

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. BRIGGS.
BEE HIVE.

No. 280,126.

Patented June 26, 1883.

Fig. 1.

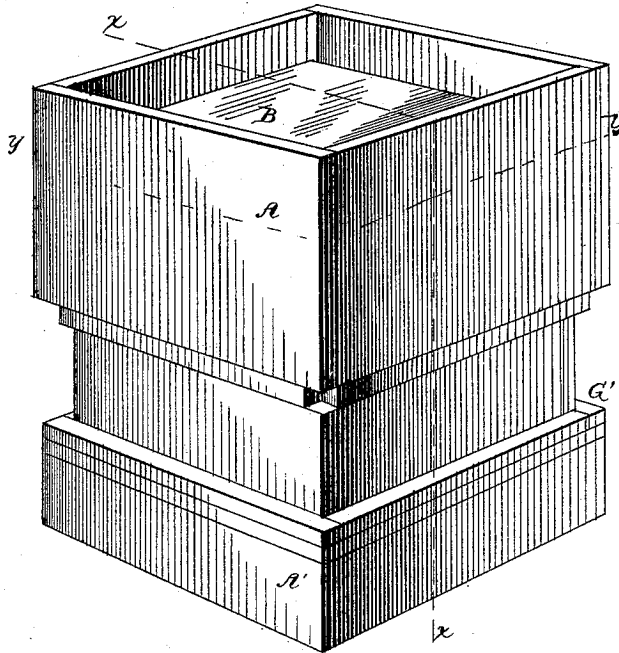


Fig. 2.

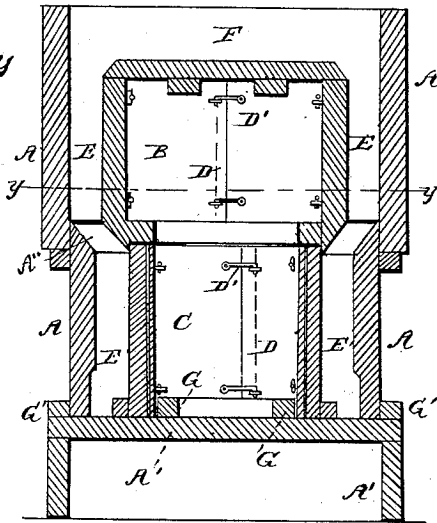


Fig. 3.

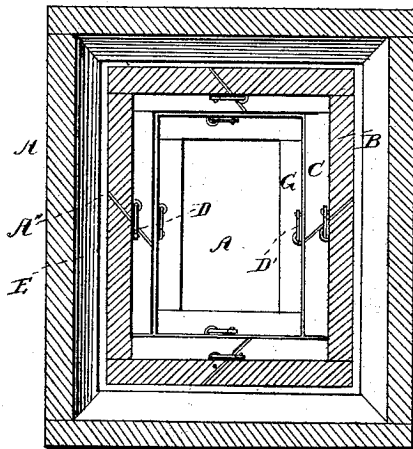
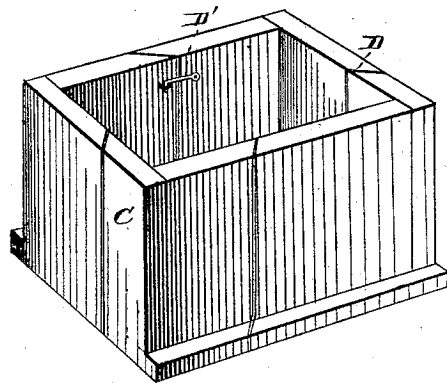


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE BRIGGS, OF NEW SHARON, IOWA.

BEE-HIVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 280,126, dated June 26, 1883.

Application filed September 25, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE BRIGGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Sharon, in the county of Mahaska and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bee-Hives; and I do hereby 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 letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in bee-hives, which will be understood by the following description and claims.

In making my hives I prepare a thin mortar of plaster-of-paris, and mold the bottom and sides without joints in a suitable box. The top is molded separate so as to be removable, or, if preferred, made of wood.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the mold-box. Fig. 2 is a transverse section view of the same and core on lines *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of mold-box and core on lines *yy* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of lower section of core. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of my bee-hive complete. Fig. 6 is a vertical longitudinal section view on lines *zz*, Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a transverse vertical view on lines *vv*, Fig. 5. Fig. 8 is a detached view of the separating-frame.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in the drawings.

