



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. TEFFT, OF COLLAMER, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO A. STANLEY HANCOCK, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

## BEE-HIVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 349,126, dated September 14, 1886.

Application filed March 6, 1886. Serial No. 194,305. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES W. TEFFT, of Collamer, in the county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bee-Hives, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in the comb-frames of the hives, and in the means whereby the frames are supported in the hive, and has for its object to render the frames easily reversible while retaining a simple and inexpensive construction, and to permit the frames to be readily transferred from the brood-chamber to the surplus-chamber, and vice versa.

My invention consists to these ends of the improvements which will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of a bee-hive provided with my improvements. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of the hive. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section in line *xx*, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the surplus-chamber, the frame being removed. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the section-frames. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the brood-frames. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of one of the separating-boards.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

A represents the lower part of the casing of the hive provided with a bottom, *a*, and entrance *a'* in the usual manner. The lower part is open at the top, and provided at its front and rear sides with compartments *a''* and *a'''* for packing.

B represents the upper part of the casing, open at top and bottom, and resting upon a ledge, *b*, formed on the outer side of the lower part, A, near the top thereof.

C represents the roof or cover, which rests on a ledge, *c*, formed on the outer side of the upper part, B, near its top.

D represents the brood-chamber, formed in the lower part, A, of the hive, and E represents the surplus-chamber, arranged in the upper part, B.

F represents the reversible frames, which are arranged in the brood-chamber as well as

in the surplus-chamber. Each frame F consists of horizontal top and bottom bars, *f*, and vertical end bars, *f'*. These bars *ff'* are cut away or recessed at each side, beginning at a short distance from each corner of the frame, so that the corners form enlargements *g*, which rest against each other when two frames are placed side by side, while the recessed portions of the bars *ff'* form passages *g'* for the bees between adjoining frames. The enlarged corner portions serve to space the frames in the hive.

*h* represents horizontally projecting lips, formed on two diagonally-opposite corners of each frame F, for the purpose of supporting the frames.

*i* represents a supporting bar or ledge secured transversely in the brood-chamber to the upper portion of the lower case, A, so as to support the upper front corners of the frames F in the brood-chamber, said frames resting on the ledge *i* by means of the lips *h*.

*j* represents a raised transverse strip or rib secured transversely to the bottom of the lower case, A, at a short distance in front of the rear wall of the same, so as to support the frames F in the brood-chamber near their lower rear corners. The lips *h* are provided with offsets which hold the upright front bars, *f'*, of the frames at a short distance from the front wall of the lower case, A, as represented in Fig. 1, while the rear ends of the diagonally-opposite lips *h* bear against the inner side of the rear wall of the lower case, A. In this manner each frame is securely held in place in the lower case, A, in a simple and efficient manner. The rib *j* supports the frames above the bottom board, *a*, and forms a space, *k*, between the rear wall of the case A and the rib *j*, which is advantageously used as a feeding-compartment.

One of the horizontal bars *f* of each frame F is slit lengthwise for the reception of a comb-foundation, L, as represented in Fig. 6.

M represents the sections which are inserted in some of the frames and are composed of upright bars *m* and horizontal bars *m'*, as represented in Fig. 5. The sections M are fitted snugly in the frames F, so as to hold themselves in place when inserted in the same.

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