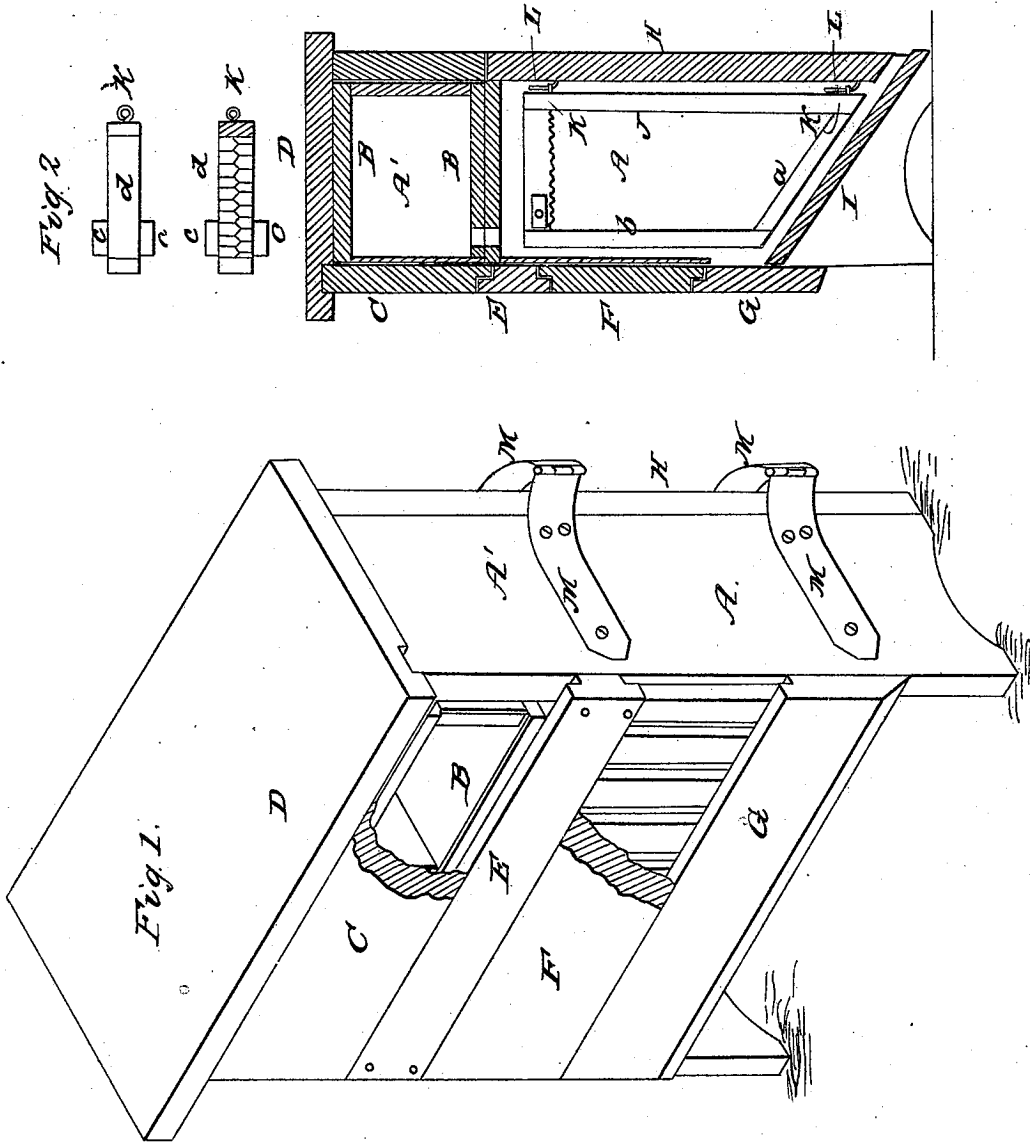


R. GIPSON.

Bee Hive.

No. 42,995.

Patented May 31, 1864.



Witnesses
W. F. Burdick,
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Inventor
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REUBEN GIPSON, OF SHELBY, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 42,985, dated May 31, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REUBEN GIPSON, of Shelby, in the county of Richland and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bee-Hives; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section.

Like letters refer to like parts in the different views.

My invention relates to the inclined bottom board, to hanging the comb-frames to the door, to the corrugated line for the attachment of the comb, and to the construction of the hinge for the door.

In the accompanying drawings, A A represent the ends of the body of the hive. The upper section, A', forms the chamber for the honey-boxes B. This is inclosed upon the back side of the hive by a sliding door, C, supported upon the upper edge by a groove in the under side of the cover D. The lower edge of the sliding door C is supported upon the bar F, that connects the back edge of the two end pieces, A. Another sliding door is shown at F. The upper edge of this runs in a groove in the under edge of the bar E. The lower edge of the sliding door F runs in a groove in the upper edge of the bottom board, G, that forms the back of the lower portion of the hive. The sliding door C opens into the chamber A', containing the honey-boxes, and the door F opens into the section that contains the comb-frames, hereinafter to be described. The opening into the main body of the hive from the front is shown at H. This is hung to the end piece, A, by long hinges, as shown in Fig. 1, for purposes hereinafter described. The bottom board of the hive is shown at I. This is inclined upward and backward at an angle of about thirty-five degrees, as shown in Fig. 2, so that any substance that falls upon it may be easily displaced by the movement of the bees in entering and leaving the hive. The passage for this purpose is just below the door, there being a sufficient amount of space between the bottom of the door and the upper side of the bottom board for this purpose. The comb-

frames, one of which is represented at J in Fig. 2, have their lower bar, a, placed at an angle that corresponds to that of the bottom board, I. The forward lower angle is therefore acute, and the back lower angle obtuse. The back bar, b, of the comb frame is consequently shorter than the front one. The upper angles of the frame J are both right angles. The front bar of each frame is provided, both at the top and bottom, with staples or eyes K, Fig. 2, each of which forms one section of a hinge by which the frames are attached to the inside of the door H. The other part of the hinge is shown at L in Fig. 2, and consists of a round rod or wire, the lower end of which is bent at right angles and is driven into the inside of the door, leaving the opposite end upward, as shown in the figure. When the door is thrown wide open, in consequence of the peculiar form of the hinges M, the comb-frames, which are hung upon the inside of the door at regular intervals, and exceeding in distance the thickness of the comb about a quarter of an inch, are thrown entirely out of the body of the hive. That part of each hinge that is attached to the end piece, A, is curved outward two or three inches. That part attached to the door is curved backward, and is so extended as to meet the other section, where the two parts join, as shown in the figure. By this means the door, when opened, swings entirely clear from the body of the hive, bringing with it the comb-frames, as above described. The comb-frames, being hung to the door upon the inside at such distances apart as to allow room for the construction of the comb and the free passage of the bees between them, are kept parallel with each other by stop-blocks c, placed at and secured to the upper back corners, as shown in Fig. 2. The upper bar, d, of the comb-frames has its under side corrugated in the form of a cross section of a honey-comb, as shown at e, the object of which is to induce the bees to build their comb from the center line of this corrugation, for I have demonstrated by actual experiment that bees will take advantage of this corrugation and build their combs therefrom, when it conforms in shape and size to the natural comb, and continue their work accordingly. In consequence of this feature the comb frames will never become united by having the combs extend from one frame to another. Therefore

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