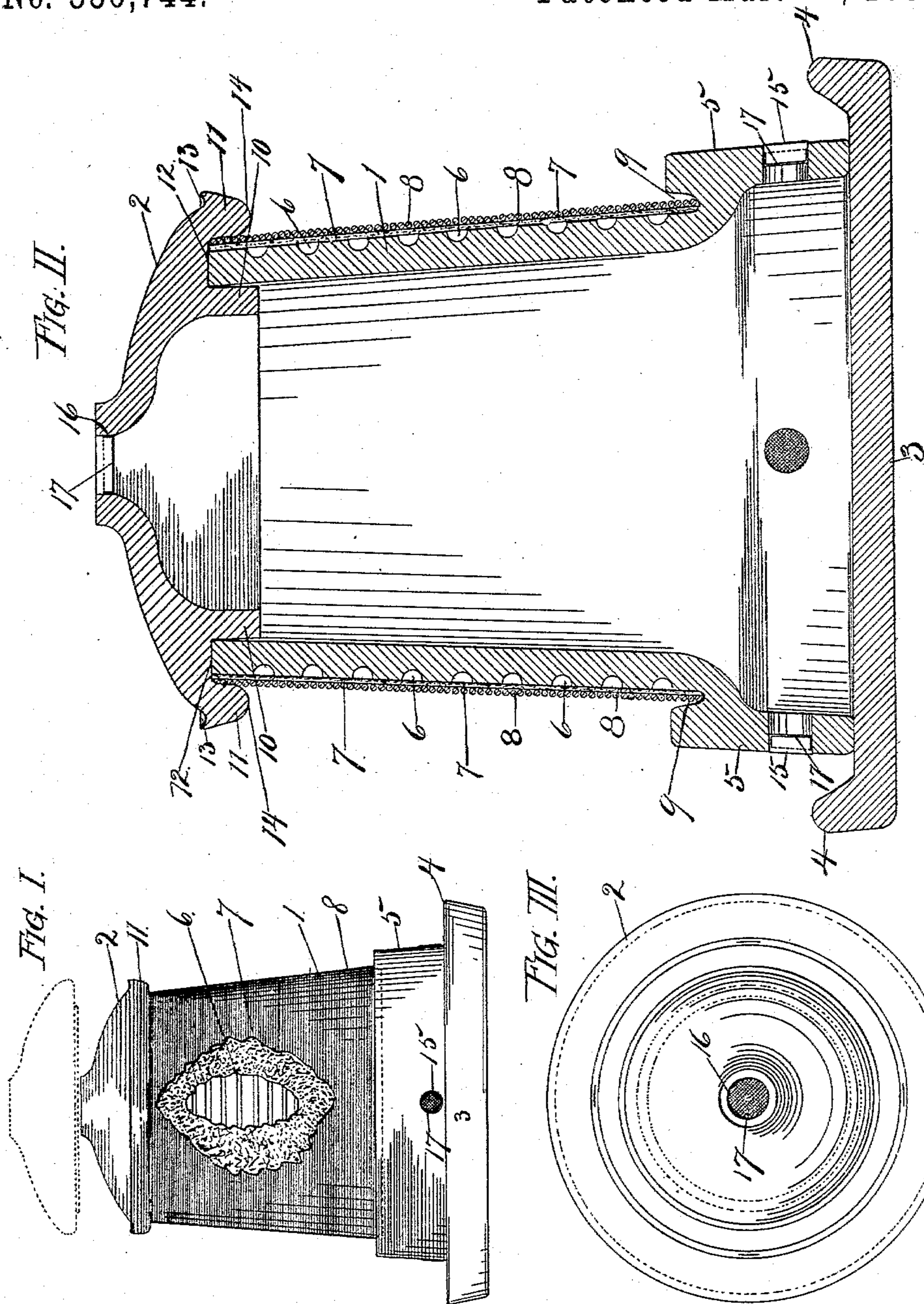


(No Model.)

J. V. FROST.  
EVAPORATIVE REFRIGERATOR.

No. 556,744.

Patented Mar. 24, 1896.



WITNESSES  
G. A. Howard Jr.  
Halter & Allen

INVENTOR.  
JOHN V. FROST.  
BY *Amigler Bros.*  
ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN V. FROST, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF  
TO JOHN G. ORTH, OF SAME PLACE.

## EVAPORATIVE REFRIGERATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 556,744, dated March 24, 1896.

Application filed June 13, 1895. Serial No. 552,619. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN V. FROST, of Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Butter-Coolers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in butter-coolers, but which is also adapted for preserving other perishable articles; and my invention consists in certain features of novelty hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure I is a side elevation of my improved butter-cooler with portions broken away in order to show construction. Fig. II represents an enlarged vertical section. Fig. III is a top view.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents the body, 2 the top, and 3 the tray or bottom.

The cooler is preferably formed of a porous substance—such, for instance, as terra-cotta—which will absorb moisture and retain the same for a considerable period of time. The bottom 3 is provided with a peripheral flange 4 and is somewhat larger in diameter than the bottom of the body, said flange extending upwardly, thus serving to retain a quantity of water.

The base 5 of the body 2 is preferably made of larger diameter than the rest of the body and is adapted to rest upon the bottom or tray 3. The main portion of the body is provided with a series of circumferential grooves 6 adapted to receive and retain water. Over the grooves and extending around the body I secure some material adapted to hold as large a quantity of water as possible, my preferred material being a sheet of asbestos, placed next to the grooves 7 and a covering of woolen cord 8 wound around the asbestos. I have found from experiment that a construction of the materials named will retain moisture much longer than various other substances.

Between the base 5 and the body of the

cooler I form a channel or recess 9, which serves the double purpose of protecting the lower edge of the moisture-retaining material surrounding the body and serving as a cup to catch and retain a portion of the water that is poured over the cooler.

The top is preferably made removable for convenience in placing the butter or other articles inside of the body, has the usual inner flange, 10, and an outer overhanging flange, 11, thus forming a recess 12, into which the upper end of the body of the cooler extends. The outer edge of the flange 11 is slightly turned up, forming a groove 13, which serves to retain a portion of water, and the lower edge of the flange being rounded, as shown at 14, will prevent the dripping of water to a certain extent and permit it by capillary attraction to find its way down onto the moisture-holding material wound around the body. The recess 12 admits the upper edge of the moisture-holding material and serves to protect the same. The body of the cooler is provided with apertures 15 located near its bottom, and the lid has an aperture 16. These apertures permit a circulation of air through the cooler, which keeps the interior pure. I place within these apertures screens 17 to prevent the ingress of dirt, insects, &c.

In operation the articles to be preserved are placed inside of the cooler in suitable vessels—such, for instance, as earthenware crocks—water is poured over the outside of the cooler, and the absorbent material thoroughly saturated. As the water passes off in the form of vapor, the heat is extracted from the vessel and the temperature of the interior lowered.

I claim as my invention—

1. A cooling-receptacle having a series of circumferential grooves on its outer side and a covering of asbestos over said grooves, substantially as set forth.

2. A cooling-receptacle having a series of circumferential grooves on its outer side, a covering of asbestos over said grooves and suitable moisture-retaining material covering the asbestos, substantially as set forth.

3. A cooling-receptacle having a series of circumferential grooves on its outer side, asbestos covering said grooves and a covering on the outside of the asbestos made of woolen  
5 cord and wound around the receptacle, substantially as set forth.
4. A cooling-receptacle having a removable bottom, a top having an outer flange with a groove on its upper side and a rounded under surface, substantially as set forth.

JOHN V. FROST.

Witnesses:

J. E. KNIGHT,

L. I. DAVIS.