

R. C. Andrus.

Corpse Cooler.

N^o 109,861.

Patented Dec. 6, 1870.

Fig. 1.

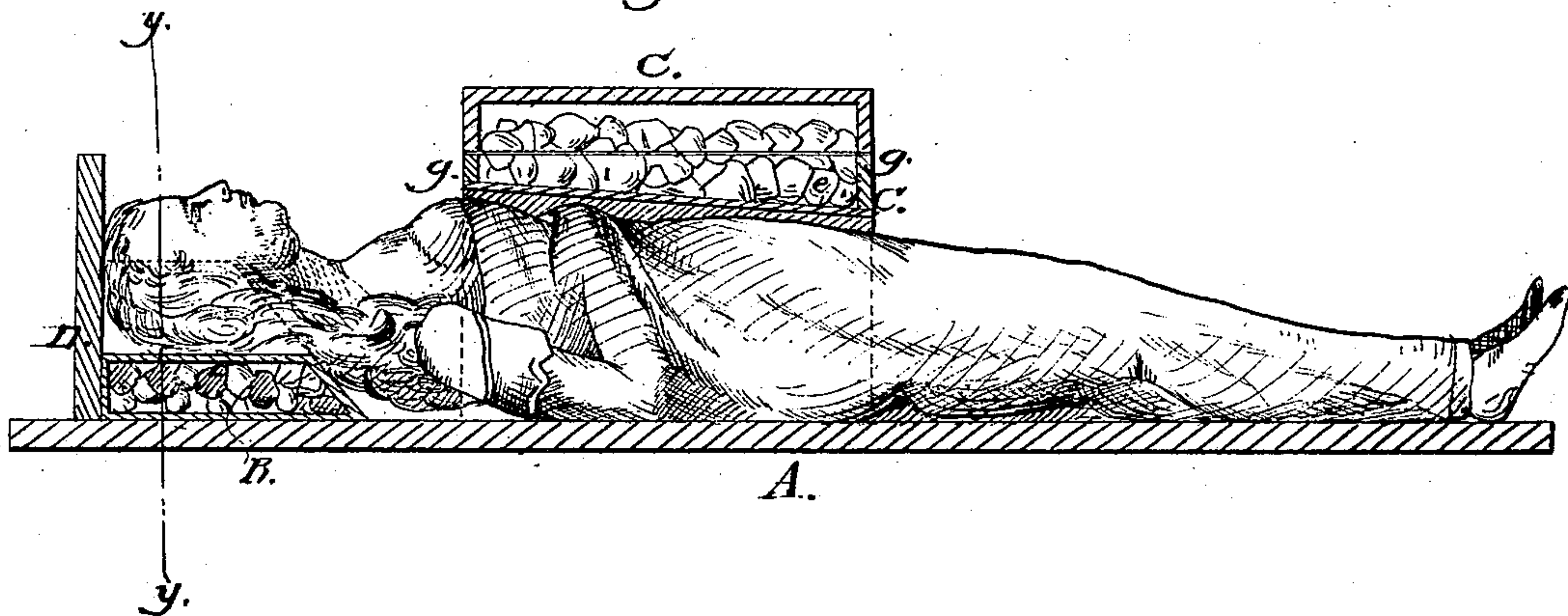
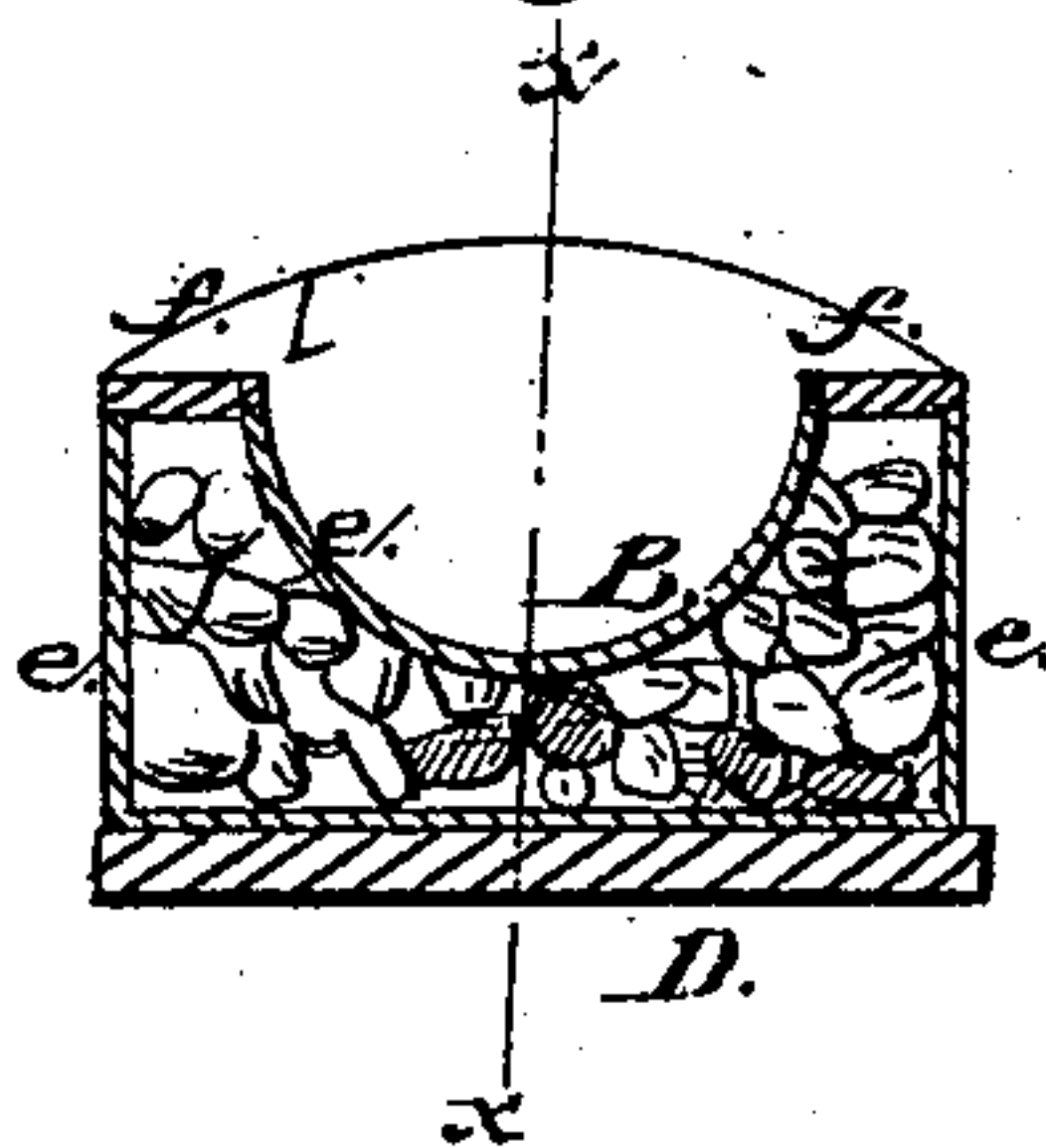


