

W. ERWIN.
 Apiary or Bee-House.

No. 207,958.

Patented Sept. 10, 1878.

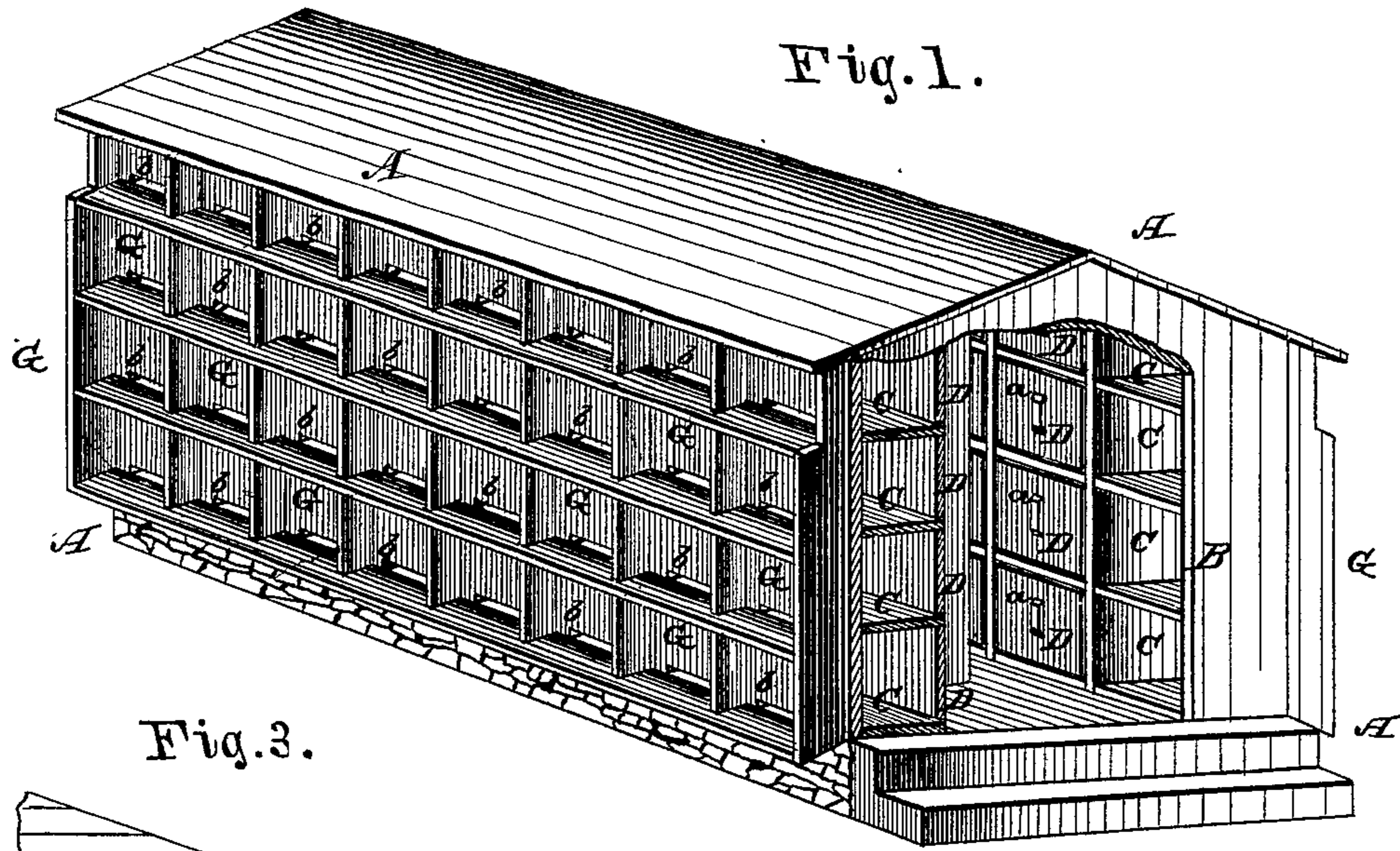


