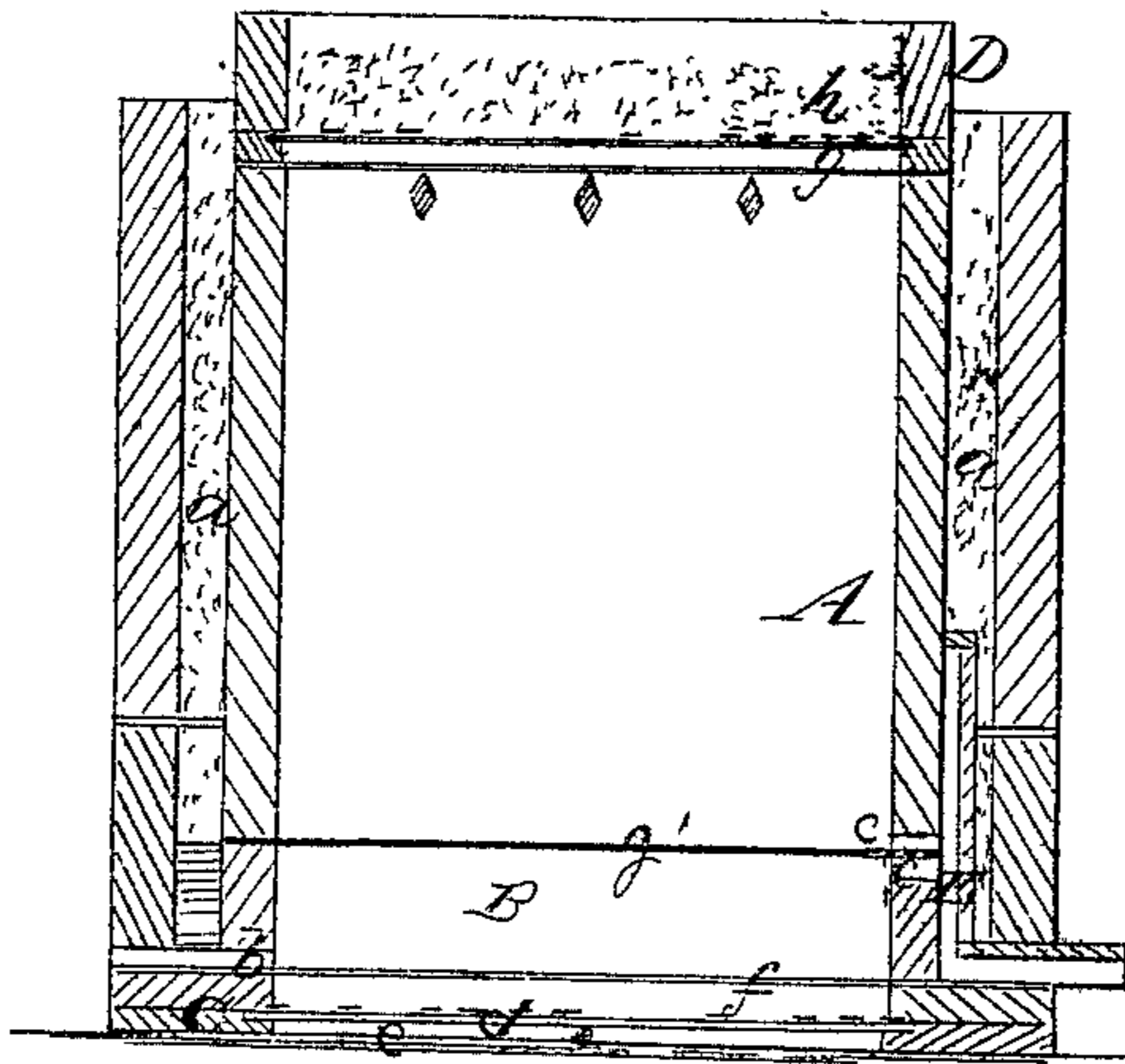


*W. Y. Singleton, Bee-Hive.*

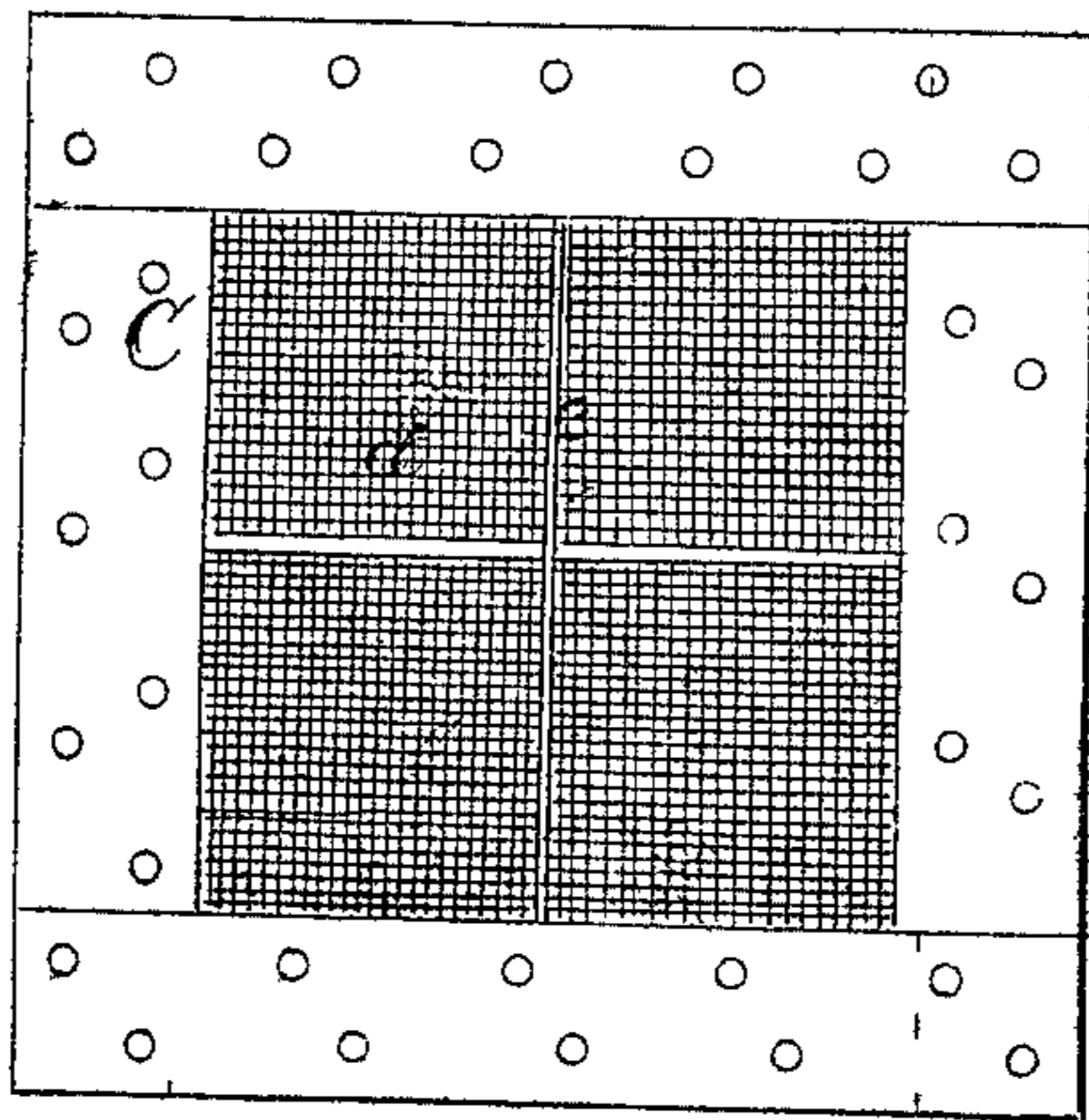
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*Fig: 1.*



*Fig: 2.*



Witnesses  
*Thos. Emshie*  
*J. A. Fraser*

Inventor  
*W. Y. Singleton*  
*Per James H. G.*  
*Attorneys*

# United States Patent Office.

W. Y. SINGLETON, OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

*Letters Patent No. 74,618, dated February 18, 1868.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

*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, W. Y. SINGLETON, of Springfield, in the county of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and improved Bee-Hive; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in the construction of bee-hives, and has for its object the wintering of the bees in a perfect manner, keeping them warm and dry, to which end a thorough ventilation of the hive is obtained, and due provision made for the absorption of all moisture. In the accompanying sheet of drawings—

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of my invention.

Figure 2, an under view or an inverted plan of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

My improved bee-hive consists of four principal parts, A being the main part or body of the hive, B an air-chamber on which A rests, C an absorbent bottom on which B rests, and D an absorbent top or lid. The body or main portion A may be constructed of the usual size, about a foot square internally. This part A is doubled walled, the space between being filled with any suitable non-conducting material, *a*, shown clearly in fig. 1. The part B, which I term the air-chamber, has a recess, *b*, cut in the centre of the under edge of its front