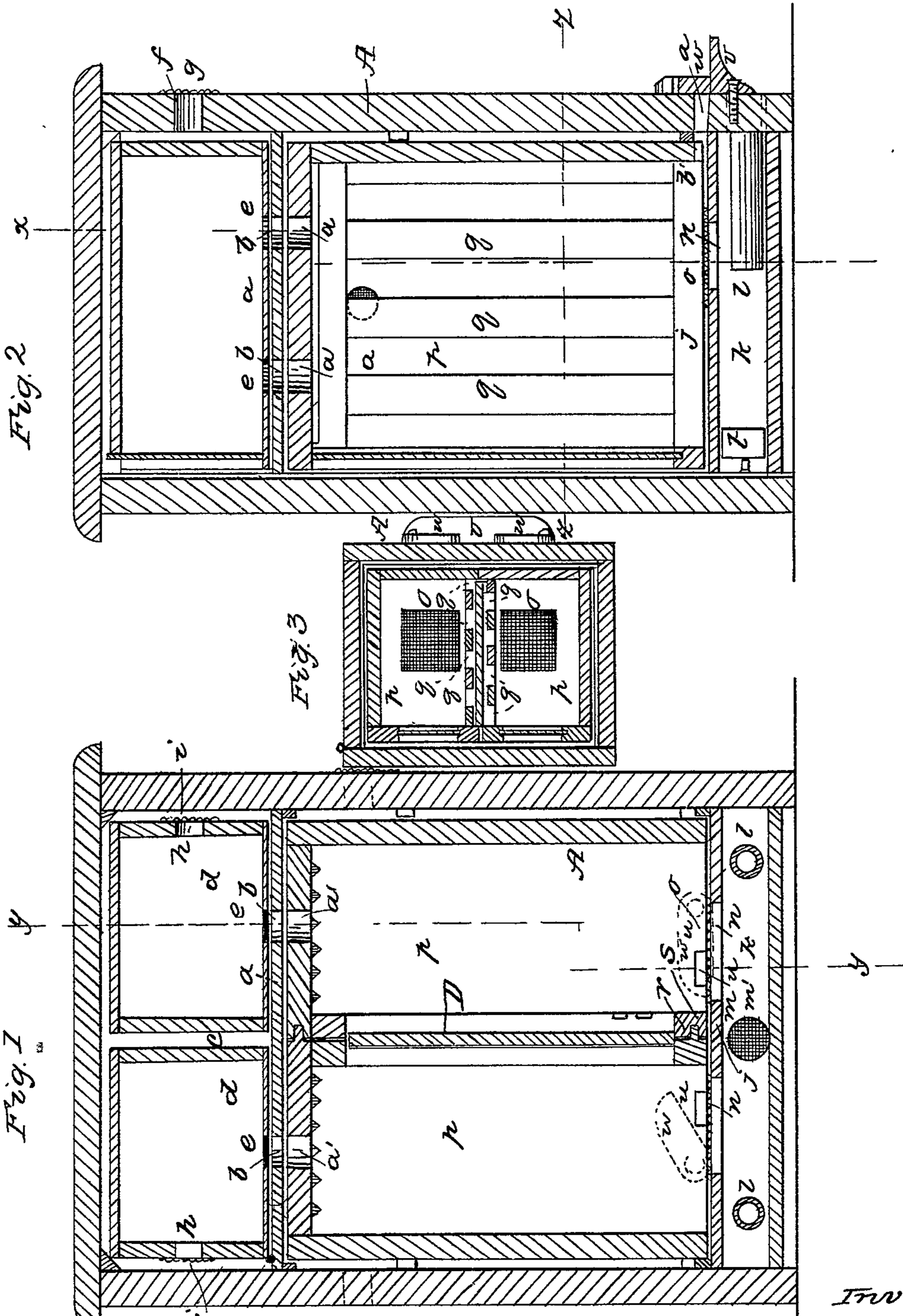


RICHEY & HOTCHKISS.

