(No Model.)

C. F. H. WATERMAN.

REFRIGERATOR.

No. 264,210. Patented Sept. 12, 1882.

Fig. 1.

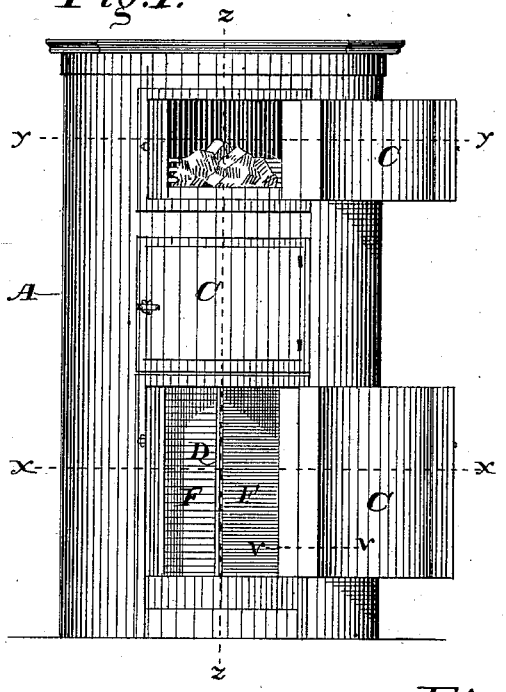


Fig. 2.

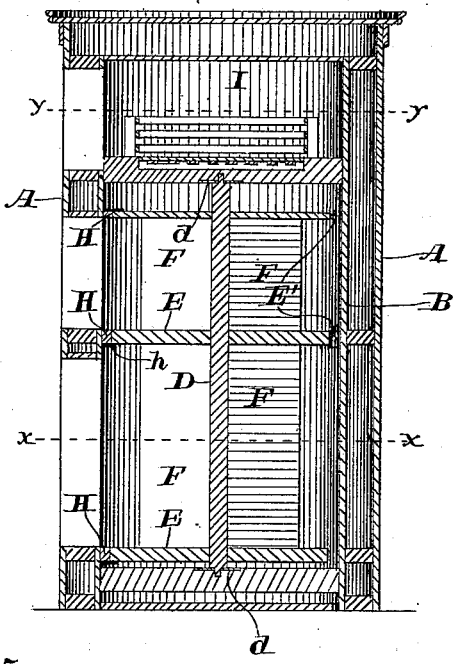


Fig. 5.

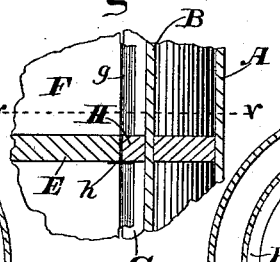


Fig. 3.

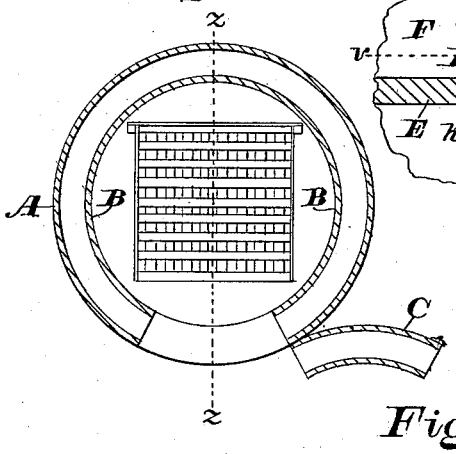


Fig. 4.

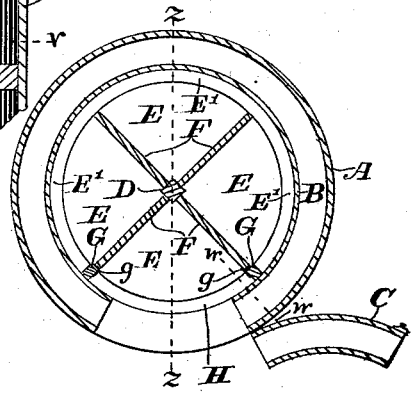
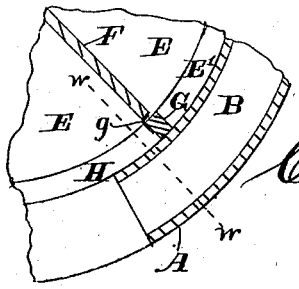


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES.

