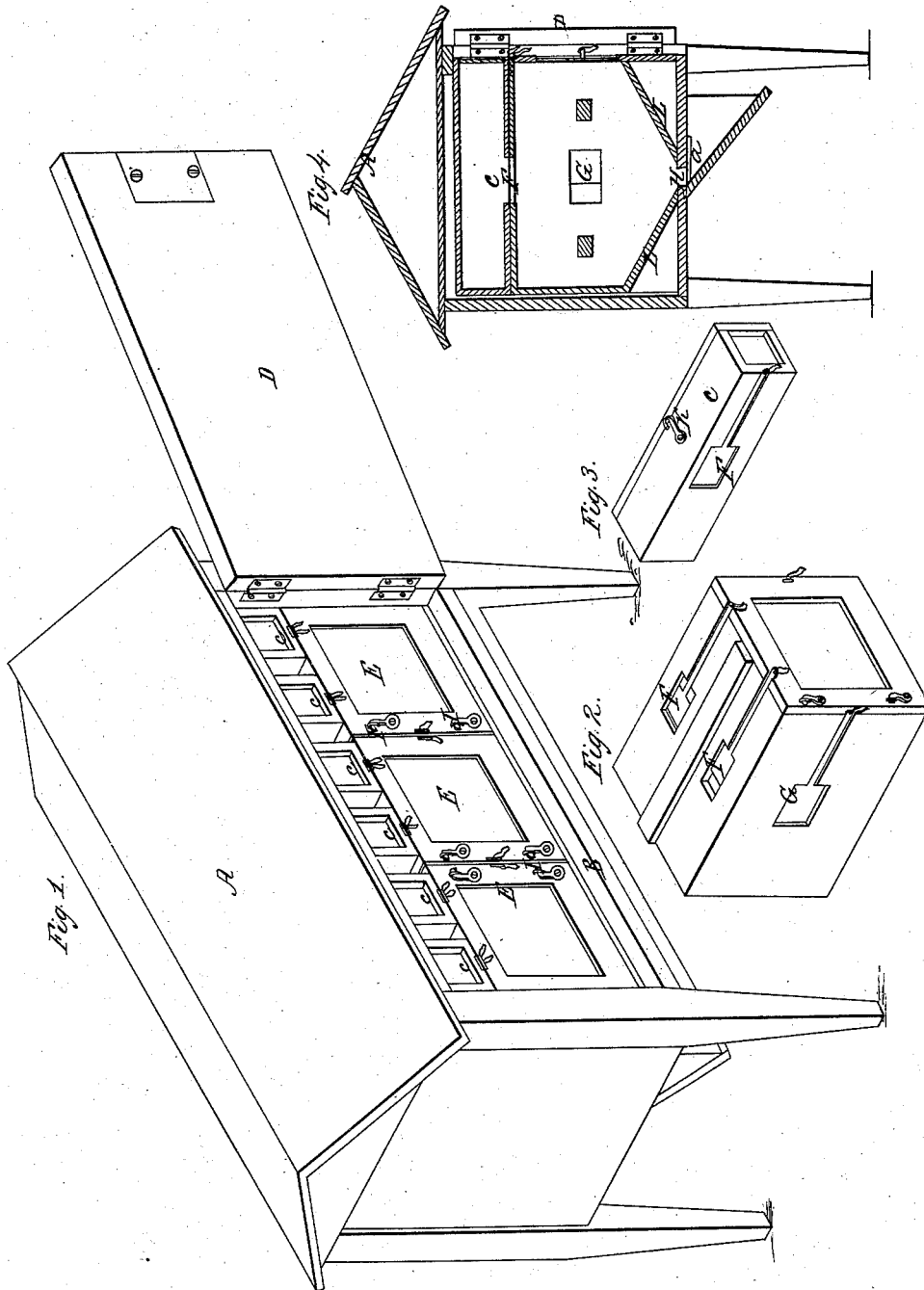


A. E. JAMES.

Bee Hive.

No. 3,398.