Bee Hive.

No. 41,942.

Patented March 15, 1864.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. RICHEY AND C. HOTCHKISS, OF VAN WERT, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 41,912, dated March 15, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN E. RICHEY and C. HOTCHKISS, both of Van Wert, in the county of Van Wert and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Bee-Hive; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of our invention, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the same taken, in the line *y y*, Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a horizontal section of the same, taken in the line *z z*, Fig. 2.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the three figures.

The object of this invention is to obtain a bee-hive of simple construction which will admit of the swarm or colony of bees within it being readily divided and transferred to another hive, so as to multiply colonies.

The invention has further for its object the entrapping of the moth by a very simple arrangement, which will at the same time serve as a draft chamber for the proper ventilation of the hive.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct our invention, we will proceed to describe it.

A represents a rectangular case, which may be of any suitable dimensions, and is provided at its upper part with a horizontal partition, *a*, which has four holes, *b*, made in it. The compartment *c*, above this partition *a*, has two spare honey-boxes, *d d*, within it, each of which has two holes, *e*, made in its bottom which fit over two holes, *b*, in the partition *a*. The compartment *c* communicates with the external air by means of an opening, *f*, (one or more,) in the side of the case A, said openings being covered by wire-cloth *g*. Ventilating-openings *h* are also made in one or more sides of the spare honey-boxes *d*, said openings being also covered with wire cloth *i*. (See Fig. 1.)

In the lower part of the case A there is a horizontal partition, *j*, which forms a shallow compartment, *k*, into which tubes *l* (one or more) pass, said tube or tubes being fitted in one side of the case and forming a communication between the compartment *k* and the external air. An opening, *m*, is also

made in one side of this compartment, and is covered with wire cloth *m'*. The air therefore, it will be seen, has free access into the compartment *k*. In the partition *j* there are made two openings, *n n*, which are covered by wire cloth *o*.

The space between the two partitions *a j* is quite large, and it contains two boxes, *p p*, which placed side by side and have their adjoining sides formed of slats *q*. These two boxes may be fitted together by a tongue and groove, *r s*, at their upper and lower parts, as shown in Fig. 1. When the two boxes *p p* are thus fitted together, a space is allowed between them to receive a slide, D, which, when the boxes require to be separated, is shoved between the boxes.

The back of the case A is a door hung upon hinges, so that it may be opened to expose all of the boxes and admit of the ready removal of any of them.

In the back of the compartment *k* there is fitted a bar or slat, *t*, which serves to keep said compartment closed when the door is opened. (See Fig. 2.)

In the front side of the case A there are made two openings, *u*, one for each box *p*. These openings are directly over an alighting-board, *v*. The openings *u* are provided with buttons *u*, which admit of the openings being closed when necessary or desired. Each box *p* has two holes, *a'*, made in its top, which holes register with the holes *b* in the partition *a*. The two boxes *p p* constitute the hive, and the plate or slide D is not placed between them at first; in fact, it is not used until a short time before it is desired to divide the hive. The two boxes at this time are then separated by the plate or slide D, and when the divided bees are reconciled, those of each box by their separation, one of the boxes is removed and placed by the side of an empty box in a vacant hive. Thus two colonies will be formed from one, an empty box, *p*, being put in the place of the occupied one which was removed from the working hive.

The compartment *k* serves as a moth-trap and as a ventilating chamber. The moth in endeavoring to get into the hive will pass through the tubes *l l* into *k*, and not being able to return will perish there, while the air that enters into *k* will pass up through the openings *n n*, through the boxes *p*, and out through

the ventilating-openings at the upper part of case A.

The boxes *p p*, it will be understood, are not provided with bottoms, and at the lower ends of their front sides they are notched, as shown at *b'*, to admit of the bees passing into them from the hole *u*.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The arrangement of the divisible hive *p p* and slide D with the ventilating and moth-chamber *k* and boxes *d d* in the manner herein shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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