A. DEARDORFF, J. W. & A. D. STUTZMAN.

BEE-HIVES.

No. 193,856. Patented Aug. 7, 1877.

Fig: 1.

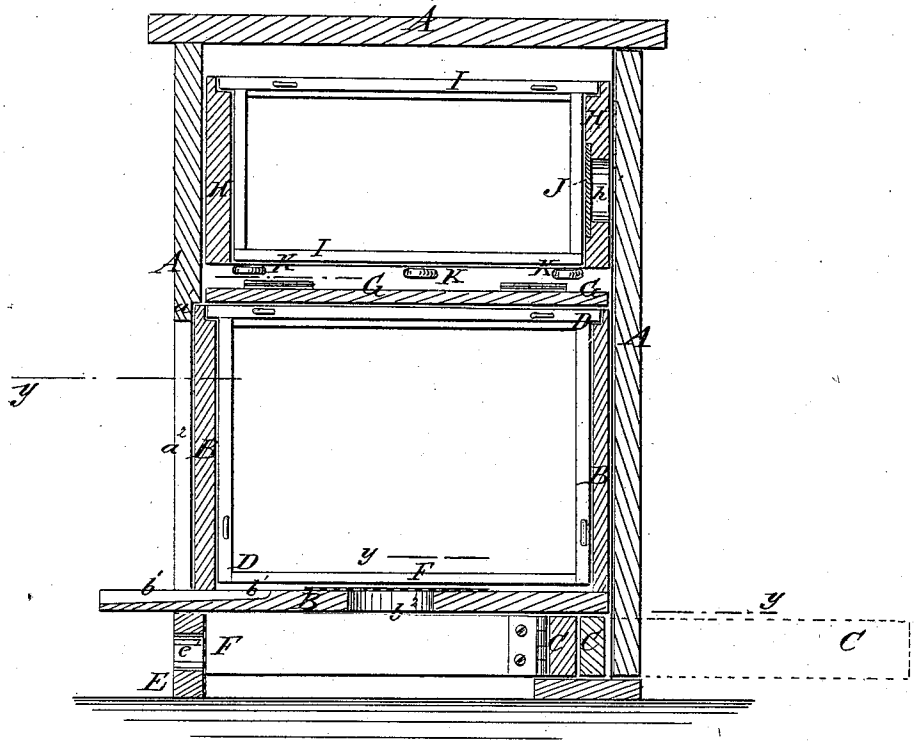
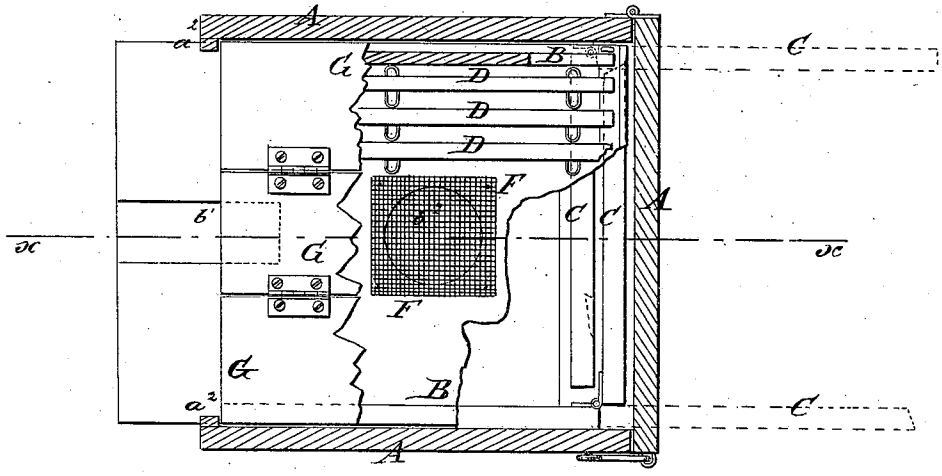


Fig: 2.



WITNESSES:

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AARON DEARDORFF, JOSEPH W. STUTZMAN, AND AARON D. STUTZMAN, OF MORRISONVILLE, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **193,856**, dated August 7, 1877; application filed May 28, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, AARON DEARDORFF, JOSEPH W. STUTZMAN, and AARON D. STUTZMAN, of Morrisonville, county of Christian and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bee-Hives, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a vertical section of our improved hive taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a detail section of the same taken through the broken line *y y y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved bee-hive, which shall be so constructed as to give the operator full control over his bees, and which, at the same time, shall be simple in construction and convenient in use.

The invention will first be described in connection with the drawing, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the drawing, A is the main or outer hive, which is made with an open bottom, and with the lower part of its front open. The front, sides, and top of the hive are permanently attached to each other, and the back is separate, being hinged at one end to adapt it to serve as a door, and is secured at the other edge, when closed, by hooks and eyes, or other convenient fastening.

The forward parts of the bars C are permanently attached to the lower parts of the sides of the main hive A, and may be folded in beneath the rear part of the brood-chamber B, as shown in full lines in Figs. 1 and 2, or may be turned outward, as shown in dotted lines in said figures, to form a way for the said brood-chamber to be slid out and in upon. The front and rear parts of the brood-chamber B are permanently secured to its bottom at their lower edges, and are rabbeted upon the inner side of their upper edges to receive the projecting ends of the top bars of the comb-frames D and the projections formed upon the corners of the side-boards of the said brood-chamber, which projections may be the projecting ends of cleats attached to the upper edges of the said sides. The sides of the brood-chamber B are so formed as to fit snugly between the front and rear of said chamber. This construction enables the sides of the brood-chamber B to be moved in or out, to adjust the size of said chamber, as may be required. The comb-frames D are kept at the proper distance apart by staples attached to the side edges of their top and side bars. The front of the brood-chamber B fills up the open part of the front of the main hive A, and its upper edge fits into a rabbet, *a'*, in the lower edge of the said front, as shown in Fig. 1.

The bottom of the brood-chamber B projects in front, and has a wide shallow groove, b^1, formed in its middle part, which groove passes beneath the lower edge of the front of said brood-chamber, to serve as an entrance for the bees. In the bar E, upon which the forward part of the hive rests, is formed a hole, *e'*, and in the center of the bottom of the brood-chamber B is formed a hole, b^2. The holes *e'* b^2 are designed to admit air, and are covered with wire-gauze F to prevent moth-millers from entering the hive. The brood-chamber B is covered with a cover or top board, G, which is made in three equal parts, hinged to each other at their adjacent edges, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, so that when the brood-chamber B has been drawn out upon the extended bars C, either side of the top or honey-board G may be turned back upon its middle part, to allow the side comb-frames D to be removed. H is the honey-box, which is made open at top and bottom, has the upper edges of its front and rear rabbeted to receive the projecting ends of the top bars of the comb-frames I, and has a large hole, *h*, covered with a glass plate, J, formed in its rear side, to allow the interior of the honey-box to be inspected when desired. The honey-box H rests and slides upon staples K, attached to the sides of the main hive A, so that the brood-chamber B and the honey-box H may be entirely independent of each other. A bee-hive so constructed that an air-space may be left between the said brood-chamber B and the main hive A.

Having thus fully described our invention, we

claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The honey or top board G, made in three parts hinged to each other at their adjacent edges, to adapt it to be folded together to uncover the side comb-frames, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The folding bars C, attached to the main hive A, to support and serve as a way for the brood-chamber B, substantially as herein shown and described.

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Witnesses:
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