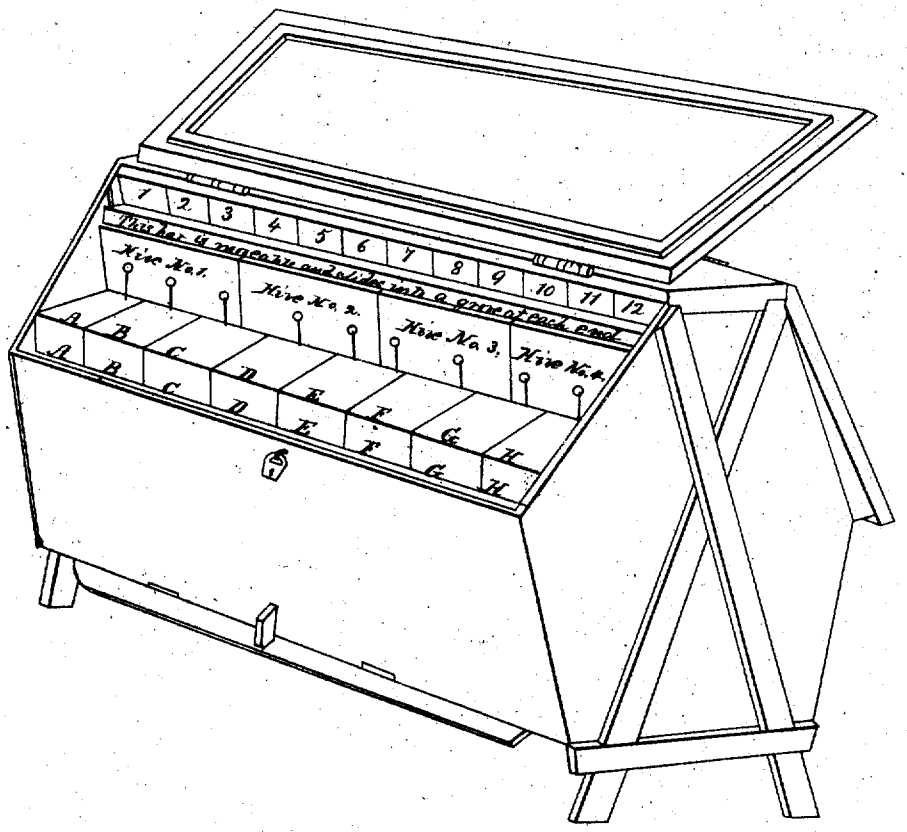
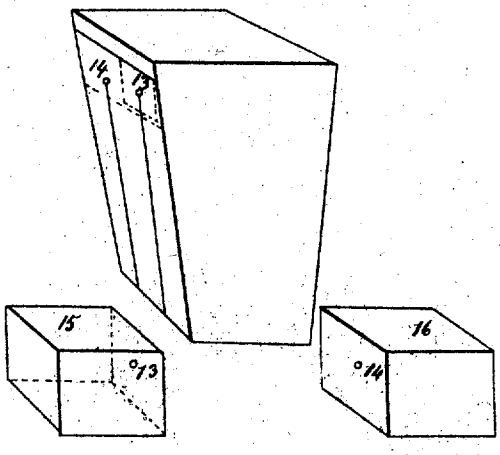
E. Beard,

Bee Hive

No. 9,426 X.

Patented Feb. 25. 1836.





9426X Feb 25 1896 281.

Ebenezer Beard, New Sharon Maine.

Letters Patent.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same, containing a description in the words of the said Ebenezer Beard, himself of his improvement in Bee Hives and Honey.

Be it known that I Ebenezer Beard, of New Sharon in the County of Kennebeck, and State of Maine, have invented constructed made and applied to use a new and useful improvement in Bee Hives and Bee Houses called Beards Improved Bee House" and that the following is a true and just description and specification thereof to wit

The Houses may be made of various sizes, according to the number of swarms that inhabit them. A Bee House for seven swarms of common size should be thirty nine and a half inches in length. The width on the bottom twenty three inches and from the bottom upwards fifteen inches it widens to twenty nine inches. From the fifteen inches to the top it comes in six inches, making the whole twenty nine inches. Across the top is eleven inches, and from the top downwards on both sides, it is sloping so as to shed off the water. This sloping part or roof is hung on hinges at the top, so as to put from small hives with bees in them, into the large house, and also small boxes for the bees to make honey in. On the top of the house a cap is put to shed off the water from the joints that are made by the covers or lids. The Bee House stands on four legs made fast to it by nailing at each end. The bottom has one board ten inches wide, which runs from end to end, and to this bottom board there are on each side two inch bottom boards hung by hinges, that should be let down in

in hot weather to give the bees more room to enable the hives in the time of making honey and also to give them a free circulation of air and thereby facilitate them in their labours These bottom boards are to be put up in the fall as soon as the flowers disappear, so as to protect them from being robbed by their neighbours and kept up until flowers appear again The above is a description of a bee house for four swarms, but they may be made to suit three or two swarms in proportion to the bees that inhabit them: Three are put into the centre on the middle bottom board, four hives with bees in them. These hives are made as follows. two of them side boards are whole, the other three are made with openings, and the top is made with openings, either of long cracks running across the hives, and up and down or with round or square holes in the hives and boxes. These openings or holes are to admit the bees into the boxes and from one hive to the other; Glass globes or tumblers may be put in, instead of boxes. The above described four hives are of equal sizes. They are sixteen inches across the top by nine and three quarters inches. in height twenty two and three eights inches. The dimensions of the bottom are nine and three quarters inches by eight and an half inches on the sides of these hives are placed small boxes. three inches deep. but in some houses they are made only one or two inches deep. The above hive three tiers are each side of the four hives. There are twenty four boxes on the top. in them whole there are twenty five boxes, but they are sometimes made with less. There is one swarm of bees put into each of the above described hives during the time of swarming. and the hives are put into the large house. The openings on the sides of the hives are opened and the bees permitted to amalgamate together, and thereby make but two families in the large house. By admitting two

swarms

swarms together they make more honey and winter better. By having two families made of four swarms, in the same milkhouse, their animal heat causes a more even temperature there being only a half inch partition between them. The frost affecting each end first causes the bees to draw towards the warmest part of the hive, which brings into the centre of the house on each side of the partition, and thereby they do not suffer by the first in the winter. The following is a description of the bees in the beehouse, viz. Forty eight inches four and seven eighths inches by six and a half and five inches deep. Twenty four are made six and an half by three and a quarter, and five deep. The comb of the hives (in which the bees are put into the house) will become old and unhealthy in seven or eight years and by having two hives in one family, one can be taken out and one empty one put in the room of the full one. if the bees should fill the empty one the first season, the next season the other can be removed. The other end of the house can be managed in the same way. Thus the house is ready and when the bees must first put into it. This house is calculated to preserve the bees for a long time it being so constructed that the whole of the comb in the house can be changed, and the bees make new in room of the old. The hives should be changed the first of July. What I claim as original and of my own invention is the manner of constructing and arranging the hives and boxes within the house, and the manner in which the bees communicate therewith.

Witnesses
Wm Lesby Johnson
Henry W. Fuller &

October 16th. 1835.

Ebenezer Beard

1041 acres

Engd
HFG

Orange