

(No Model.)

A. FRALEY.

BEE HIVE.

No. 267,177.

Patented Nov. 7, 1882.

Fig. 1.

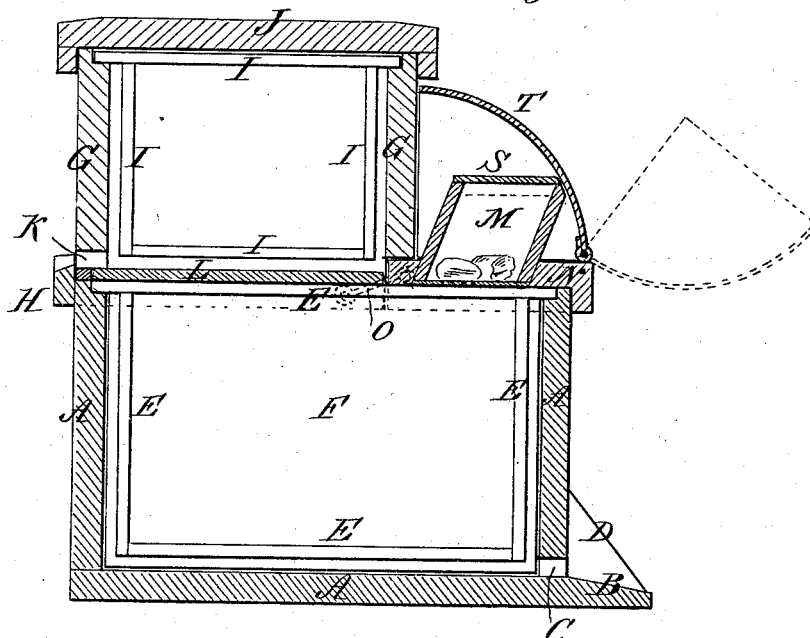
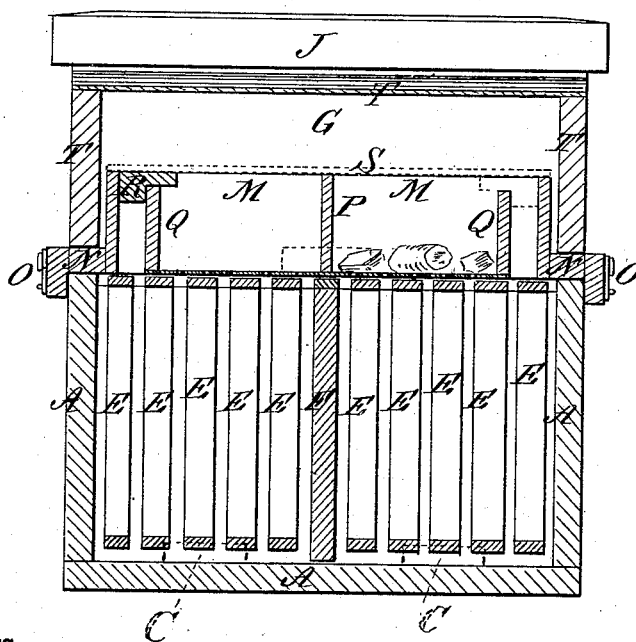


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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Fig. 3.

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BEE-HIVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 267,177, dated November 7, 1882.

Application filed June 20, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER FRALEY, of Grayson, in the county of Carter and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bee-Hives, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a sectional side elevation of my improvement. Fig. 2 is a sectional front elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a cover of one of the feed-box entrance-chambers.

The object of this invention is to promote convenience in taking care of, wintering, and feeding bees.

The invention consists in combining the parts of a hive, as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

Upon the rear part of the body is placed a surplus-honey chamber, provided with an entrance-opening in its rear side. Upon the forward part of the body A is placed a sliding frame, carrying a feed-trough divided into two feed-compartments and two entrance-compartments by three partitions, and provided with covers for the entrance compartments and a main cover. The feed-trough is provided with a quadrantal cover hinged to the feed-trough frame, as will be hereinafter fully described.