Patented Jan'y 6, 1844.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AARON E. JAMES, OF POINT PLEASANT, VIRGINIA.

BEEHIVE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 3,398, dated January 6, 1844.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AARON E. JAMES, of the town of Point Pleasant, county of Mason, and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Construction of Bee-Houses; and I hereby declare that the following is a true and exact description of the construction of the same and the advantages resulting therefrom, reference being had to the annexed drawings and views of the house and making a part of the specification, Figure 1 representing an isometrical view with the door open, showing the interior; Fig. 2, one of the three large boxes or hives; Fig. 3, one of the small boxes; Fig. 4, section.

The roof is represented by the letter A, the board or inclined plane immediately below the bottom or floor by the letter B, the small boxes at the top by the letter C, the door by the letter D, the front of the large boxes and the glass to show the working of the bees by letter E, the holes communicating between the large and small boxes at the top of the former and the slide used for closing them by the letter F, the holes communicating between the large boxes by letter G, the holes through the bottom or floor by which the bees enter the large boxes by letter H, the hooks or clasps fastening the doors of the box by the letter I, a similar fastening to the side of the small boxes by the letter K, and the inclined plane in the bottom of the large boxes, which communicates with the holes through the bottom or floor by the letter L.

That others skilled in the art may make and use my invention or improvement upon a former invention I will proceed to direct its construction and operation.

The beehouse consists of a box 3 feet and 5 inches long, 21 inches wide, and 22 inches deep standing upon legs 20 inches long and 2 inches square. From the top of the box to the comb of the roof is 10 inches. The roof is made of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plank tongued and grooved together and nailed on the gable ends. The length of the eaves may vary from two to five inches. The sides and ends of the box or body of the house is made of inch plank and tenoned into the legs, for which purpose the pieces of which the legs are made are continued up to the top of the box. There are 6 small boxes or drawers (from which

honey is to be obtained for use) two upon each of the large ones, 5 by 5 inches and 18 inches deep with glass in front, the glass tenoned into the ends of the boxes, the drawers to be made of half inch stuff, each box or drawer having an opening cut in the under side $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches square for the bees to pass up and down; these holes may be stopped at pleasure by means of a slide as represented in Fig. 4, these slides are 10 inches long with a piece of tin $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches square nailed to the end of each slide. When the holes are closed they may be opened by withdrawing the slide by means of a string fastened to the end of each slide. These small boxes may be opened by means of hinges fastened to the sides for which leather may be used. When the lid is closed it may be fastened by means of clasps (see Fig. 3 letter K). There are three large boxes 12 by 13, and 18 inches deep (intended to hold the comb for the use of the bees). These are made of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch stuff with glass doors in front fastened in the same way as those described in the small boxes. The holes in the drawing, F F G, are for the purpose of permitting the bees to pass from one large box to the other, these holes are 2 inches square and may be opened or closed at pleasure by means of slides similar to those used and described in the small boxes; grooves are cut in the sides of the boxes to admit these slides to slip backward and forward. The inclined planes in the bottom of the large boxes start two inches below the center of the box and terminate at the edges of the hole in the bottom or floor through which the bees enter from the inclined plane immediately beneath the floor. The width of the plane, being the one upon which the bees alight is ten inches. The glass doors in the large boxes may be opened when necessary, for the purpose of hiving a new swarm, by means of iron hinges one inch square. These doors are fastened by clasps as described above.

The entrance to the beehouse may be closed by means of a thin piece of plank or tin made to slip along a groove cut in the cleats (Fig. 4 letter A) immediately under the bottom or floor of the house.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The combination of several hives furnished

with inclined floors and two honey boxes on their tops with the beehive in the manner set forth, that is to say, said hives being movable and having the entrance for the bees in the middle between the two inclined floors and corresponding to an entrance in the floor of the palace, said entrance having an inclined alighting board and slides to close the hives at pleasure.

AARON E. JAMES.

Witnesses:

THOMAS LEWIS,
WILSON C. Sisson.