

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

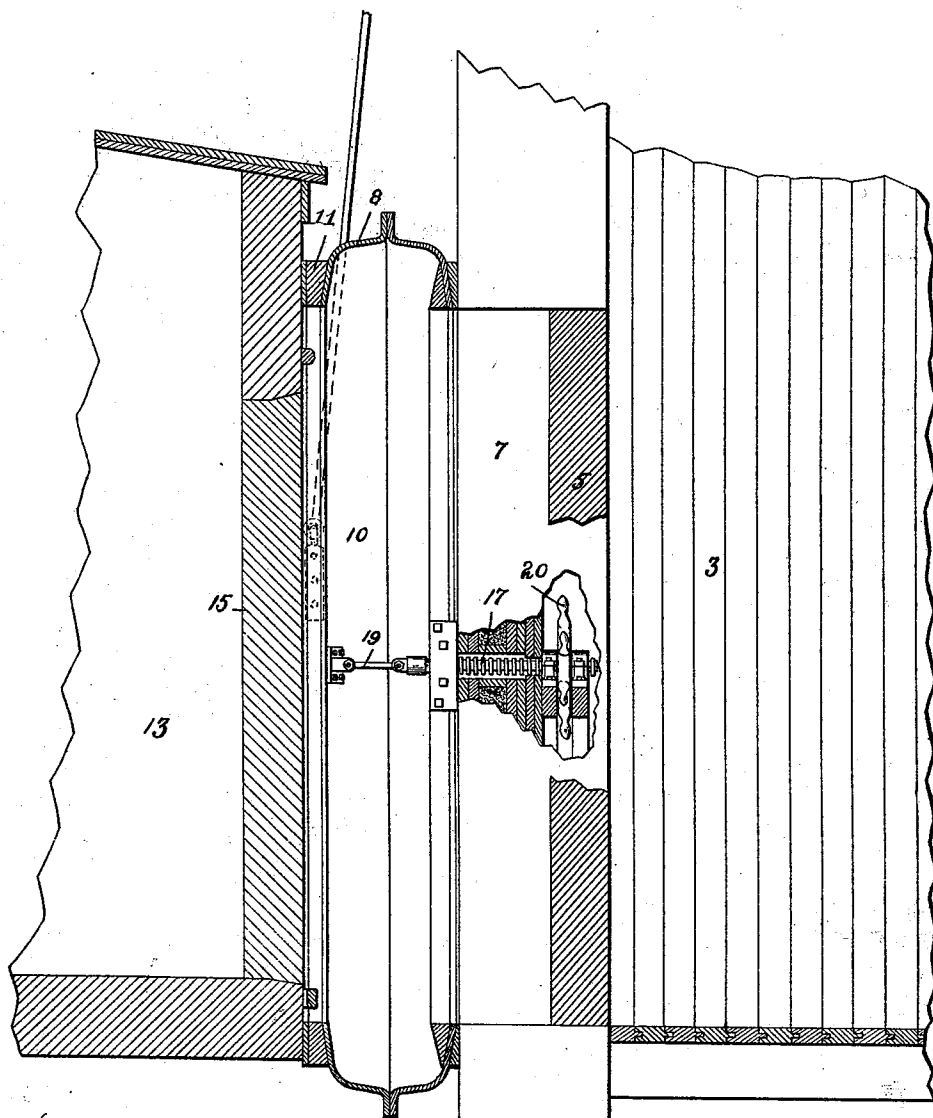
H. C. GARDNER.

EXTENSIBLE VESTIBULE FOR USE IN LOADING REFRIGERATOR CARS.

No. 514,923.

Patented Feb. 20, 1894.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses:

Wm. M. Rheem
Wm. L. Huming

Inventor:
Horace C. Gardner

by Bond, Adams, Pirard & Jackson,
his Attorneys.

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

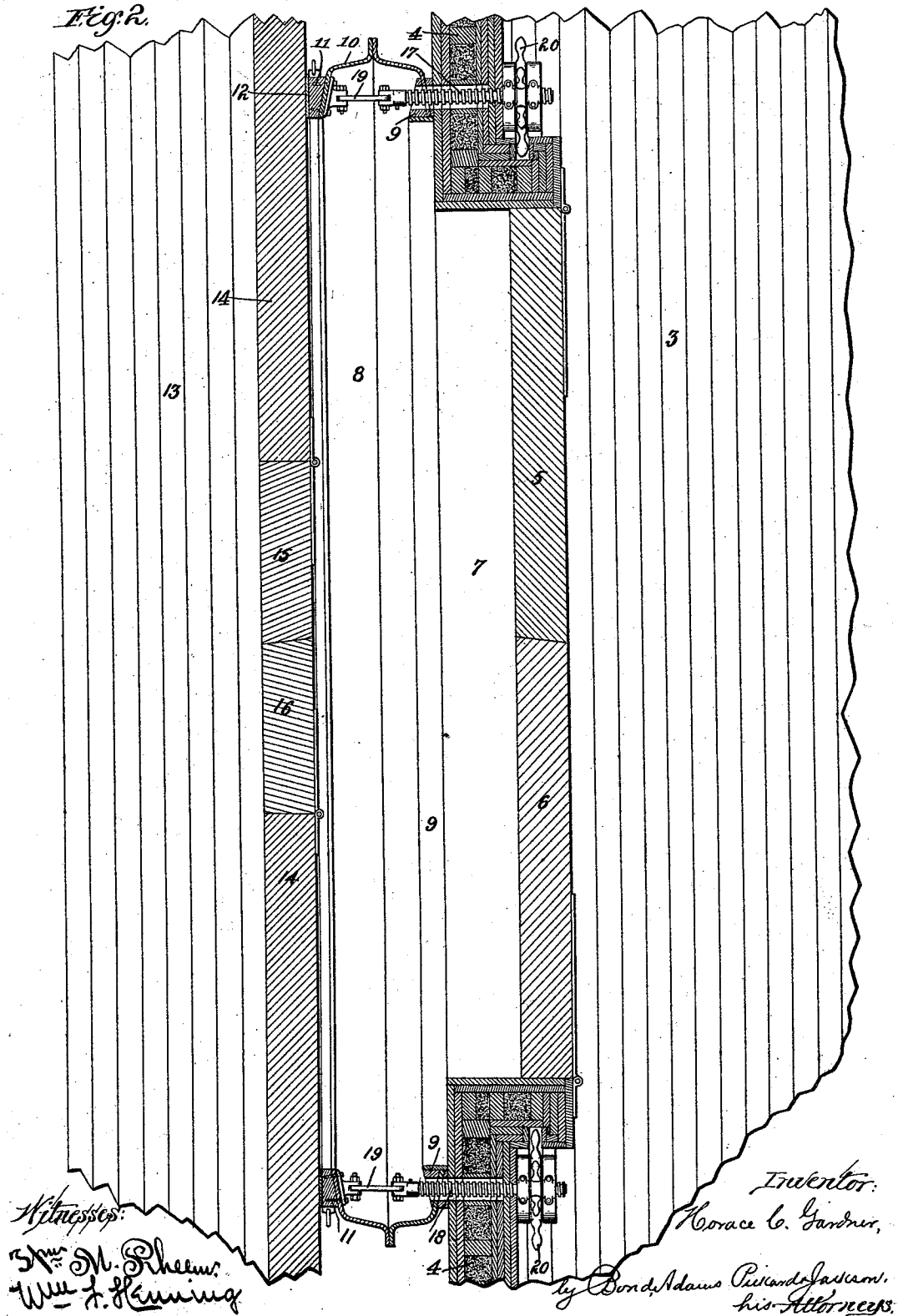
H. C. GARDNER.