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

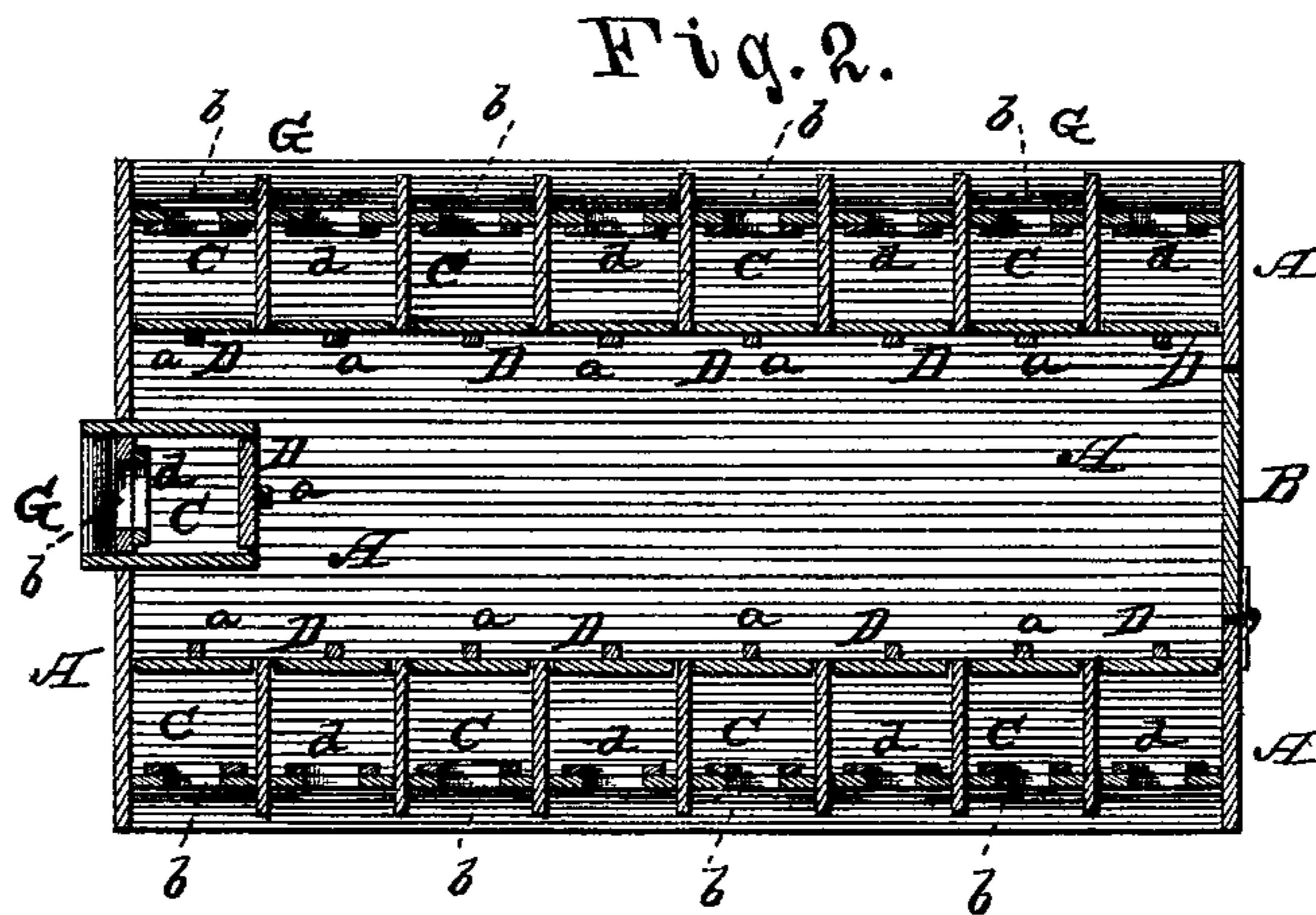
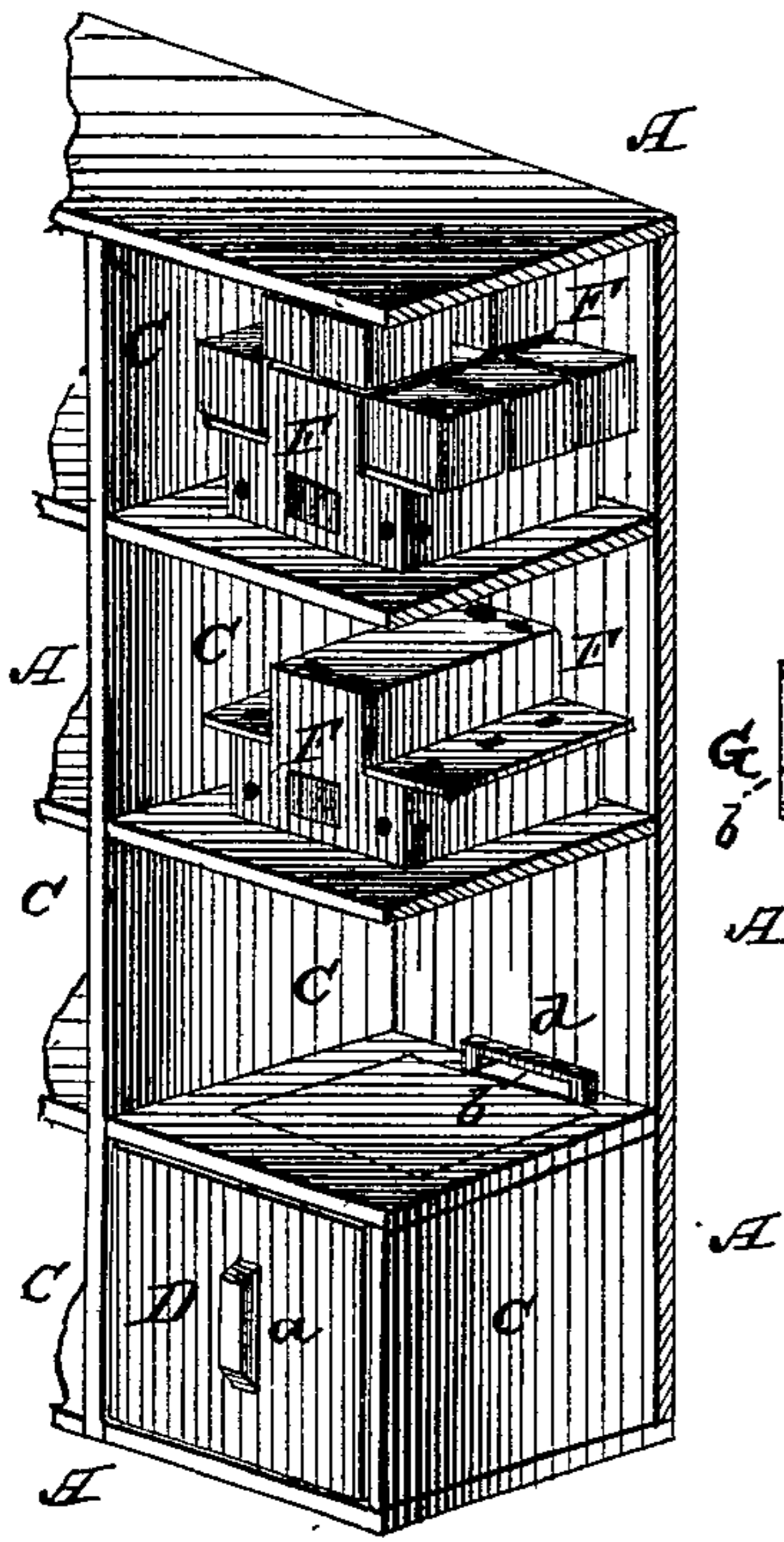


