No. 620,859. Patented Mar. 7, 1899.

J. N. TAYLOR.

OUTER CASE FOR BEEHIVES.

(Application filed Dec. 4, 1897.)

(No Model.)

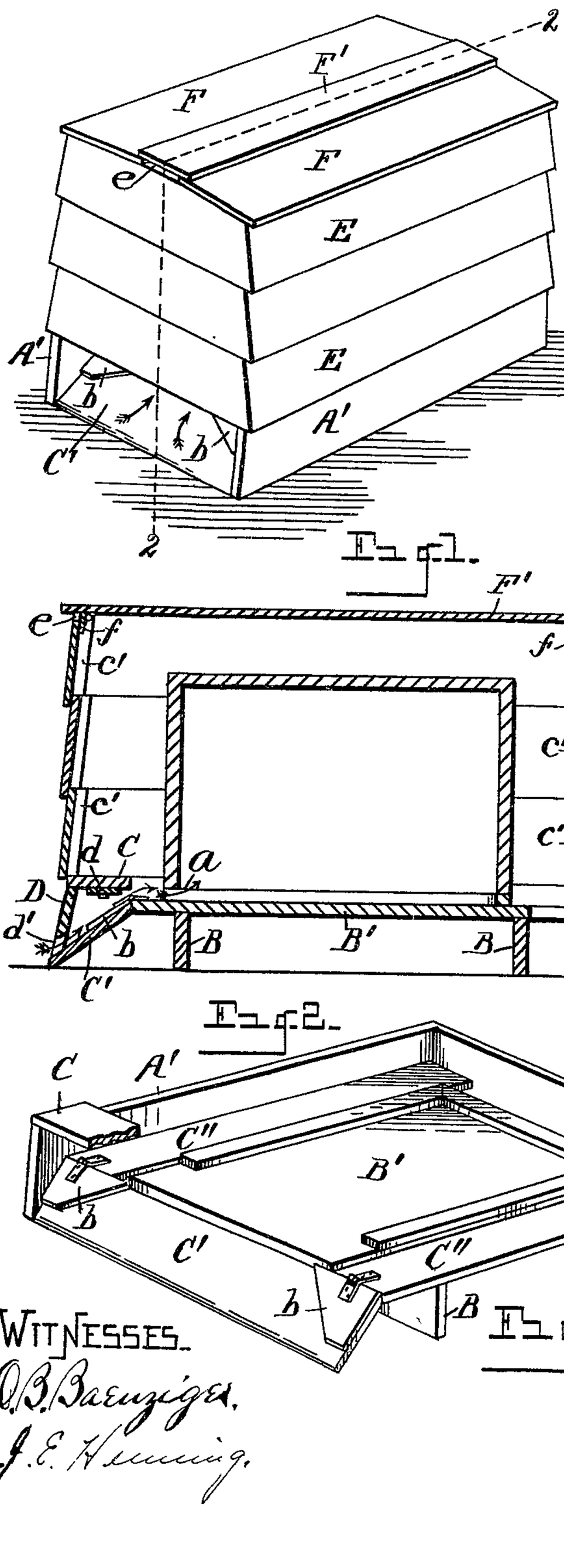

Fig. 1.

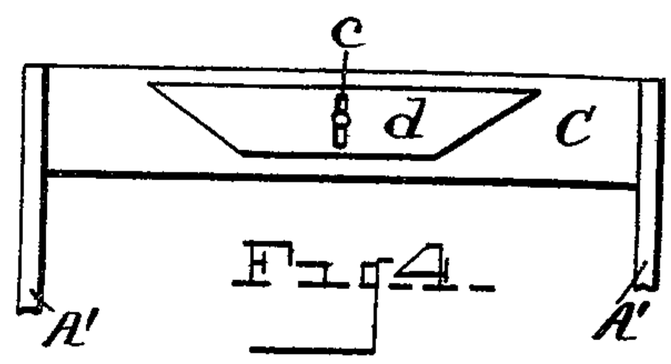

Fig. 4.

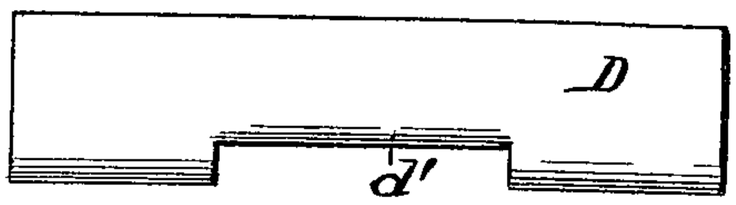

Fig. 5.

Fig. 2.

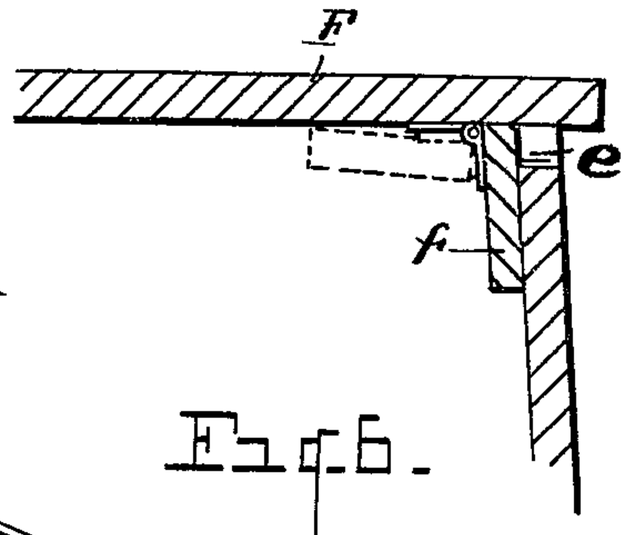

Fig. 6.