Chas. N. Leonard.
Ernest W. Bradford

INVENTOR.

C. F. H. Waterman,
PER
C. Bradford,
ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN F. H. WATERMAN, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

REFRIGERATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,210, dated September 12, 1882.

Application filed June 9, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTIAN F. H. WATERMAN, of the city of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Refrigerators, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my said invention is to produce a refrigerator divided into compartments in which the several compartments shall be so arranged that while one is open so that articles can be placed therein or removed therefrom the others shall be as completely closed to the exterior air as when the refrigerator is closed as a whole. This object is accomplished by making the shelves revoluble, dividing them vertically by partitions arranged radially from the center, but not extending quite to the inner surface of the refrigerator, providing upon said inner surfaces on each side of the doorway ribs, with which said partitions and shelves shall come in contact when brought in front of the door, and form substantially air-tight joints, as will hereinafter be more particularly set forth.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a refrigerator embodying my improvements, the door to the ice-chamber and that to one set of the compartments being open; Fig. 2, a central vertical section on the dotted line *z z;* Fig. 3, a horizontal section on the dotted line *y y;* Fig. 4, a horizontal section on the dotted line *x x:* Fig. 5, a detail vertical section, on the dotted line *w w*, on an enlarged scale; and Fig. 6, a detail horizontal section on the dotted line *v v.*

In said drawings, the portions marked A represent the outer wall of my refrigerator; B, the inner wall; C, the several doors; D, a central shaft, on which the shelves are mounted; E, said shelves; F, the radial partitions; G, the vertical ribs; H, the horizontal ribs, and I the ice-chamber.

The walls A, doors C, and ice-chamber I are or may be of any ordinary or approved form and construction, and need no special description.

The inner walls, B, are also of common construction, except that they have vertical ribs G, extending from the bottom to the top of the cooling-chamber on both sides of the doorways in such relation that one of the wings F can be brought into juxtaposition with each of them at the same time, and segmental ribs H, filling the space between the vertical ribs on the side in front of the doors in such positions that the edges of the shelves E shall be in contact therewith.

The shaft D is secured in bearings *d* at the bottom and top, in which it turns as the inner structure (consisting of itself, the shelves E, and the partition F) revolves and supports said shelves and partitions.

The shelves E are mounted upon the shaft D, and come in contact with the ribs H at the side which is revolved in front of the doors, but is surrounded upon the other sides by the open space E′.

The partitions F divide the spaces between the shelves E into compartments. The space between each of these partitions and its fellow at the outer edge is about equal to the distance between the ribs G. These spaces can of course be subdivided; but it is necessary that the distance between each partition and some other one shall be equal to the space between the ribs.

In operation, when the doors are closed, the inner structure is revolved so that no partitions are in contact with the ribs G, and therefore there is a free circulation of air through all the compartments of the cooling-chamber. When it is desired to get at any one of the compartments the inner structure is revolved until the partitions dividing it from the others are in juxtaposition to the ribs, as shown most plainly by Fig. 4 of the drawings, and the door leading thereto being opened, free access is had to said compartment without admitting any of the outside air to the others, the flexible parts *g h* making the joints substantially air-tight. Mechanism having a handle upon the outside of the refrigerator may be employed to turn the inner structure, if desired; and, further, a spring-mounted or other stop may be employed to check the revolution of the inner structure at the proper point, said stop being of course capable of being withdrawn from contact with said structure by a handle or other convenient means.

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

In combination, a refrigerator composed of revoluble shelves and partitions surrounded by an inner and outer shell, forming an air-space between said shells, the inner shell provided with two vertical ribs placed near the door and faced with elastic strips *h g*, whereby an air-tight joint is produced between said shelves and partitions and said ribs when said shelves and partitions are revolved so as to come in contact with said ribs, as and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 6th day of June, A. D. 1882.

CHRISTIAN F. H. WATERMAN. [L. S.]

In presence of—
C. BRADFORD,
E. W. BRADFORD.