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM ERWIN, OF PAINTED POST, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN APIARIES OR BEE-HOUSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **207,958**, dated September 10, 1878; application filed August 2, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM ERWIN, of Painted Post, in the county of Steuben and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apiaries or Bee-Houses; 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 which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of an apiary or bee-house, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, to which reference is made, and which fully illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my bee-house with the end wall removed to show the interior. Fig. 2 is a plan of the ground floor. Fig. 3 is a perspective view in detail of some of the pockets.

A represents a house of any suitable dimensions, having a door, B, at one end to gain access to the house. Along both sides of this house are built four tiers of pockets, C, one above the other, and a column of four similar pockets is built in the center of the rear gable. The siding, which is made of matched boards, makes also the outer ends of the pockets on the sides and rear gable and the front sides of the pockets in front. Each pocket is closed by means of a lid, D, which can be easily removed by means of strips or handles *a* fastened to them. Within each pocket is placed a bee hive, F, which I prefer to make of the form and construction shown and described in a separate application for patent made by me; but any bee-hive may be used in this bee house.

The entrance of the bee-hive is made to correspond with an entrance, *b*, in the wall of this bee house into each pocket. Opposite each entrance *b* is placed a wooden piece, *d*, inside of the pocket, cut out to correspond with said entrance. This piece *d* keeps the hive F away from the wall of the bee house a sufficient distance to prevent the crushing of any bees; and it also prevents the bees from

getting into the pockets through any inequalities in the front of the hive or in the boards forming the fronts of the pockets.

In the center of the bee-house I propose to erect suitable shelving for storing surplus boxes, honey, and necessary tools. On the outside of the bee-house are made four shelves or landings, G G, the entire length on both sides and in front of the pockets at the rear gable, the upper sides of said landings being level with the entrances *b*, and having the same pitch as the roof. These landings are partitioned, and form a box corresponding with each pocket, and furnish protection to the entrance, making a convenient landing for the bees and separating the colonies outside the hives.

To relieve the monotonous appearance of these outside pockets and save the perplexity and confusion that might arise from the sameness, they should be washed or painted different colors or shades.

By the arrangement of this bee-house every convenience for the comfort and benefit of the bees and profit for the owners is subserved. There need not be any confusion or difficulty from the proximity of the colonies; and when the bees are in the hives placed in the pockets they are farther separated than they are many times in the garden, and the garden and lawn thereby relieved of a great nuisance.

By the use of the pockets inside, the surplus honey may be taken, the boxes replaced, each colony fed, watered, and salted at pleasure or need, without attracting the bees from other colonies inside or outside and without coming in contact with the bees.

By the use of this bee-house the bee keeper is enabled to protect both bees and honey by lock and key.

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

1. The wooden pieces *d*, in combination with the pockets C and the hives placed therein, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. The bee-house A, constructed as described, with tiers of disconnected pockets C, having separate doors and bee-entrances,

hives F, placed in the pockets, exterior pockets G, corresponding with the interior pockets C, and notched pieces *d*, placed opposite the bee-entrance in each interior pocket, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as

my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM ERWIN.

Witnesses:

SAML. E. GILBERT,
A. B. HURD.