



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GILBERT MORTIMER LEE, OF JEFFERSON, KANSAS.

## REFRIGERATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 378,254, dated February 21, 1888.

Application filed June 29, 1887. Serial No. 242,885. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GILBERT MORTIMER LEE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jefferson township, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Refrigerators; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of my invention, and Fig. 2 a vertical section thereof.

The object of the present invention is to provide a refrigerating-cupboard that will possess the required ventilation to keep the articles placed therein sweet and in a condition for consumption, and also to provide convenient means for obtaining access to the several shelves, independent of each other, in place of the ordinary doors used in the refrigerators of ordinary construction; and the invention consists in the details of construction, substantially as shown in the drawings, and herein-after described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the cupboard, of any desirable size and shape, provided with a hinged top, B, for obtaining access to the ice-pan C, contained in the top of the cupboard and supported by means of the shelf *a*. The ice-pan C is provided with a short pipe, *b*, to which is connected the end of a rubber tube, *c*, of any desirable length, whereby the water from the ice in the pan may be drained off. There is a space between the ice-pan and the sides and ends of the cupboard A, as well as between the end walls of the various compartments and the outer wall of the cupboard, there being a communication formed between the outer space and the compartments by means of the openings *l* and the vertical channels *l'*, which extend from said openings to the top of the cupboard.

To the sides of the cupboard A are suitable

ventilators, *d*, to allow fresh air to pass into the chamber containing the ice-pan, where it is cooled, and thence passes down into the spaces above the several shelves in the cupboard.

The cupboard may be provided with any suitable number of shelves D, and the bottom E also serving as a shelf. The shelves D are arranged slightly on an incline, and are provided with cleats *e*, so as to support the plates containing the fruits, vegetables, or meats off the bottom of the shelf, so as to allow the air to pass under and around it. Each of the shelves D is provided with a deflector, *E*, so as to deflect the air as it passes from the ice-chamber both downwardly to the next shelf and outwardly to the front of the cupboard, a space being left between each deflector and back of the cupboard for the circulation of the air throughout the entire extent of the refrigerator or cupboard.

Each compartment for containing the meat, vegetables, or other eatables is provided with an independent drop-lid, F, connected to the sides of the cupboard by means of links *f*, said lids having suitable handles, *g*, and bolts or other suitable fastenings, *h*, to retain the lids closed.

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

The combination, in a refrigerator having air-inlets at its upper part, of a plurality of superposed compartments, each having an inclined bottom, D, and its rear wall separated from that of the refrigerator and inclined downwardly and forwardly to form a deflector, E, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

GILBERT MORTIMER LEE.

Witnesses:

J. H. MARSHALL,

J. T. FULTON.