Fig. 3.

Witnesses.
O. B. Baenziger.
J. E. Fleming.

Inventor
Joseph N. Taylor
By Baenziger & Co.
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH N. TAYLOR, OF HAMILTON, MONTANA.

OUTER CASE FOR BEEHIVES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 620,859, dated March 7, 1899.

Application filed December 4, 1897. Serial No. 660,742. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH N. TAYLOR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hamilton, in the county of Ravalli, State of Montana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Outer Cases for Beehives; 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 of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to beehives; and it consists in a chaff-hive or outer case comprising a set of telescopic sections and is adapted to protect the hive proper from the elements.

The objects of the invention are to afford a housing, in which the hive may be incased, of such construction as to readily accommodate hives of various heights and in which the arrangement is such as to provide for ventilation, for closing the hive-entrance against drafts of air, and for regulating the ingress-aperture, so that the size of said opening may be reduced at pleasure or entirely closed if desired, which objects are attained by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of my improved housing, inclosing the hive therein. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section on line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged perspective, partly in section, of the platform or base which supports the hive proper and the sections of the inclosing case as well. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail hereinafter referred to. Fig. 5 is a beveled and notched board adapted to partially close the hive-entrance. Fig. 6 is a large detail in section through the top of the upper section of the housing, showing hinged strips for controlling the ventilation-opening therein.

Referring to the letters of reference, A designates a base or platform which supports the outer case as well as the hive proper. This base consists on three sides of upright boards A′, connected by cross pieces B, upon which the bottom B′ of the hive is supported. The front of the base is provided with a cross-piece C, which connects the sides of the base, and with a beveled or inclined alighting-board C′, which is preferably hinged to the side pieces C″ of said base and over which the cross-piece C projects. By hinging the alighting-board as shown its upper or inner edge is caused to always register with the base or bottom of the hive, in line with the entrance *a* thereto, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, and because of the projection of the cross piece C over said alighting board the entrance to the hive is shaded.

Each end of the alighting board C′ is provided with a beveled block *b*, and upon the under face of the cross-piece C is a beveled cleat or button *d*, pivoted upon a pin which passes through a transverse slot *c* therein, by which arrangement when the alighting-board is raised to a horizontal position the cleat or button *d* is caused to lie between the beveled blocks *b* on said board, thereby reducing the hive-entrance to the minimum, and by means of the adjustment of the cleat or button *d* through the slot therein the entrance to the hive may be entirely closed by moving said button so as bring its beveled ends into contact with the beveled blocks *b*, as will be well understood.

To protect the hive-entrance from a direct draft of wind, I employ a supplementary closing-board D, having a notch *d′* in the lower edge thereof, which I insert in a vertical position between the alighting-board and the cross-piece C, as shown in Fig. 2, thereby affording but a small opening to the hive out of line with the hive-entrance proper. This board may be employed and removed at pleasure and, if desired, may be hinged to one of its engaging boards.

The inclosing case proper consists of a series of interchangeable telescopic sections E, made slightly tapering, so as to fit one over the other and provided in the corners with stop-blocks *c′* to regulate the depth of lap. By using a number of these sections the case or housing may be tiered up to any desired height to accommodate any size of hive or a hive consisting of any number of tiers in sections.

The cover of the top section is composed of three pieces, of which the two pieces F on opposite sides are so arranged as to leave an opening between their adjacent or inner

edges, as shown at *e* in Fig. 1, while the top piece F′ of said cover rests upon the pieces F, closing said opening except at the ends, whereby proper ventilation for the hive is provided. These ventilating openings *e* are controlled by hinged blocks *f*, which are secured to the under face of the top piece F′ and are adapted to be swung downward to close said openings when desired, as shown in Figs. 2 and 6.

It will now be understood that this improved device affords a detachable outside case in which the hive may be packed for the winter or sheltered in summer and which also provides for the easy egress and ingress of the bees, protects the hive-entrance from direct drafts of air, and affords perfect ventilation for the hive when placed therein, permitting as well ready access to the hive at any time by simply removing one or more sections of the case.

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

1. The combination with the inclosing case, of the base-section having an inclined alighting board whose lower edge projects outwardly in vertical alinement with the inclosing case and whose upper edge is hinged to said base and terminates on a plane with the hive entrance, and the cross-piece mounted on the side pieces of the base-section and extending transversely above said alighting-board and directly over the entrance to the hive.

2. In an inclosing case for beehives, the combination with the case or housing, of the base-section supporting the hive, the inclined alighting board hinged to the base having pivoted blocks secured to the opposite ends thereof, the cross piece closing the base immediately above said hinged alighting-board and having the movable cleat or button upon the under face thereof adapted to register with the beveled blocks and the alighting-board when said board is raised to a horizontal position.

3. In an inclosing case for beehives, the combination with the inclosing structure, of the base-section supporting said structure and having a base board or bottom on which the hive rests, the inclined alighting-board at the entrance of said base-section whose upper edge terminates on a plane with the entrance to the hive, the cross-piece of the base above said inclined alighting-board, and the supplementary closing-board having an opening in its lower edge inserted vertically between said cross-piece and said alighting board, substantially as set forth.

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

JOSEPH N. TAYLOR.

Witnesses:

GEO. C. TAYLOR,

F. A. O'HARA.