(Model.)

A. F. COMBS.

BEE HIVE.

No. 275,328. Patented Apr. 3, 1883.

Fig. 1.

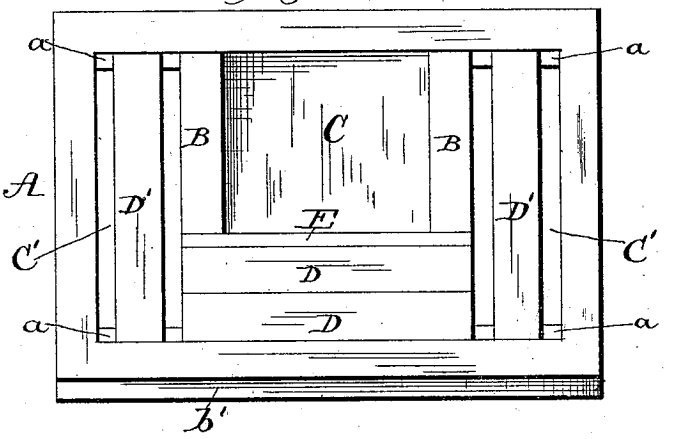


Fig. 2.

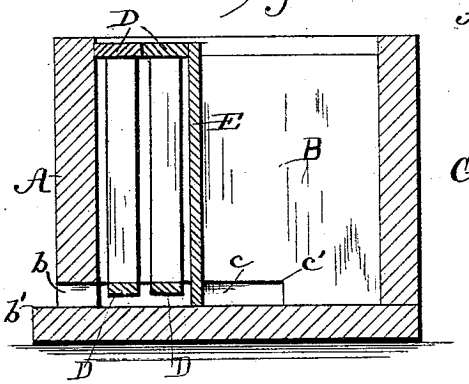
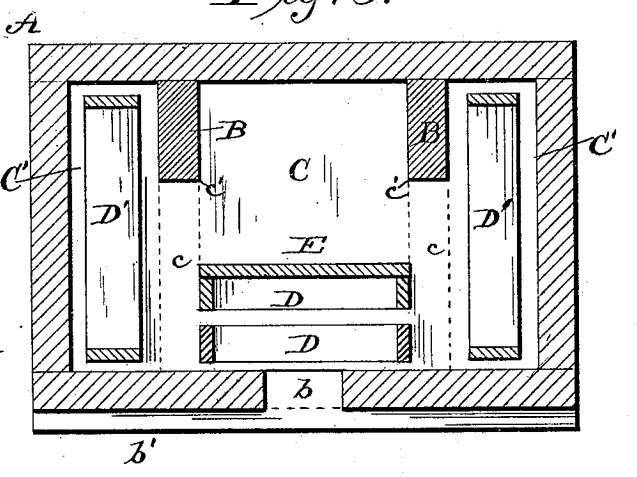


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
F. M. Burnham
Harry Bernhard.

Inventor:
Abraham F. Combs.
per. J. Wm. Mister
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM F. COMBS, OF LONG LANE, MISSOURI.

BEE-HIVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 275,328, dated April 3, 1883.

Application filed December 23, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM F. COMBS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Long Lane, in the county of Dallas and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bee-Hives; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as 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 and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention pertains to an improvement in bee-hives, having particularly for its object to adapt the same for properly providing for the bees during the cold or inclement season; and it consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of my bee-hive with the roof or top removed. Fig. 2 is a vertical section, and Fig. 3 is a horizontal section, thereof.

In the construction of my hive I make the casing or "house" A preferably oblong, though it may be of other rectangular form, and subdivide this house or case into three compartments by means of the two transverse partitions B B, arranged and secured therein to constitute a large middle chamber, C, and two small end chambers, C′ C′. These partitions have their upper ends disposed sufficiently below the upper edge of the house or case to permit the supporting of the upper projecting pieces of the comb-frames D at a point not above the said edge or end of the casing, as clearly shown, but which is not new. Cleats or flanges *a a* are secured to the house or case A at the upper ends of the small chambers C′ C′, upon which the upper projecting bars of the comb-frames D′ are supported, they being arranged at right angles to the comb frames D of the middle chamber, C. This arrangement of chambers secures the greatest possible amount of comb-frame space in a given area. In the front side of the house or case A, at its bottom edge, is the bee-entrance *b*, and *b′* is the alighting-platform. The partitions B B are provided each with an elongated slot or passage, *c*, at its lower edge, said passage *c* extending from the inner front side of the case A to a point, as at *c′*, or a little more than half the length of the partition, the object of which will be presently seen.

E is the swarming-board, adapted to snugly fit in the middle chamber of the case in the direction of the width of said chamber, and having arms projecting laterally therefrom and resting on the top edges of the partitions B B when said board is in use.

With this arrangement of parts it is observed that by removing a sufficient number of the comb-frames in the central chamber to effect a communication between the end chambers and the unoccupied portion of the middle chamber through the openings or passages *c*, (the removed frames being taken from the back toward the front,) and placing the board E in position in said middle chamber against the remaining frames, a swarming chamber or quarters is provided for the bees and for holding provisions for their subsistence during the winter or cool season, whereby the bees can pass from the end chambers, which have now become mainly the comb or honey chambers, into the emptied portion of the middle chamber, now the "feed-chamber," while ventilation is effected through the bee-entrance without exposing the bees to drafts of air, the circulation being carried on by the passage of the air through the bee-entrance into the central chamber, thence between the remaining comb-frames, (they standing next to the bee-entrance,) and through one of the passages *c*. The air next passes through that portion of the said passage beyond the board E into the feed-chamber of the middle compartment, thence into the other end chamber through its passage *c* at the front side of the board E, and between the comb-frames again into the middle compartment, and out through the bee-entrance.

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

A bee-hive consisting essentially of the middle compartment, C, with its bee-entrance, end compartments, C′ C′, and comb-frames D′ D′, the partitions B B, having the elongated or extended passages *c*, and the imperforate board

E, the middle compartment adapted to be separated by said board into a feed-chamber from its other portion, and each sub-chamber of said compartment communicating with the end chamber by means of said passages, while one of said sub-chambers communicates with the bee-entrance, as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

his
ABRAHAM F. × COMBS.
mark.

Witnesses:
B. F. McHENRY,
JOHN FEEHAN.