(No Model.)

H. C. CONSTANTIN.

SHELL FISH REFRIGERATOR.

No. 382,410. Patented May 8, 1888.

Fig. 2.

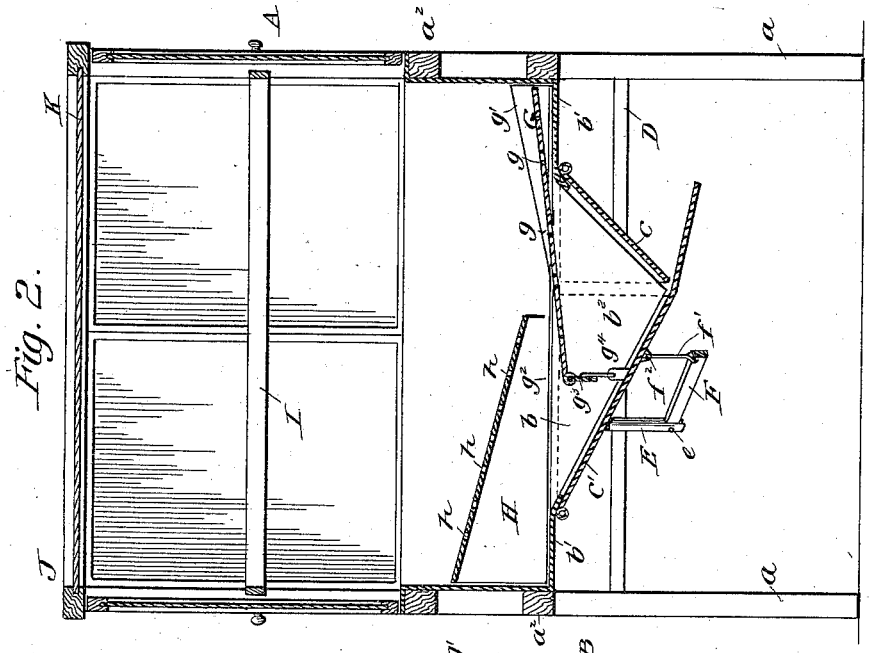
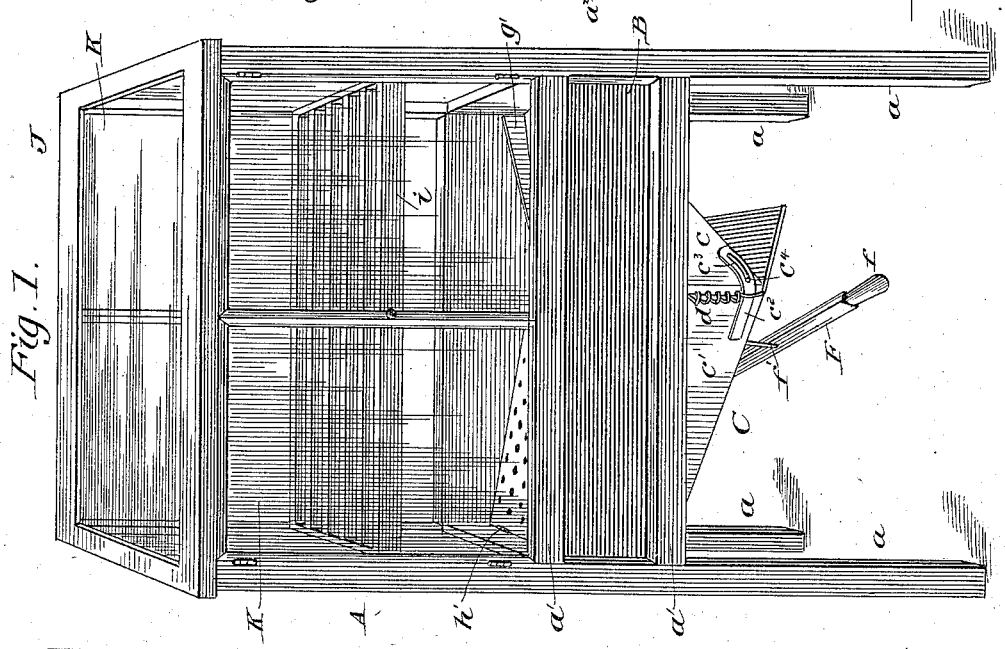


Fig. 1.



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HENRY CHARLES CONSTANTIN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND HENRY J. BOOKMAN, OF SAME PLACE.

SHELL-FISH REFRIGERATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 382,410, dated May 8, 1888.

Application filed October 6, 1887. Serial No. 251,668. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY CHARLES CONSTANTIN, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a Shell-Fish Refrigerator, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to provide a receptacle for clams and oysters in the shell for use in restaurants, lunch-rooms, &c., wherein they may be kept at an even cool temperature, and from which, when required, they may be readily withdrawn without the necessity of opening the doors of the receptacle.

The invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the cooler and deliverer, and Fig. 2 is a central vertical sectional view of the same.

The body of the receptacle A is composed of four wooden uprights, *a*, connected at about one-third their height by pairs of wooden side and end pieces, a' a^2, and in said body is supported by said side and end pieces a case, B, of sheel metal, preferably zinc, having a rectangular central opening, *b*, and a ledge, b', at each end, said ledges being flush on their under sides with the lower sides of the side and end pieces of the frame, and from the side of said central opening, *b*, depend sheet metal side pieces, b^2, having the form of an irregular triangle, for a purpose hereinafter explained.