EXTENSIBLE VESTIBULE FOR USE IN LOADING REFRIGERATOR CARS.

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Fig. 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HORACE C. GARDNER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND
GUSTAVUS F. SWIFT, OF SAME PLACE.

EXTENSIBLE VESTIBULE FOR USE IN LOADING REFRIGERATOR-CARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 514,923, dated February 20, 1894.

Application filed April 10, 1893. Serial No. 469,842. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HORACE C. GARDNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Extensible Vestibules for Use in Loading Refrigerator-Cars, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical cross section through the vestibule and a portion of a warehouse and car; and Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same.

Heretofore in loading refrigerator cars with dressed beef it has been customary to switch the car to be loaded on a side-track near the platform of the cold-storage warehouse in which the beef is stored, and to carry the beef from such warehouse across the platform to the car. By this method of procedure the beef itself is not only exposed to the atmosphere, but the car and warehouse are also more or less warmed, as they are also exposed. The advantages of reducing the temperature of the refrigerator car, as is customary, are thereby destroyed to a great extent.

My invention has for its object to provide means whereby not only the beef itself but also the car to be loaded and the warehouse may be protected from the external atmosphere during the process of loading. I accomplish this object as hereinafter specified and as illustrated in the drawings.

That which I regard as new will be set forth in the claims.

In the drawings,—3 indicates a portion of a cold-storage warehouse, of which 4 indicates one of the walls and 5—6 the doors.

7 indicates the door-way.

8 indicates an extensible vestibule covering, which is arranged around all sides of the door-way 7. The vestibule 8 consists of a frame 9, which is rigidly secured around the door-way 7, and carries an extensible insulated covering 10, which in turn carries a face-plate 11 around its outer edge. The covering 10 is preferably of felt covered with rubber, by which construction it is made a more perfect non-conductor of heat and is also

readily extensible. I do not wish to limit myself, however, to a covering 10 made of the materials mentioned, as any other suitable non-conducting materials may be used.

The face-plate 11 carries on its face a covering 12, of felt or other suitable material, to adapt it to make a tight connection with the side of a car.

13 indicates a portion of a car, of which 14 indicates one of the sides and 15—16 the doors. The face-plate 11 is adapted to fit around the door of the car to insulate it from external air.

The vestibule 8 is extended or retracted by means of screws 17—18 arranged at opposite sides of the door-way 7, which screws are connected to the face-plate 11 by links 19, as best shown in Fig. 2. The screws 17 are adapted to be moved in or out by hand-wheels 20 mounted thereupon, as shown in Fig. 2. By this construction the face-plate 11 may be pressed firmly into contact with the sides of the car, thereby insuring a perfectly tight connection.

In using my improved vestibule, the car is switched until its door lies opposite the door of the warehouse, and then the vestibule is moved tightly into contact with the side of the car around its door, when the doors are opened and the car may be loaded.

The term "warehouse" as herein used should be understood to apply to any cold-storage room.

That which I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a warehouse, of an insulated extensible vestibule arranged around the door-way and adapted to be extended into contact with a car, and mechanism for extending said vestibule, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a warehouse, of an extensible insulated covering arranged around the door-way thereof, means for extending said covering to move it into contact with the side of a car or other receptacle to be loaded, and a face-plate carried by said covering adapted to fit closely against said car, substantially as described.

3. The combination with a warehouse, of an extensible vestibule arranged around the

doorway thereof and capable of being brought into contact with the side of the car or other receptacle to be loaded, substantially as described.

- 5 4. The combination with a warehouse, of an extensible vestibule arranged around the doorway thereof and capable of being brought into contact with the side of a car or other re-

ceptacle to be loaded, prior to opening the doors of the warehouse or car, substantially as described.

HORACE C. GARDNER.

Witnesses:

FRANK J. LEONARD,
A. G. BLACKFORD.