A is the body of the hive, the bottom of which projects in front, to form a ledge or platform, B, for the bees to alight upon and take flight from. In the lower edge of the front of the hive, upon each side of its center, are formed two openings, C, to give access to the main or brood chamber. The entrance-openings C are separated by a triangular board, D, attached to the ledge B and the front of the hive, between the said openings. The brood-chamber of the hive is provided with comb-frames E, the projecting ends of the top bars of which rest in rabbets in the upper edges of the front and back of the said hive in the ordinary manner. The body A of the hive is also provided with a division-board, F, which has a strip attached to its upper edge with projecting ends

to rest upon the rabbets of the front and back of the hive in the same manner as the comb-frames E. The division-board F can be placed in the center of the body A, so as to divide the said body into two compartments, each having an entrance-opening, C.

When it is desired to use the body A as a single compartment, the division-board F can be removed or can be placed against one of the side walls of the said body.

G is the surplus-honey chamber, which is made of the same width as the body A, but shorter, so as to leave the forward part of the top of the body A uncovered. To the lower parts of the side and rear walls of the chamber G are attached cleats H, to overlap the sides of the body A, and thus keep the said upper hive-section in place. The chamber G is provided with comb-frames I, a cover, J, and has an entrance-opening, K, in the lower edge of its rear side, which can be closed by a slide when not required for use. The upper hive-section, G, can be separated from the body A by a honey-board, L, when desired. When the upper hive-section, G, is required to be connected with the brood-chamber, the honey-board L is removed and placed upon the comb-frame I. With this construction the hive can be used for wintering three distinct colonies of bees, so as to obtain the advantage of the labors of three queens, or the division-board F and the honey-board L can be removed and the hive used for a single swarm.

M is the feed-trough, which is attached to a frame, N, of such a size as to fit upon and close the part of the body A left uncovered by the honey-box G. The lower sides of the front and side bars of the frame N are rabbeted to fit upon the top of the body A, and the said frame is secured to the side cleats, H, by hooks O, as indicated in Fig. 2 and shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1. The trough M is divided into two large middle compartments to contain the food and two small side compartments to serve as bee-passages by the central partition, P, and two side partitions, Q. The side partitions, Q, are made a little lower than the trough, to allow bees to pass over the said partitions when the trough is covered. The side com-

partments of the trough M, when not required for use, are closed by covers R, which rest upon the upper edges of the side partitions, Q. The bottom of the trough M is formed of sheet metal, and is finely perforated to allow the food, when liquid food is used, to trickle down into the brood-chamber. In this case the side compartments or passages should be closed by the covers R. When a dry food is used the covers R should be removed to give the bees access to the feed-compartments.

When the brood-chamber contains two colonies a cover, S, of glass or other suitable material, should be placed upon the trough M, so that the bees of each compartment can have a separate feed-compartment.

To the outer edge of the frame N is hinged the edge of a quadrantal cover, T, the free edge of which fits against the front of the honey-chamber G, so that the said cover T can be swung back, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1, to give convenient access to the feed-trough M. With this construction the frame N and its attachments can be drawn back to allow the condition of the brood-chamber to be inspected without its being necessary to remove any part of the hive.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A bee-hive constructed substantially as herein shown and described, and consisting of the body A, divided into two compartments by a division-board, F, and provided with two entrance-openings, C, and a honey-board, L, the surplus-honey upper hive-section, G, provided with an entrance-opening, K, and the sliding frame N, provided with a feed-trough, M, and a quadrantal cover, T, as set forth.

2. In a bee-hive, the combination, with the body A, of the feed-trough M, having perforated bottom mounted upon a sliding frame, N, divided into two feed-compartments and two passages by partitions P Q Q, and provided with covers R R S, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby the bees can be supplied with liquid or dry food, as set forth.

3. The combination, with the body A, the upper hive-section, G, the trough M, and the frame N, of the cover T, hinged to the outer edge of said frame and closing with its free edge against said chamber, whereby convenient access can be had to the trough, as described.

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Witnesses:

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