side. This recess serves as an air-passage, and at the rear of the air-chamber there is a right-angular bee-entrance, E, which communicates with the body A by means of a groove or recess, *c'*, in the side of the body A above the top, *g'*, of the air-chamber. This recess is also extended below the top, *g'*, at *c*, and covered with wire cloth to prevent the bees entering the air-passage *c*. The bottom, C, is a shallow box on which the air-chamber rests. This bottom is composed of a wooden frame, the sides of which are equal in breadth to the double-walled main part A, and this frame has a cloth or canvas bottom, *d*, secured to it in any proper manner, the cloth or canvas being supported by cross wires *e*. On this cloth or canvas I place an absorbent material, *f*. Dry-leached wood-ashes would answer an excellent purpose.

The lid or top, D, is constructed like the bottom, provided with a cloth or canvas bottom, *g*, with an absorbent material, *h*, placed upon it. The bottom, C, and top or lid D absorb all moisture in the hive, and sufficient air is allowed to pass through the top and bottom to evaporate or take up the moisture, while air is admitted into the hive through the passages E *b c*. The double walls of the main part A of the hive, with the non-conducting filling, render the hive warm, and keep the bees in a healthy state during the winter season.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The absorbent bottom C and lid or top D, constructed and applied to the hive substantially in the manner as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The air-chamber B with the air-passage E attached, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

W. Y. SINGLETON.

Witnesses:

PARDEN ENGLAND,  
JAMES L. ADAMS.