T. H. Forster, 2. Sheets. Sheet. 1.

Bee Hive.

No. 104,011. Patented June 7. 1870.

fig. 2.

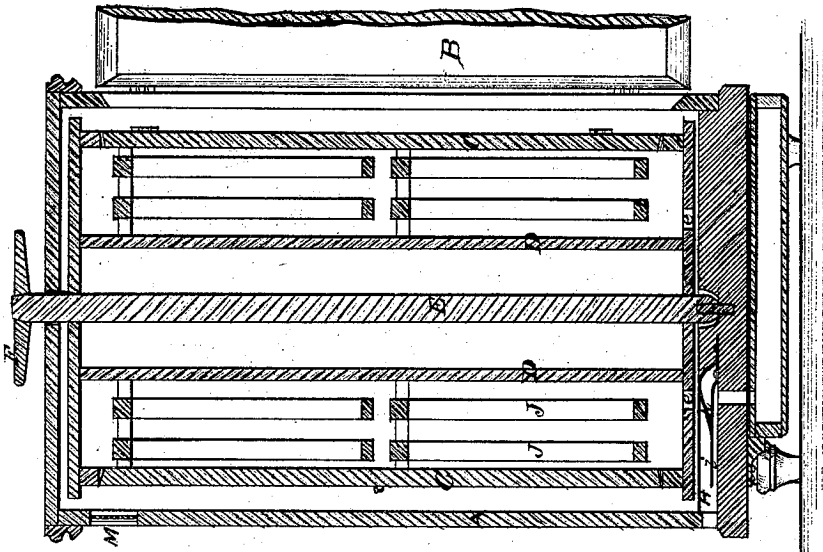
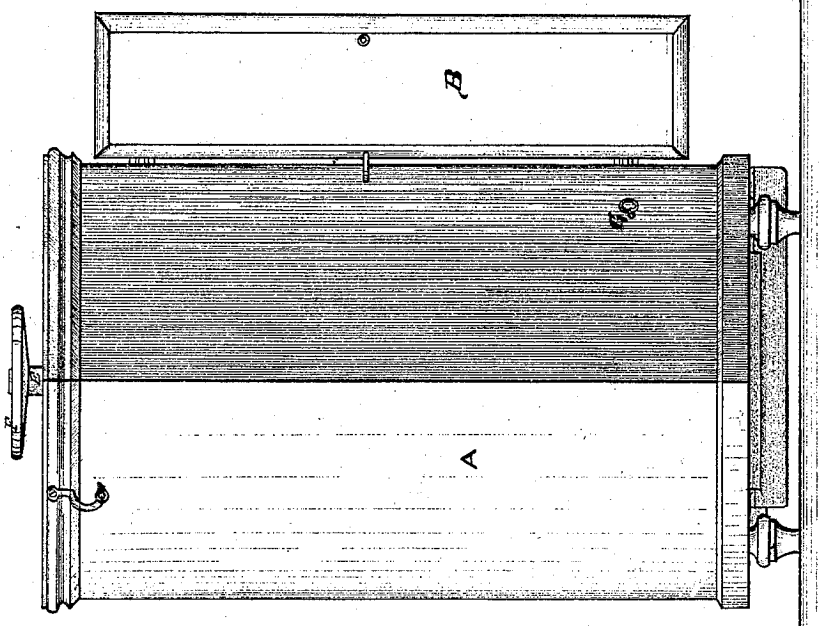


fig. 1.



WITNESSES.

Wm. H. Weeks

O. F. Mayhew.

Thomas H. Forster INVENTOR

2. Sheets, Sheet 2.

T. H. Forster,

Bee Hive.

No. 104,011. Patented June 7. 1870.

fig. 3.

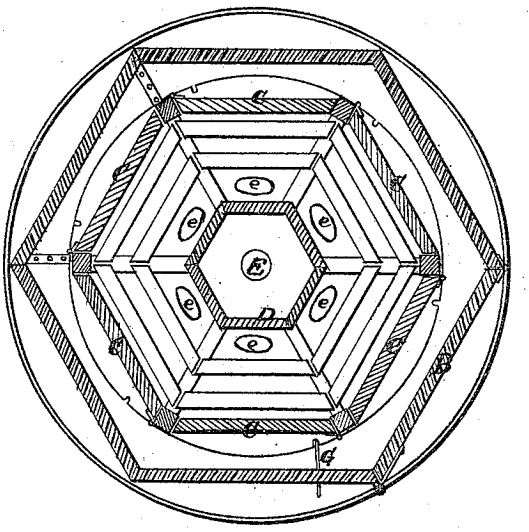


Fig. 5.