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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United States Patent Office.

R. C. ANDRUS, OF POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 109,861, dated December 6, 1870; antedated December 3, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN CORPSE-PRESERVERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, R. C. ANDRUS, of Poughkeepsie, in the county of Dutchess and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Corpse-Preserver; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in apparatus for preserving dead bodies from decay by means of lowering the temperature of the air in contact with the body, being more particularly intended for preventing decay of bodies in warm weather for limited periods; and

The invention consists in providing two or more ice-cases, one for the head and one for the chest and abdomen, and another for the lower limbs, if found necessary or desirable, constructed and arranged as will be hereinafter described.

Figure 1 represents longitudinal sections of the ice-cases applied to a dead body, the head case being a section through line *x x* of fig. 2.

Figure 2 is a vertical section of the head-case, fig. 1, through *y y*.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the platform upon which the body is laid;

B is the head-case; and

C is the chest-case.

Both of these cases may be loose from the platform, so that they may be properly adjusted to the body.

D is a head-board, which is attached to the head-case.

One or both of these cases may be made of metal entirely, if desired, but I have found it better to make them of wood, with the part which comes in contact with the body of metal, as zinc or galvanized sheet-iron.

e represents the metal part of the cases in the drawing. The cases are made hollow and filled with ice.

The head-case is filled by removing the detachable pins *f f*.

The chest-case C has a cover, C', which is either doweled or hinged to the case.

The joint of the cover is seen at *g g*.

The inside of the chest-case is much in the form of the head-case turned over or bottom side up, as seen in the drawing.

The part of that case marked *f f* would rest on the platform A, and the circular portion would inclose the body.

The head is laid in the circle B, and the dotted lines indicate the height of the circle.

A thick woolen blanket is laid on the platform for the body to rest on, and when the cases are adjusted to the head and chest and filled with ice another thick blanket covers the cases.

By this method the temperature is readily reduced to 38°, and a dead body may be preserved from decay for three or four days in the hottest of weather.

Faucets may be attached to the cases for drawing off the water as the ice melts, and the ice may be renewed, if necessary; but, if the cases are properly protected by good non-conductors of heat, (as woolen blankets,) once filling with ice will be found sufficient in ordinary cases.

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The corpse-preserver, consisting of the ice-case B, hollowed out upon the top for the reception of the head of the corpse, and the ice-chest C, hollowed out upon its under side to fit over the chest and body of the corpse, both cases being supported by the base-board A, and all arranged as described, for the purpose specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 29th day of May, 1868.

R. C. ANDRUS.

Witnesses:

FRANK BLOCKLEY,
ALEX. F. ROBERTS.