

No. 839,487.

PATENTED DEC. 25, 1906.

P. LAMBERT.
BEEHIVE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 6, 1906.

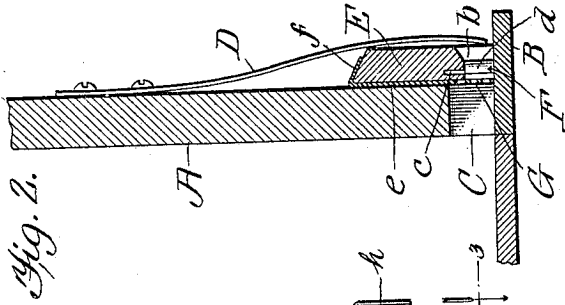


Fig. 2.

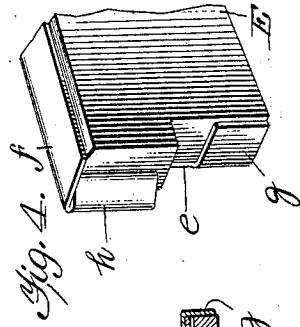


Fig. 4.

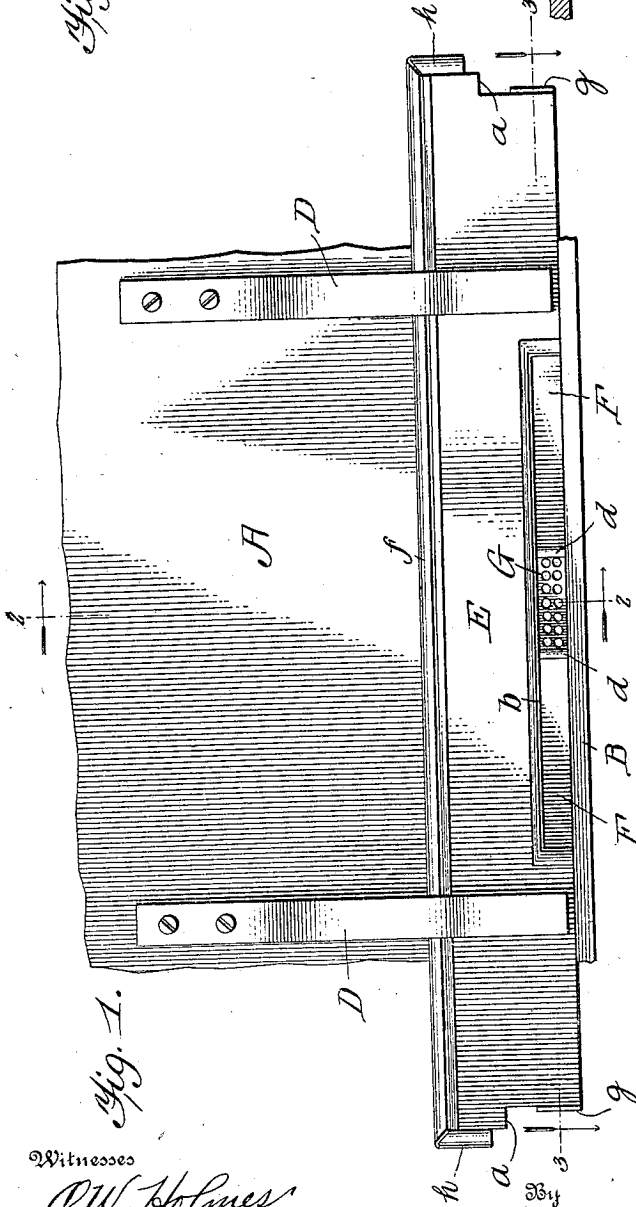


Fig. 1.

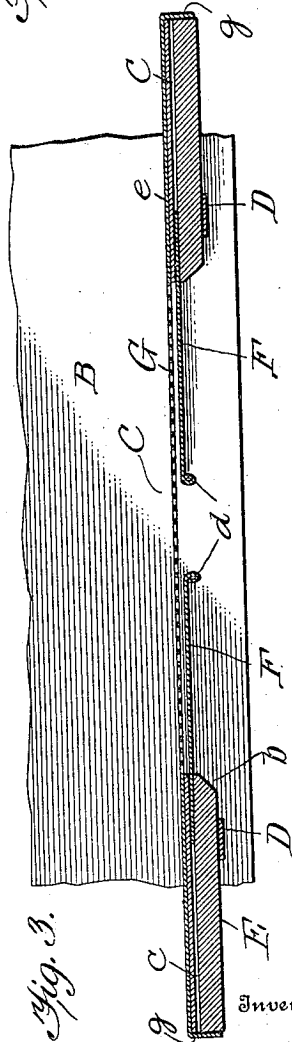


Fig. 3.

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BEEHIVE.

No. 839,487.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER LAMBERT, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Uxbridge, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Beehives, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to beehives, and more particularly to means for controlling hive-entrances; and it contemplates the provision of simple and easily-adjusted means through the medium of which the size of a hive-entrance may be nicely regulated to meet the requirements of different conditions.

The invention also contemplates the provision in an entrance-controlling device of means for barring the passage of bees, while permitting air to freely enter and leave the hive.