Fig. 1, letter A is the mold-box ready for use. B is the upper section of the core. The stand or pedestal A' is provided with edge and center pieces, G' G, which hold firmly in position the mold-box and core when properly placed.

Fig. 2, letter A represents the two sides of the mold-box. A' the stand or pedestal. B and C are the upper and lower sections of the core. D and D are lines showing where the sections are mitered into parts or pieces, so that by loosening the hooks D' the core can be separated into small pieces and removed from inside of the molded hive. The side walls are molded in space E and the floor or bottom in space F.

Fig. 3 shows with appropriate letters the parts of the mold-box A which can be seen by a plan view when in position to receive the mortar. A'' is the beveled edge of the lower section thereof, which forms the sloping table *a''* on the outside walls of the molded hive. G is the center piece on pedestal A'.

Fig. 4, section C of the core is shown detached.

Fig. 5, letter *a* is my molded bee-hive. Its separate top or cover *b* is provided with projecting edge *b'* and drooping lip *c* for the protection of the hive. The bed-frame on stand *f* is made separate from the hive proper, and is so constructed with the porch *g* as to receive and hold the hive in proper position for the entrance of the bees at the opening *h*. *e* and *e'* indicate the upper and lower stories of the hive. In Fig. 6 the swell or rest *i* on the under side of the cover *b* not only gives a proper slant to the top for shedding the rain, but provides for the ventilation of the hive by the ventilators *d*, Figs. 5 and 6. In the upper story, *e*, the honey-frames *k* are placed transversely on the molded ledges *k'*, and in the lower story, *e'*, longitudinally, the frames being made to suit either story. The slats *o* *o'* are laid on the floor or bottom *j* of the hive, to support the movable box *m*, in which are suspended the comb-frames *k*. The space *n* around the sides of the box *m* and under it is provided for sawdust, chaff, or equivalent. The tube or bridge *h''* connects openings *h* and *h'*, by means of which the bees enter the lower story or section, and through the passage *h'''* to the upper story. The movable board *l* is used to separate the two stories or sections, and to support the chaff or sawdust or equivalent in the winter season.

Fig. 7 shows by appropriate letters the parts that can be seen in a transverse view of the hive.

Fig. 8 is a separating movable frame, *g*, which I use in limiting the bees to any given part of the upper story. It is made of wood or other suitable material, covered with cloth, and the edges padded. The open space *n* is filled with sawdust, chaff, or equivalent. Before severe cold weather I remove from the upper story the frames or boxes (as either may be used) and close all openings thereto from the lower story, and cover the board *l* with sawdust, 100

chaff, or equivalent about six inches deep, thus providing in the lower story superior winter-quarters for the bees.

5 Referring to Fig. 1, I fill the mold-box full of the thin mortar, making the surface level and smooth, as this is the bottom of the hive. In ten minutes the mixture is hard. The mold-box must then be reversed; the pedestal A' removed, the hooks D' loosened, the mitered
10 pieces taken out, and the box A lifted upward from the hive.

The mold for making this hive is not claimed in this application, but may form the subject-matter for another patent.

15 I am aware that a lining for a bee-hive has been made of plaster-of-paris by applying the same in a plastic state to an outer casing of wood, for purposes not referred to in my application. In my plaster-of-paris hives I prefer
20 the usual size and hexagonal form, with upper and lower sections or stories. The walls may be about one inch in thickness. This material being a non-conductor of heat, the hive remains cool inside when exposed to the
25 hot rays of the sun. A little sand may be added to cheapen the material and not impair its superiority.

Some of the advantages obtained in my bee-hive are cheapness, durability, and a proper and uniform temperature.

30 What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. As a new article of manufacture, the herein-described bee-hive, the walls of which are constructed entirely of molded plaster-of-paris
35 mortar, substantially as set forth.

2. A rectangular plaster-of-paris bee-hive, the four walls and bottom thereof molded in one piece, and provided with a cover having
40 swell or rest *i* and ventilators *d d'*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. A bee-hive provided with an offset or table, *a''*, on all four sides, whereby the lower
45 part of the hive is enlarged, in combination with the interior box, *m*, of smaller size than the interior space of said lower part, to provide a space for packing, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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

GEORGE BRIGGS.

Witnesses:

LEWIS CATTELL,
L. R. BRIGGS.