

(No Model.)

W. F. NICKELS.

WATER COOLER AND REFRIGERATOR.

No. 348,043.

Patented Aug. 24, 1886.

Fig. 1.

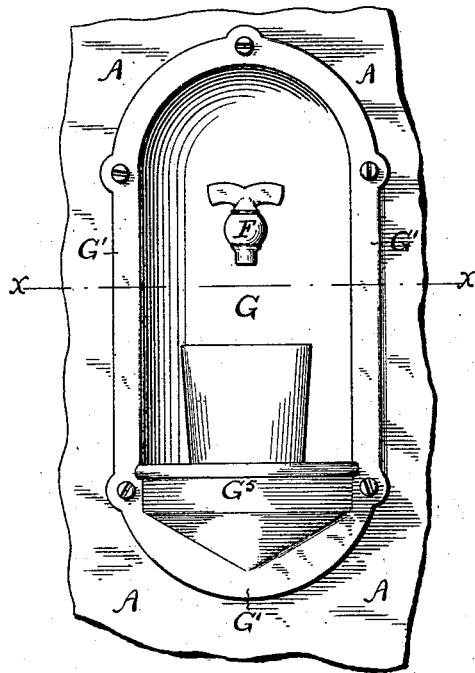


Fig. 3.

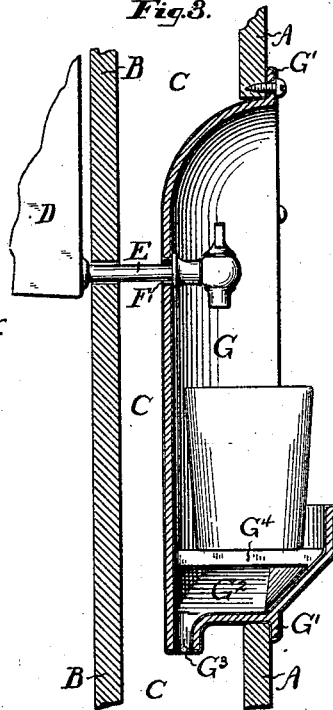
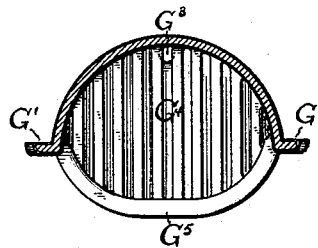


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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WATER-COOLER AND REFRIGERATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 348,043, dated August 24, 1886.

Application filed November 19, 1885. Serial No. 183,306. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM FRANCIS NICKELS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Water-Coolers and Refrigerators; and I do hereby declare the following to be a sufficiently full, clear, and exact description thereof as to enable others skilled in the art to make and use the said invention.

This invention relates to refrigerators for the preservation of provisions with ice and the providing of ice-water, and has for its object the procuring of these results with the least waste of ice and superior neatness in finish, cleanliness, and convenience of drawing the water.

The nature of the said invention may be briefly stated to consist of an enameled metallic niche, provided with a suitable flange for attachment to the wooden portion of a refrigerator to make a finish thereon, and shelf and drawing cup or basin for supporting a drinking-vessel, and an aperture for the insertion of a faucet connected with the reservoir in the interior of the refrigerator and delivering water into the drinking-vessel.

I will now proceed to particularly describe the mode of making and using the said invention, referring, in so doing, to the drawings annexed and the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 shows a front elevation of a portion of a refrigerator with this invention applied; Fig. 2, a horizontal section in the plane indicated by the dotted line *xx* in Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 a vertical central section thereof.

The same letters of reference apply to the same parts in the several figures.

A represents the front of a refrigerator-case; B, the inner wall thereof; C, the space between for non-conduction of heat; D, the water-tank, made, preferably, of metal internally enameled.

E is a tube leading to a faucet, F.

G is a niche having a flange, G', adapted to fit against the front surface of the refrigerator. The form of the niche is a segment of a cylinder, terminating at the top in a spher-

ical segment, and in the bottom is a basin, G², with a spout or waste-pipe, G³, for conveying waste water to the drip of the refrigerator, a grating, G⁴, for supporting the drinking-vessel, and a fender, G⁵, for protecting the drinking-vessel from falling.

The tube E passes through an aperture, F', in the upper central portion of the niche G, sufficiently below the top to accommodate the faucet F and afford easy access of the hand thereto.

The flange G' has holes formed in it for the insertion of screws to attach it to the case-front A.

The entire niche is thickly coated with enamel, which gives it a surface easily kept clean and not liable to corrosion, and of slow heat-conducting capacity.

In applying these niches to refrigerators the space C, contiguous to the niche G, may be filled with slow heat-conducting material.

The niche furnishes a neat, inexpensive, and efficient protection for the faucet and drinking-vessel which is not liable to corrosion and is readily cleaned, and at the same time, by reason of the enameled coating, the absorption of heat is efficiently retarded.

I am aware that metallic niches have been used in railway-cars to receive the faucet and drinking-vessel. These are exposed on all surfaces to the atmosphere, and not protected by enamel, and are therefore not adapted to form a portion of a refrigerator for protecting its contents from heat, and are hereby disclaimed.

Having described this invention, what I claim is—

1. A new article of manufacture, consisting of a niche for protecting the faucet and drinking-vessel, enameled on its surfaces, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a refrigerator-niche, the combination of the niche G, having a flange, G', faucet-aperture F, basin G², spout G³, grating G⁴, and fender G⁵, all enameled, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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