Other advantageous characteristics of my invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when the same are read in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation illustrating the controlling means constituting the present and preferred embodiment of my invention as properly positioned relative to the entrance of a beehive. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section taken in the plane indicated by the line 2 2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section taken in the plane indicated by the line 3 3 of Fig. 1 looking downward. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view illustrating the relative arrangement of the ends of the shutter and the foraminated plate of the controller.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which—

A is a wall, preferably the front wall, of a beehive, which extends down to a point at a slight distance from the bottom wall B, so as to afford an entrance-opening C, which extends practically throughout the width of the hive.

D D are spring-strips fixedly connected to the face of the hive-wall A and extending down from their points of connection to points adjacent to the extended or shelf portion of the bottom wall B, and E is a shutter, preferably of wood, which, like the spring-strips D, is comprised in my improvements. The said shutter E is designed to be arranged above the shelf portion of the hive bottom B

and between the free portions of the spring-strips D and the face of the hive-wall A, and it is shouldered at its ends, as indicated by *a*, and recessed at its lower edge, as indicated by *b*. It is also provided in its lower edge with a channel or kerf *c*, which extends throughout its length, as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3.

F F are slides, preferably of sheet metal, which are arranged in the channel *c* of the shutter E and are provided at their inner ends with finger portions *d*. These slides F have to do with regulating the size of the opening afforded by the recess *b* in shutter E, it being obvious that when the slides are moved toward each other the size of the opening is diminished, while when the slides are moved outward the opening is increased in size. It will also be apparent that through the medium of the slides F the contracted entrance of the hive may be positioned at or near the center, as is always desirable.

G is the foraminated plate of my improvements. This plate has a main portion *e*, designed to rest between the hive-wall A and the opposed side of the shutter E, a top flange *f*, disposed above the upper edge of the shutter, end flanges *g*, arranged against the ends of the shutter and below the shoulders *a* thereof, and rolls *h*, arranged against the ends of the shutter and above shoulders *a*. By virtue of this construction of plate G it will be seen that when the shutter E is moved upward or endwise the plate G will be moved with it. Said plate G may, however, be raised independent of the shutter E when such manipulation is necessary, as will presently appear.

In the practical use of my improvements it will be observed that when the shutter E is arranged on the shelf portion of the hive bottom B and the plate G is raised to its highest position relative to the shutter the entrance to the hive is partially closed, as is desirable in the early spring or late fall, when the hive is not working freely. Then when it is advantageous to further diminish the size of the entrance, as when the hive is weak, the same may be accomplished by moving the slides F inward or toward each other and the center of the recess *b* in shutter E. Again when it is essential to shut up the hive for any purpose, such as when the hive is to be moved from one point to another or to from winter quarters, the same may be ac-

completed by lowering the plate G until it rests on the shelf portion of the hive bottom B, when it will be seen that said plate G will effectually bar the passage of bees without interfering with the free ingress and egress of air necessary to proper ventilation of the hive.

Incident to the time of the full flow of honey, when a large entrance to the hive is necessary, the shutter E and the described appurtenances thereof are raised and retained by the spring-strips D in a raised position, so as to entirely uncover the entrance-opening C of the hive.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that in addition to the practical advantages ascribed to my improvements the same are strong and durable and are well adapted to withstand exposure to the weather.

The construction herein shown and described constitutes the preferred embodiment of my invention; but it is obvious that in practice various changes in the form and arrangement of the parts may be made without involving departure from the scope of my invention as claimed.

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

1. The combination with a beehive and the entrance-opening thereof; of a spring-strip connected to the hive, above the entrance-opening, and extending down from its point of connection, a shutter arranged and movable between the free portion of the spring-strip and the hive and having an opening in its lower portion, and a foraminated plate carried by and adjustable on the shutter.

2. The combination with a beehive and the entrance-opening thereof; of a spring-strip connected to the hive, above the entrance-opening, and extending down from its point of connection, a shutter arranged and movable between the free portion of the spring-strip and the hive and having an open-

ing in its lower portion and also having adjustable means for closing said opening to a greater or less extent, and a foraminated plate carried by and adjustable on the shutter.

3. The combination with a beehive and the entrance-opening thereof; of a shutter held to and adjustable on the hive and with respect to the entrance-opening thereof and having an opening, adjustable means for closing said opening to a greater or less extent, and a foraminated plate carried by and adjustable on the shutter.

4. The combination of a shutter for the entrance-opening of a beehive; said shutter having a transverse recess in its lower edge extending upward from said recess and also outward beyond the ends thereof, and also having a longitudinal channel in said edge, and slides movable in said channel of the shutter.

5. The combination of a shutter for the entrance-opening of a beehive; said shutter having a recess in its lower edge and also having shoulders at its ends, and a foraminated plate arranged back of the shutter and having a top flange arranged to rest on the upper edge of the shutter and also having end flanges engaging the ends of the shutter.

6. The combination of a shutter for the entrance-opening of a beehive; said shutter having a recess and a longitudinal channel in its lower edge, slides movable in said channel of the shutter, and a foraminated plate arranged back of the shutter and having a top flange arranged to rest on the upper edge of the shutter and also having end flanges engaging the ends of the shutter.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PETER LAMBERT.

Witnesses:

ISABELLE SMITH,
EDGAR L. SPAULDING.