A. AXT.

Refrigerator.

No. 209,852. **Patented Nov. 12, 1878.**

Fig. 1.

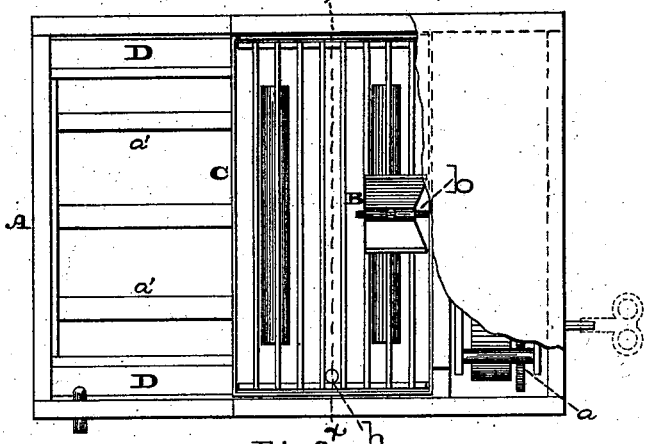


Fig. 2.

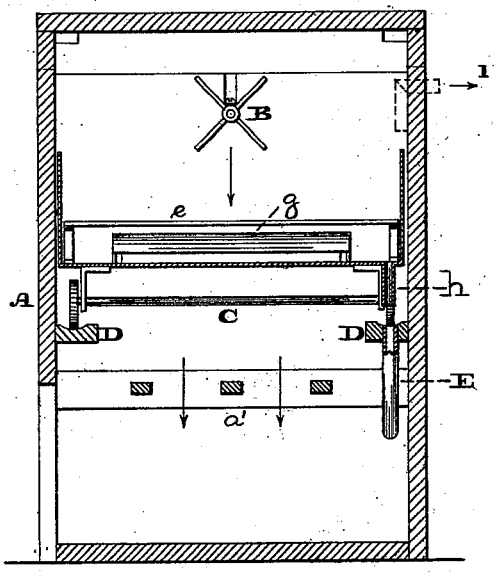
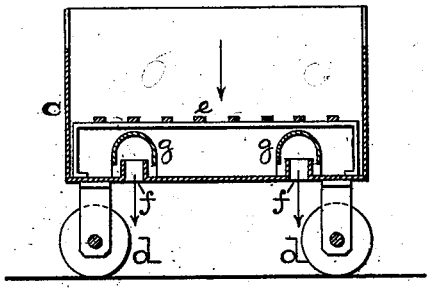


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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AUGUST AXT, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN REFRIGERATORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **209,852**, dated November 12, 1878; application filed August 19, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST AXT, of the city and county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Refrigerators, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view, partly broken away, of the refrigerator embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section in line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the ice-holder.

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

My invention consists of a refrigerator-case having a mechanically-operated fan, in combination with a shifting ice-holder having a water-pipe, and with ways which support the ice-holder and are channeled, so as to direct the drip to outlets regardless of the position of the holder.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the refrigerating case or chamber, at one end of which is mounted gearing *a*, operated by spring-power or weight, for communicating power to a shaft, *b*, mounted in suitable bearings near the upper part of the case, and carrying a fan, B, located within the chamber and over the ice holder or box C, which ice-box is supported on wheels *d*, adapted to run on ways D secured to the inner sides of the chamber.

The box C is provided with a rack, *e*, for supporting the ice, upwardly-projecting air pipes or passages *f* in its bottom, guards *g* over said passages to prevent water dropping into the same, and a pipe or outlet, *h*, for the melted ice or ice-water.

The upper faces of the ways D are preferably grooved for the wheels *d* of the ice-holder, and one (or both) of the ways has a pipe, E, which leads from the upper face of the way to a place of collection or discharge, and forms, as it were, a communication with the pipe *h* of the ice-holder. (See Fig. 2.)

The operation is as follows: The gearing *a* is wound by a suitable key, and its power is derived from springs or weights, as desired. The fan B receives rotation and drives air into the holder C, which will be properly supplied with ice placed on the rack *e*. The air is driven through the ice, and consequently cooled, and, entering the pipes or passages *f*, it is forced in a similar condition into the receiving-chamber and against the food or article to be cooled, which is placed on racks or otherwise therein, one of the racks being shown at *a' a'*, Figs. 1 and 2.

The warm or stale air or heated matters are driven out, an exit therefor being shown by the arrow 1.

It will be seen that the food or article will be subjected to continuous forced currents of cold air, the advantages whereof are evident.

The melted ice escapes through the pipe *h*, and, flowing on the way D thereunder, it enters the pipe E, from whence it may be directed to a place of collection or discharge.

When the holder is to be replenished with ice or cleansed, it will be run on the ways from under the fan B to the end of the case A opposite to the gearing *a*. The drip or melted ice will flow through the pipe *h* to the top of the way D, and thence toward the pipe E, so that, regardless of the position of the ice-holder, the drip or melted ice will always be directed to the pipe E, and never into the receiving-chamber proper, so that the latter will be kept dry and clean at all times.

After replenishing or cleansing the holder C it is restored to its position and the fan B permitted to rotate, the effects whereof are a repetition of the former operations.

I am aware that it is not new to provide a refrigerator with a mechanically-operated fan, and that ice-holders have been variously constructed; but I am not aware that it is old to construct an ice-holder that may be shifted under and from the fan and supported on channeled ways which are provided with pipes, into which the drip is directed regardless of the position of the holder; hence I have made an improvement in the art.

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

1. The shifting ice-holder C, provided with

water-pipe *h*, in combination with the supporting and channeled ways D, provided with a discharge pipe or pipes, E, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The refrigerator-case having a mechanically-operated fan, B, in combination with the shifting ice-holder C, with water-pipe *h*, and the supporting and channeled ways D, with discharge pipe or pipes E, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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