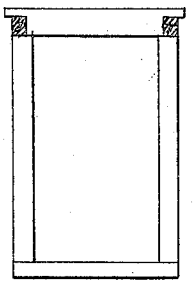
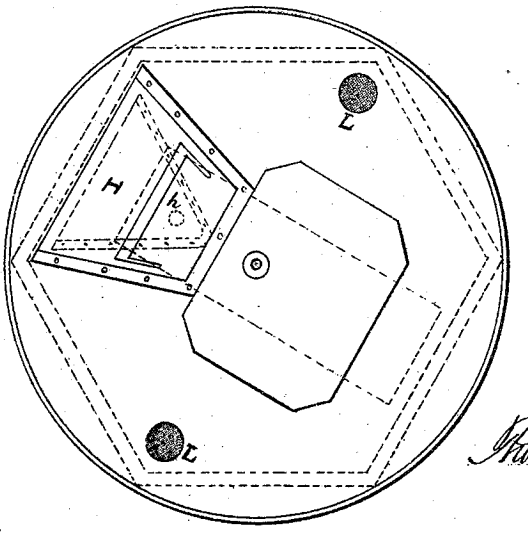


fig. 4



Witnesses

Wm. H. Weeks

O. F. Mayhew.

Thomas H. Forster

Inventor

Indianapolis, Ind.

United States Patent Office.

THOMAS H. FORSTER, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

Letters Patent No. 104,011, *dated June* 7, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

I, THOMAS H. FORSTER, of Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain Improvements in Bee-Hives, of which the following is a specification.

Nature and Objects of the Invention.

This invention relates to construction and arrangement of the hive, having for its object to secure a more convenient arrangement of movable comb-frames, combined with a better ventilation and protection afforded by surrounding double case and moth-trap, as hereinafter described.

Description of Accompanying Drawing.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the hive, embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same.

Figure 3 is a horizontal section of the same.

Figure 4 is a view of the bottom of the hive, showing the plan of the bee-entrance, the moth-trap and external case in dotted lines.

Figure 5 is a rear elevation of one of the movable comb-frames.

General Description.

A is the external case of the hive, made in hexagonal form, or, if preferred, in octagonal, or other form, as may be desired.

The internal case is made in the same form as the external. The form best suited to the purposes designed to be achieved is that in which the internal case may be revolved within the external case.

The external case is made with one door, B, while each side of the internal case is made with a door, C, as shown.

The central part of the internal case, not being available for use for honey-frames, is occupied by a drum, D, of the same form as the case.

A shaft, E, the bottom end of which rests in a step in the bottom board of the external case, extends through the top of the case, and is furnished with a wheel, F, by which to rotate the inner case or hive.

A spring stop, G, is arranged to engage with notches in the bottom board of the inner case, in order to hold it in position. This stop projects through the outer case, and, when it is desired to turn the inner case so as to bring one of the doors C opposite the door in the outer case, the stop is disengaged from the notch in the bottom board of the inner case.

The bee-entrance consists of a piece of sheet metal, H, formed and attached to the bottom board of the exterior case, as shown in figs. 2 and 4, the wide open end being placed opposite an opening in the outer case.

A cut is made in the sheet-metal piece H, as shown, in the rear part, *h*, which is bent downward, so as to form an inclined plane for the bees to ascend through the opening formed by the cut, and get into the space under the interior, from whence they may enter the latter through any of the holes *e* in its bottom.

A moth-trap is provided by another piece of sheet metal, *i*, of similar form to the bee-entrance, and placed below it, as shown in fig. 2, and in dotted lines in fig. 4.

The moths, in their efforts to enter the hive, and as they do so, to secrete themselves, will crawl under this plate and go down the hole *o* into the drawer I, from which they can be removed at pleasure.

The internal case is subdivided into compartments, each of which is to be furnished with comb-frames, J, constructed as shown in fig. 5, the upper part of the frames being notched at *r*, so that they may be hung on bars, *k*, in the case, as shown in figs. 2 and 3.

The form and manner of arranging the comb-frames in the internal case will be found to possess many advantages, as the frames, when filled with brood-comb and honey, can more conveniently be disposed to subserve the several purposes required, with less disturbance of the bees than when many frames are hung close together, as in the rectangular hives.

The double case will also be found to possess the advantages of better protection of the bees, as it will be cooler in summer and warmer in winter, the space intervening providing an excellent means of ventilation.

Ventilating holes, covered with wire-cloth, are provided at L, in the bottom of the external case, and at M near the top.

Claims.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination and arrangement of the double-cased hive, made in hexagonal or other suitable form, in which the internal case is furnished with comb-frames, and arranged to be revolved, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The construction and arrangement of the bee and moth-entrances, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

THOMAS H. FORSTER.

Witnesses:

DAN. W. KNEFLER,

O. F. MAYHEW.