

A. Claypool,

Bee Hive.

No. 111,107.

Patented Jan. 24, 1871.

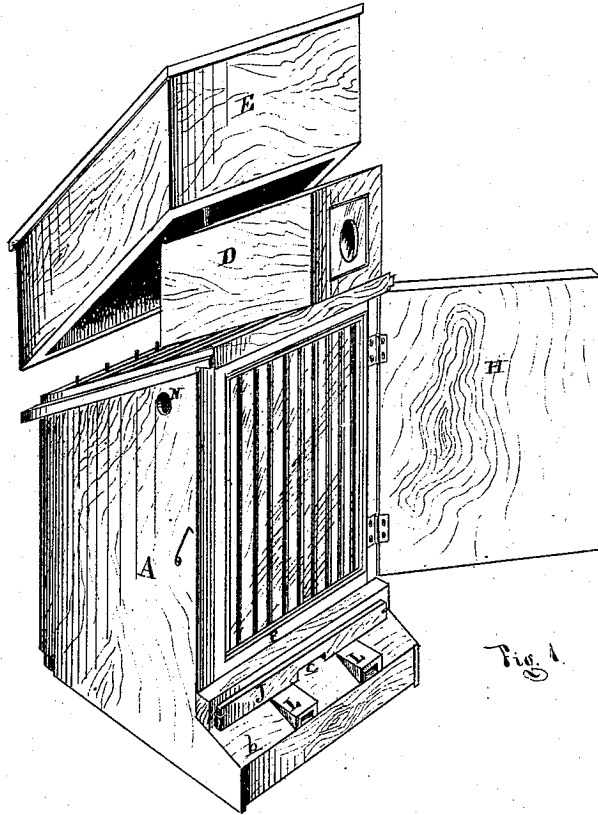


Fig. 1.

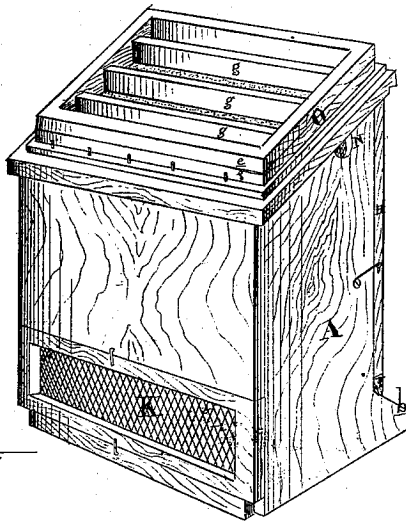


Fig. 2.

ATTEST

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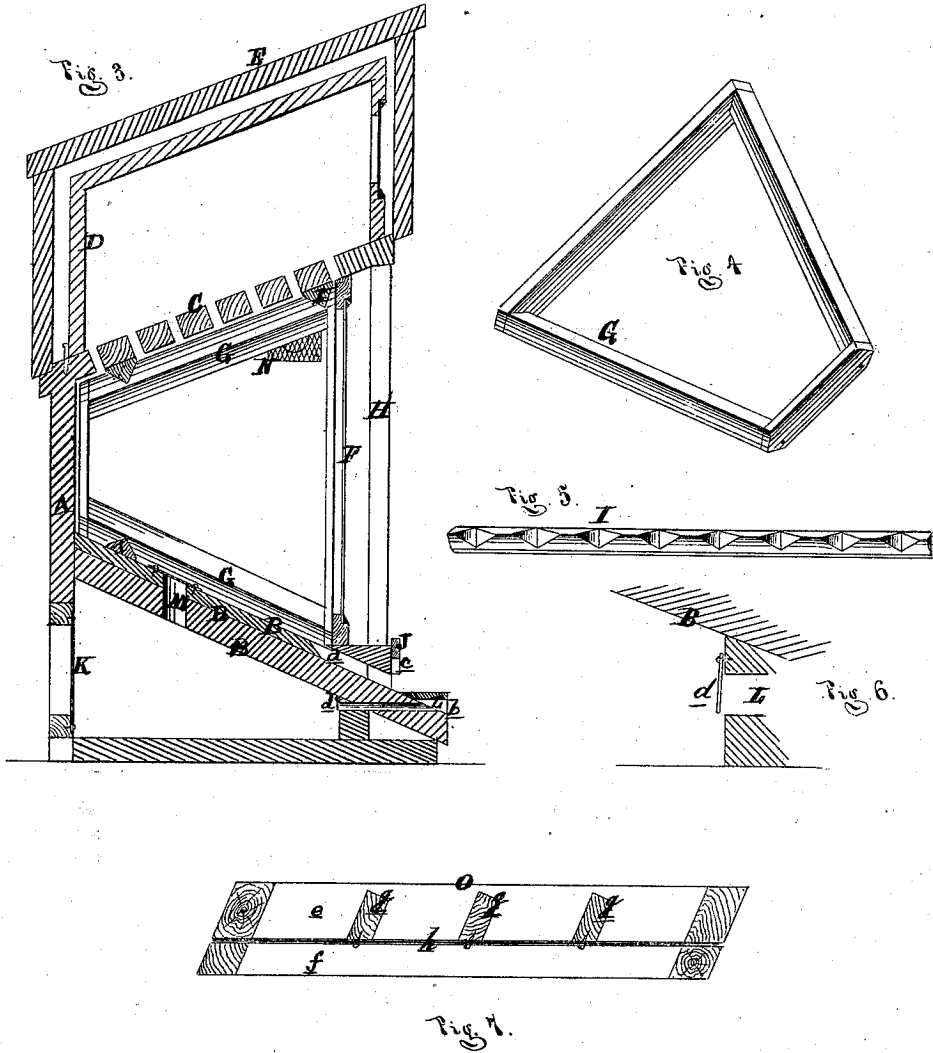
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2, Sheets, Sheet 2