To the case B is adapted a box, C, having the form of an irregular triangle, constructed in two parts, *c* and c', respectively hinged to and beneath the ledges b', and inclining downward and inward beneath the opening in the case B, the part c' of said box being longer than the part *c* and projecting beyond the same, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. To the sides of the part c' of said box are secured segmental plates c^2, having slots c^3 therein, in which pins c^4, seated in the sides of the part *c*, are adapted to play.

Springs *d*, connected, respectively, to the lower side pieces, a', of the frame and to the sides of the part c' of said box, act normally to keep the two parts of said box closed, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

A horizontal rod, D, secured to the uprights *a* at one side of the frame, adds strength and support to a hanger, E, fixed above it to one of the lower side pieces of the frame, and to said hanger is pivoted at *e* one end of a lever, F, which projects outward at one side beneath the box C, and is provided with a handle, *f*. About midway of its extremities said lever is connected by a hook, f', to an eye, f^2, beneath the part c' of the box C. If preferred, the lever may be pivoted directly to one of the uprights or side pieces of the frame.

Within the case B are located two platforms, G and H, of sheet metal, preferably zinc. The platform G has series of perforations *g* therein. Its sides extend upward and slightly outward, as at g', Fig. 1, so that it may be freely fitted in said case. Its body rests upon one of the ledges b' and projects at a slight incline over and beyond the center of the opening in said case, as shown in Fig. 2, and to its outer edge is hinged at g^2 an apron, g^3, which is in turn hinged at g^4 to the part c' of the box C, a suitable space being left between the lower edge of the apron and the part c' of the box. The platform H has series of perforations *h* therein. Its sides extend downward and rest upon the other ledge, b'. Its body is hinged at h' to the end of said case and projects at an incline over the platform G slightly beyond the center of the case B. Above said case is secured in any suitable manner to the uprights of the frame a rack, I, provided with slats *i* set upon edge and spaced apart, which rack may be strengthened, if found desirable, by diagonal cross-pieces. (Not shown.)

Upon the top of the receptacle is secured a cover, J, in which is fitted a sheet of glass, *k*, and the sides and ends of the receptacle above the case B are provided, respectively, with double and single doors K, fitted with glass, and hinged to said frame, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings; or the sides and ends of the receptacle may, if preferred, be provided with sliding doors fitted with glass. Said doors are provided with suitable knobs and latches for opening and securing them.

In operation the doors of the receptacle are

opened, ice is placed upon the rack therein, and the case is filled with clams or oysters, after which the doors are again closed. By bearing upon the handle end of the lever the parts of the box below the case are opened. The platform connected to said box is drawn down at the same time at a further incline, causing the clams or oysters to pass down over the two inclined platforms between the parts of the divisible box, the apron in said box preventing their too rapid discharge, and the side pieces of said box preventing their exit from the sides, and pass thence over the prolongation of said box to the table or counter on which the receptacle may be standing. The lever being released from pressure, the springs attached to the sides of said box react and close said box.

The drip from the ice in the cooler may be caught by any proper and preferred receptacle placed beneath the discharge-opening.

The sides of the triangular box may be constructed of such a width that when said box is opened the clams and oysters will be prevented from passing out sidewise, and in that event the triangular pieces described as depending from the sides of the discharge-opening in the case may be omitted.

It will thus be seen that as the doors of the receptacle are not required to be opened, except to replenish it with ice, clams, or oysters, great economy in the use of ice is assured. The contents of the case are also preserved at an even temperature, are at all times visible to the attendant, and the discharge of the same in large or small quantity, as required, is readily controlled by the attendant.

While clams and oysters are herein specified as the contents of the case, it will be understood that it is fully as well adapted for cooling other varieties of shell-fish with equal advantage as regards their preservation and delivery when required.

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

1. A refrigerating-receptacle for shell-fish, consisting of a frame provided with a transparent top and inclosed by transparent doors, an ice-rack supported therein, a case beneath said rack having a central opening from which depend triangular side pieces, inclined platforms, one stationary and the other vertically movable in said case and projecting one over the other above said opening, an apron hinged to the movable platform, a triangular box in two parts hinged beneath said opening, one of said parts hinged to said apron and projecting beyond the other, and means for opening and closing said box, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a refrigerating-receptacle, the combination, with a frame having a transparent cover and inclosed by transparent doors, supporting within it an ice-rack, and a case having end ledges and a central bottom opening from which depend triangular side pieces, and a stationary and a movable inclined platform, projecting the one above the other over said opening, of a triangular box in two parts, having a pin-and-slot connection at their ends and hinged at their upper side edges beneath said opening, one of said parts projecting beyond the other, and means, substantially as shown and described, for opening and closing said box, for the purposes herein set forth.

3. In a refrigerating-receptacle, the combination, with a frame having a transparent cover and inclosed by transparent doors, supporting within it an ice-rack, and a case having end ledges and a central bottom opening from which depend triangular side pieces, a stationary and a movable platform, projecting the one above the other over said opening, and an apron hinged to the movable platform, of a triangular box in two parts having a pin-and-slot connection at their ends and hinged at their upper side edges beneath said opening, one of said parts being hinged to the lower edge of said apron and projecting beyond the other part, and means, substantially as shown and described, for opening and closing said box, for the purposes herein set forth.

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