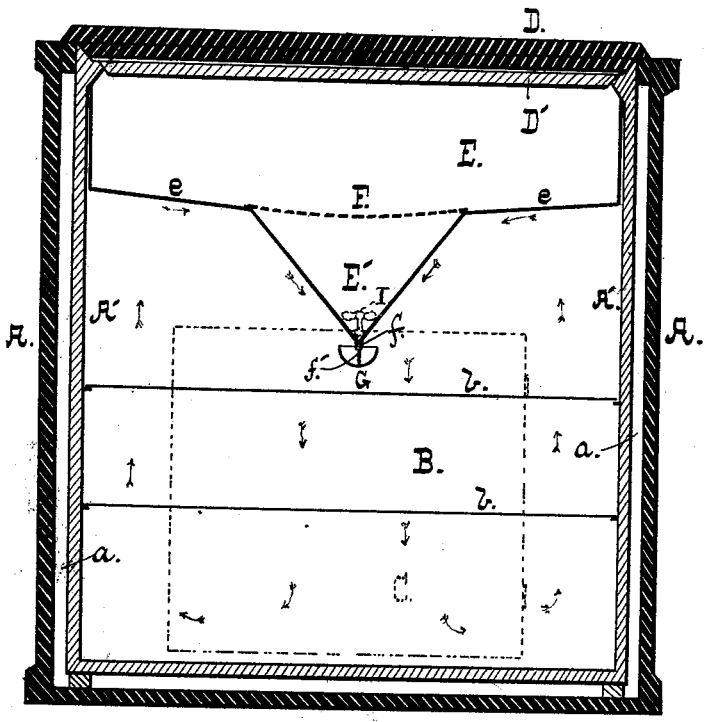
F. COLTON.
Refrigerator.

No. 219,802. Patented Sept. 23, 1879.



Witnesses,
W. A. Barham
Dr. L. H. Barclay.

Inventor
FREDERICK COLTON.
by
R. D. Williams.
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK COLTON, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN REFRIGERATORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,802**, dated September 23, 1879; application filed July 1, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK COLTON, of Baltimore city, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Refrigerators; and I hereby declare the same to be fully, clearly, and exactly described as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which the device is illustrated in central vertical sectional view.

My invention has reference to household-refrigerators; and it consists in a refrigerator in which the upper portion, serving the double purpose of ice-chamber and cooling-chamber, is entirely cut off from the lower part of the refrigerator, and is provided with a well projecting into the latter, the parts being constructed and arranged substantially as hereinafter set forth.

It has been found in practice that certain articles of food, notably dairy products—butter, milk, or cheese—are apt to have imparted to them the odors, and, to a certain degree, the taste, of other articles of food, if kept for any length of time in the same receptacle. I therefore subdivide my refrigerator by an air-tight partition, whereby two distinct chambers are formed for the reception of articles which it is not desirable to keep in the same department.

In the accompanying drawing, A A′ are, respectively, the outer and inner walls, having an intermediate air-space, *a*. D D′ are the outer and inner lids covering the ice-chamber E, the bottom of which is a metallic partition, *e e*, slanting with a slight pitch from the walls A′, and having a central V-shaped well, E′. At the bottom of the latter is suspended, on hooks *f*, a drip-trough, G, for the condensed moisture, the trough being provided with rings *f′*, by which it is suspended from the hooks *f*, and is readily removed when it is necessary to empty it.

The chamber B is furnished with the usual gratings *b b*, to which access is had through the door C, shown in dotted lines.

A spigot, I, also shown in dotted lines, is inserted through the walls and into the well E′, for drawing drinking-water.

F is a perforated cover for the well.

Ice being placed in the chamber E and in the well E′, the bottom *e* and the walls of the well are cooled, and convective currents of air are set up in the chamber B upon well-known physical principles, the air becoming cooled as it sweeps over the cold metallic surface.

The bottom *e* is given a slight pitch in order to shed the condensed moisture into the trough G, while the pitch is insufficient to impair its operation, considered as a base upon which articles are to be rested.

The grating F serves to render the bottom *e* continuous, and to sustain a portion of the ice above the level of the same.

What I claim is—

1. In combination with the refrigerator, the bottom *e*, forming an air-tight partition between the upper and lower refrigerating-chambers, and having a slight pitch, as described, and the well E′, provided with the drip-trough G, as and for the purpose described.

2. A refrigerator subdivided into two compartments by an imperforate bottom, *e*, joining the walls air-tight all round, and having a central V-shaped well, provided with a removable drip-trough, G, as described.

3. In combination with the casings A A′, the slightly-pitched bottom *e e*, central V-shaped well E′, having drip-trough G, and the grating F, forming a continuous bottom to the chamber E, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

FREDERICK COLTON.

Witnesses:
R. D. WILLIAMS,
J. C. GITTINGER.