(Model.)

W. H. GORDON.

Cheese-Safe.

No. 228,627. **Patented June 8, 1880.**

Fig. 1.

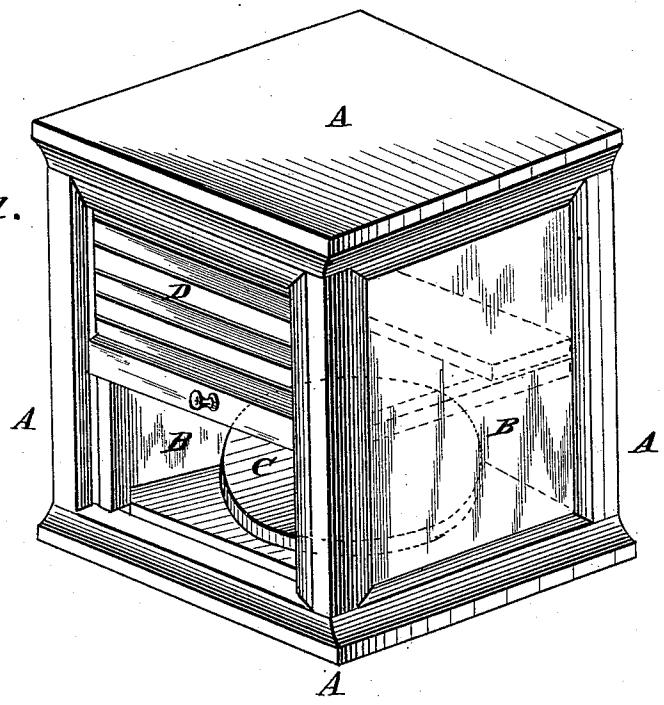


Fig. 2.

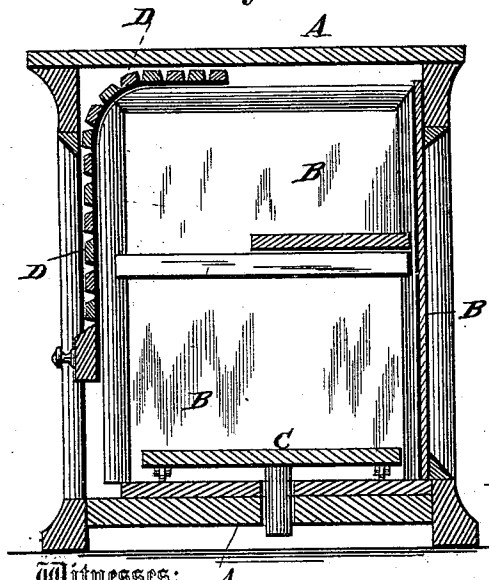
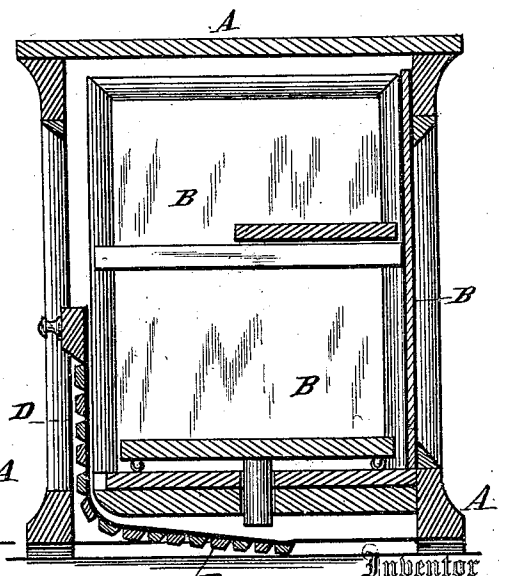


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CHEESE-SAFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 228,627, dated June 8, 1880.

Application filed April 5, 1880. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. GORDON, of Detroit, county of Wayne, State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cheese-Safes; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to cheese-safes; and it consists in the combination of devices and appliances hereinafter set forth, and more particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cheese-safe embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a central section of same. Fig. 3 is a variation, showing how the glass side may be inserted from beneath.

Heretofore cheese-safes have been constructed with glass sides and with a door, of wire-cloth, adapted to be raised and to slide back between the parts constituting the top of the safe. Difficulty has, however, been experienced, owing to the fact that the door being of wire-cloth the ventilation has been so great as to dry and harden the cheese on the fresh-cut surfaces. So, also, the wire-cloth has required the use of a roller, over which it might flex as it was raised, and the wire-cloth itself, by alternate bending and straightening, very soon caused the wire strands to break. Another serious objection has been the fact that the door is very liable to receive hard knocks, which would indent the wire-cloth and cause it to bind and catch as the door was raised and slid between the parts of the safe above, besides seriously marring its appearance.

The object of my invention is to make a safe which shall be provided with a flexible sliding door, yet which will obviate the foregoing objections.

A is the body of the safe, its sides and back B being of glass, so as to prevent a circulation of air through them. C is a rolling pivoted stand for the cheese, and D is the door. The door is made of slats, of wood or other material, laid edge to edge, and united by a piece of canvas or other suitable fabric, which is pasted upon the back of the slats. The door so formed is fitted to slide within suitable grooves made in the frame-work of the safe, and a handle is provided for actuating the door. In the instance shown in the drawings the door is adapted to be opened by lifting it up, which causes it to slide back between the parts constituting the top of the safe; but it is not essential that the door should open by an upward movement, for it is apparent that the edges of the flexible slat-door may be fitted to slide in grooves at the top and bottom of the frame, and be made to open by sliding it sidewise, in which case it would flex about one of the vertical posts of the frame, and then recede in a direction parallel with the sides of the case and either within or outside of the sides A. So, also, it might be made to open by a downward motion, in which event the lower edge of the door would pass in beneath the safe parallel with its floor.

The safe itself may be of cubical form, as shown, or may be made of any polygonal form in horizontal section, the shape of the safe or the direction of motion given to the door being immaterial, the essential feature of my invention being the employment of a flexible sliding door which shall open within the space occupied by the safe itself, said door being made of parallel slats fastened together edge to edge, whereby a door is made that does not deteriorate by frequently opening and closing—one that cannot become distorted or bind within its grooves, and which cannot become indented, so as to impair its looks, or so distort it as to cause it to bind at any point against the frame-work of the safe as the door is being opened and closed. When a safe is constructed in this manner with glass sides and a close-slat door it is so nearly air-tight that the fresh-cut surfaces of the cheese will not dry and be thereby impaired, yet sufficient air can circulate through the grooves around the edges of the sliding door to prevent mildew or mold.

I am aware that I am not the first to provide a cheese-safe with a rigid door, nor am I the first to provide it with a flexible door which, by sliding, can open within the limits occupied by the safe itself; but, so far as I am

aware, I am the first who has produced a door of rigid material, yet a flexible construction, so as to permit the door, by sliding, to open within the limits of the safe.

It is, of course, not essential that the sides or walls of the safe should be made of glass, except when it is desired to make it practically air-tight, in which case they should be made of glass or wood or metal; but they might be made of woven-wire screen.

I make no claim to a cheese-safe having its three sides made of glass, and a flexible sliding door; and, further, I make no claim to a flexible door or cover made of slats of wood connected together, as my invention consists in a cheese-safe of the peculiar construction of parts specified in the claim.

What I claim is—

A close cheese-safe three sides of which are formed of glass or other imperforate material, while one side is open and provided with a sliding door composed of slats united edge to edge by a facing of fabric, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. GORDON.

Witnesses:

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