered, but not closed, by a suitable removable cover, H.

At the bottom of the case A, at its foot end, is secured a pipe, *h*, through which foul air and effluvia may escape.

The body is placed upon the perforated board G, which is then placed in the case A. The ice-box C is then filled with ice and placed in its proper position, as shown in the drawing, and covered by the cover or lid E.

The ice-box F around the head is then filled with ice.

Air is admitted at the foot end of lid E through air-holes *e*, and passes over the ice in box C down through the space *a*, over and under the body, and

out through pipe *h*, to which an India-rubber or other flexible tube may be attached to carry the dead foul air and effluvia out through the window or other suitable aperture.

The water from the melted ice in ice-box C passes off through pipe *d* (which may be provided with a faucet, if desirable) into a vessel placed under it.

The ice-chest or box F can be lifted out and emptied, whenever desirable or necessary, without disturbing any of the other parts.

This ice-box F does not extend up to the lid H, but is open at the top, and communicates with the chamber A by a space, *i*, which forms a passage beneath the cover H from the open ice-chamber into the body of the case. This passage also forms a direct communication from the open ice-chamber at the head to the open ice-chamber above the body, and the cold air from the two ice-boxes meets in the main chamber A, and thereby completes and facilitates the circulation of the cold air above the body and beneath the perforated bottom.

In this respect the open-head ice-box is of special advantage in connection with the upper open ice-box C, with which it communicates through the air-passage *a* at the head of the upper box.

In corpse-preservers it is desirable to have the head portion of the lid removable to ascertain the condition and state of the body, and, consequently, the ice-box C is made so as not to cover the head and upper portion of the body; but, on removing the separate lid over the head portion of the box, hot or warm air is admitted to that portion of the body, and frequently the very effect of the ice-box C prevented or overcome. But by my arrangement the lid H can safely be taken off, as the cold air, being heavier, will prevent the warm air from reaching the body, thus allowing the body to be inspected often and at any time without danger of admitting warm air. And in this manner the finest burial-clothes on the body can be kept perfectly free from soil or stain.

Having thus described my invention,

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

In a corpse-preserver, the open removable ice-chamber F, arranged to surround the head and shoulders of the body and communicate with the chamber A, in combination with the upper open ice-box C, arranged to also communicate with the chamber A at the passages *a*, as described.

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Witnesses:

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