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ATTEST

H. Stewart
Frederick Ober

INVENTOR

A. Claypool
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Chas. S. Sprague

United States Patent Office.

ALBERT CLAYPOOL, OF WESTON, OHIO:

Letters Patent No. 111,107, dated January 24, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

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

To whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT CLAYPOOL, M. D., of Weston, in the county of Wood and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Bee-Hive; and I do declare that the following is a true and accurate description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon and being a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective-view of my hive, with the front outer door open, the cap raised, and one of the cap-boxes removed;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the hive from the rear side, with my improved feeding-box applied;

Figure 3, sheet 2, is a cross-section of the hive and cap;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of one of the comb-frames;

Figure 5 is an elevation of the lower comb-rack; Figure 6 is an enlarged detached cross-section of the moth-trap; and

Figure 7 is a cross-section of the feeding-box.

Like letters indicate like parts in each figure.

The nature of this invention relates to an improvement in bee-hives; and consists,

First, in the combination of the casing, the comb-frames, the inclined slotted top, and the sloping honey-board; and

Lastly, in the novel and peculiar construction of a feeding-box.

In the drawing—

A represents the body of my hive, having its honey-board B inclined toward the front, and its top, composed of transverse slots, C, inclined to the rear.

D are cap-boxes, open underneath, and resting on the open top of the hive, and covered by the cap E.

F is a glazed door in the front of the hive, closing in the frames G, whose lower front corners rest on the sill of the outer wooden door H, as shown in fig. 3, and whose rear and upper sides engage with and are retained in their upright positions by the notches in the comb-racks I. The construction of these frames is fully shown in fig. 4.

The honey-board may be made of two pieces, one lying in the other, as shown in fig. 3, or of one piece, with a rabbet, *d*, planed out of the front edge, leading out under the sill of the door to the landing-ledge *b*.

J is a slide in the sill, provided with an opening, *e*, for the passage of the bees, which slide, by reversing, may be made to close entirely their entrance to the hive.

K is a wire-gauze frame, adjustably secured in the back part of the hive, under the honey-board.

L are moth-entrances, giving access to the space under the honey-board.

The inner ends of the passages have a light self-closing valve, *d*, hung over them, extending nearly to the bottom of the passage, so that the moths entering the front ends of the passage, seeing light before them, push open the valves and are trapped in the lower compartment in their attempt to enter the hive.

Experience has shown that moths will seek any entrance through cracks and loose joints to the hive other than that through which the bees are constantly passing in and out; hence they are readily caught in this receptacle, and removed as often as necessary through the opening at the back.

M is an opening in the honey-board covered with wire-gauze, and

N are other openings in the upper part of the hive, protected in like manner, through which the hive is ventilated.

O is a feeding-box, composed of two frames, *e f*, fitting the top of the hive under the cap, the upper being provided with a series of transverse slats, *g*, to the under side of which several layers of coarse muslin, *h*, interposed between the upper and lower frames, are tacked, as shown in fig. 7.

With the frames constructed as shown, the bees, following a natural tendency, commence the formation of the comb in the uppermost corner, and work diagonally across, thereby enabling them to brace it well against the front ledge as they work across, and in winter they will, as usual, commence eating out the honey at the bottom, and work up to the upper corner last, eating out the comb clean.

In working, the dirt which accumulates on the honey-board is carried to the front, its gravity causing it to gather in the rabbet *d*, whence it is readily removed by lifting up the slide J.

The open top gives the bees ready access to the boxes at all times.

The peculiar arrangement of the frames in the racks permits of their examination and removal, to be replaced by other and empty ones.

In very cold weather bees are apt to suffer from cold, and frequently perish. At such times the cap-boxes may be removed and the top covered by a piece of felt, or several thicknesses of woolen cloth, which will absorb the moisture arising in the hive from the exhalations of the bees, which would otherwise be condensed in and frozen in the upper part of the hive, and thereby lower its temperature.

If necessary toward the close of winter to feed the bees, the feeding-box is placed on top under the cap, and the cells filled with molasses or other food, which soaks through the muslin to the under side, so that the bees may have ready and easy access to the entire under surface, and feed without crowding.

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