

(No Model.)

A. A. FREEMAN.
METHOD OF PRESERVING OYSTERS, &c.

No. 459,220.

Patented Sept. 8, 1891.

Fig. 1.

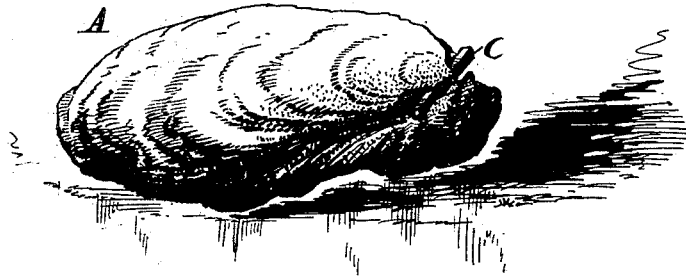


Fig. 2.

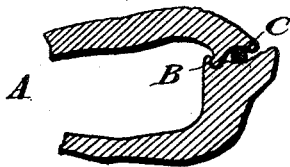


Fig. 4.

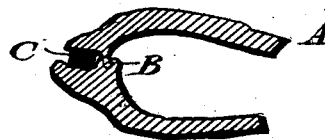
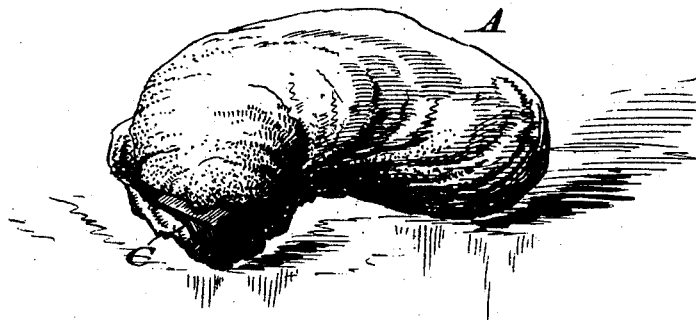


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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METHOD OF PRESERVING OYSTERS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 459,220, dated September 8, 1891.

Application filed April 29, 1891. Serial No. 390,886. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT A. FREEMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Mode or Method of Preserving Oysters, Clams, and other Bivalves, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings.

My invention consists of a method whereby oysters, &c., are kept alive in the shell and retain their liquors and juices so that when opened they will be found to be in natural and fresh condition.

Figures 1 and 3 represent perspective views of a bivalve preserved by the method embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal section of a portion of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 represents a longitudinal section of a portion of Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates an oyster, and B the hinge thereof. Between the shells, rearward of the hinge, is a space which permits the opening of the oyster, as well known. It will be manifest that if said space is filled or occupied the opening of the shells will be prevented. Consequently I insert in said space a plug C, the same bearing tightly against the walls thereof, thus overcoming the power of the oyster to open its

shell. The plug C may be made of metal, hard wood, &c., preferably wedge shape, and forcibly driven into the space, as aforesaid, so as to firmly engage with the shells; or a mass of cement or other material may be introduced into the space so as to sufficiently fill the same, said material hardening and serving the purpose of the plug C.

I am aware that it is not new to secure the shells of a bivalve by means of a rivet which is passed through said shells; but in such case openings are necessarily formed in the shells for the reception of the rivet, the same permitting the oozing or escape of the liquor or juices, the effect of which is the destruction of the bivalve. In the present case the space between the shells rearward or outside of the hinge is utilized for the reception of means which prevent the opening of the shells, leaving the latter intact in all respects.

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

The method of preserving a bivalve, which consists in securing the shells immovably together by a plug inserted between said shells rearward of the hinge thereof, substantially as described.

ALBERT A. FREEMAN.

Witnesses:

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