

Albert Richardson was one of those rare inventors who not only created numerous devices, but created devices that were completely unrelated to one another. Gifted Black inventor Albert Richardson invented the butter churn, patent #466,470 on this day. Richardson's device consisted of a large wooden cylinder container with a plunger-like handle which moved up and down. The movement caused the oily parts of cream or milk to separate from the more watery parts. In doing so it allowed for an easy way to make butter and changed the food industry forever.

Three years later Richardson patented the casket lowering device. This invention is in all cemeteries today. It consists of a series of pulleys and ropes or cloths, which ensures the coffin is lowered evenly. This invention was very significant at that time and is used in all cemeteries today.