

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL E. PAINE AND WILLIAM KERR, OF XENIA, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 123,724, dated February 13, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, S. E. PAINE and WM. KERR, of Xenia, in the county of Clay and State of Illinois, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Bee-Hives; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing making a part of this specification and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of a vertical longitudinal section of our invention. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section of the same.

This invention has relation to bee-hives; and the novelty consists in providing the bottom of the hive with tracks for the grooved comb-frame to slide in and out and rest upon. It also consists in the construction and arrangement of crevices in the bottom of the hive on each side of said comb-frame, designed as passages through which moths may be dislodged, all as hereinafter described.

In the drawing, A represents an upright hive, resting on supports *a*, which elevate the bottom slightly. B represents a removable cover, the interior of which constitutes an apartment to hold the honey-box B'. The floor of said apartment is also the top of the comb-frame apartment, containing the hinged comb-frames *b* and furnished with the hinged door *b*¹. The bees are admitted to the comb-frame apartment through an aperture, *b*², and can pass to the honey-box through the passages *b*³. The comb-frames are hinged side by side to the back part of a frame, C, which slides in and out of the hive. A button or stud, *d*, attached to each frame keeps them separated at their forward ends. D represents the floor of the comb-frame apartment, which floor is a part of the frame C. E represents one of the sides of

the frame C, and F an inclined platform arranged between the sides E, underneath the floor D, and extending the whole length of the frame C. F' represents a sliding door, closed in winter, and opened in summer for ventilation. The platform F is made inclined, to admit of the easy removal by the bees of foreign bodies. H represents tracks, attached to the bottom of the hive and running lengthwise. The bottom of the platform F and the back of the frame C are grooved to fit said tracks, and slide in and out on them, guiding the frame and lessening the friction, thus rendering the removal and replacing of the frame C more easy. I¹ I² represent, respectively, ventilation-openings in the floor D, platform F, and bottom of the hive. The platform F has a screen, F', covering the opening I¹, to prevent the entrance of insects, such as moths, &c. I represents a sliding door, to cover the opening I² in winter. K are crevices made in the bottom of the hive, on either side of the opening I², close to the sides of the hive. They are designed as means for the dislodgment of moths, and are therefore placed adjacent to the walls of the hive, upon which the moths are accustomed to crawl.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The improved bee-hive, having the crevices K in the bottom and at the sides thereof adjacent to the walls, and the tracks H, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that we claim the above we have hereunto subscribed our names in the presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL E. PAINE.
WILLIAM KERR.

Witnesses:

ISAAC ELLIOTT,
R. D. S. FILSSON.