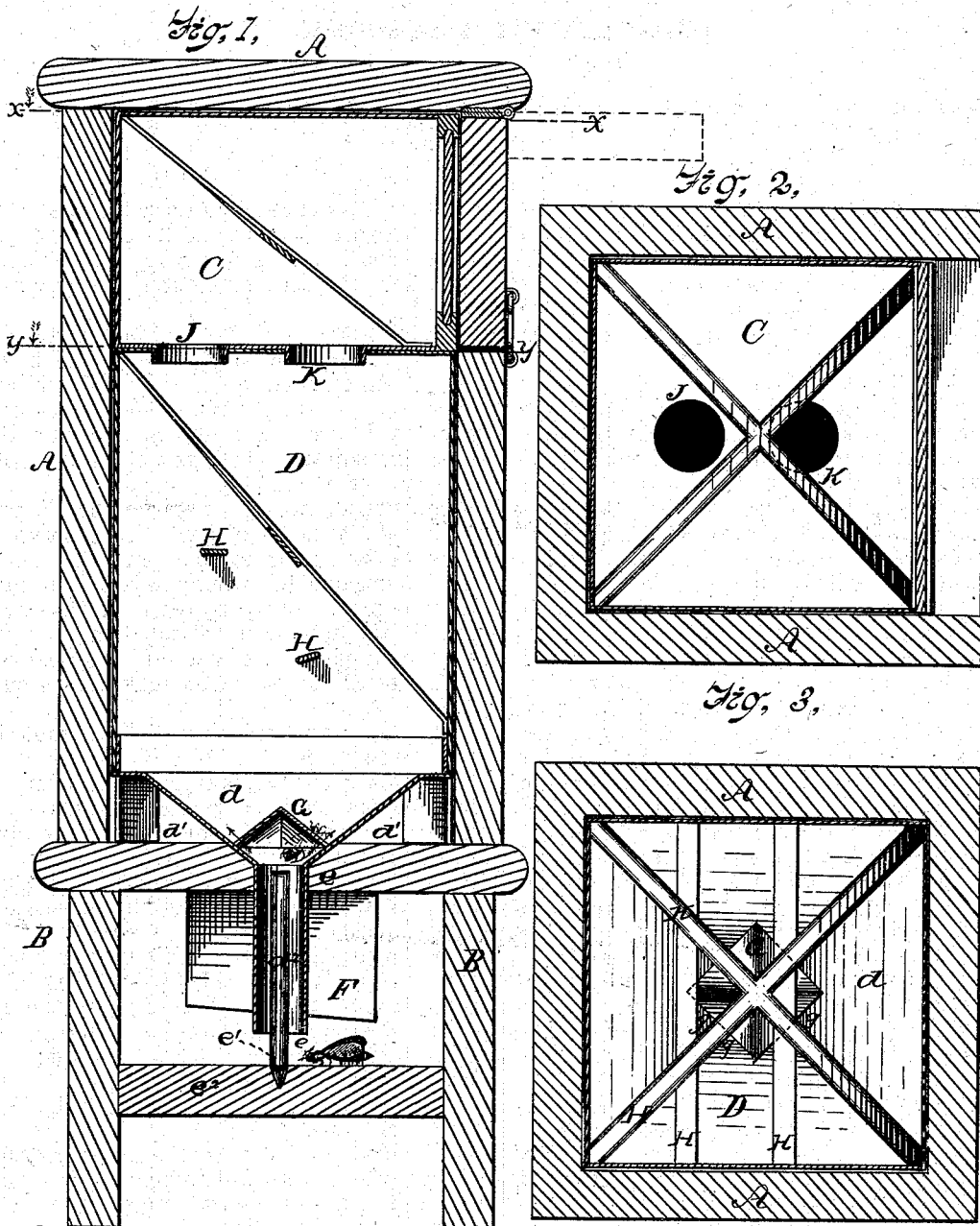


J. A. BARKER.

BEE-HIVE.

No. 186,525.

Patented Jan. 23, 1877.



Witnesses:

*Wm Wagner*  
*J. L. Coombs*

Inventor:

*John A. Barker*

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Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. BARKER, OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BEE-HIVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 186,525, dated January 23, 1877; application filed October 3, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN A. BARKER, of Wilmington, in the county of New Hanover and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bee-Hives, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to certain improvements in the construction of bee-hives, its object being to guard against the entrance of moth or worms, and prevent the deposit of the eggs of the moth, should the same by any means find access to the interior of the hive; and, further, to provide a hive that can be cheaply constructed, and readily taken apart for inspection, when desired.

My invention consists of a casing of suitable material, preferably of wood, within which is located two or more communicating chambers, constructed of metal, the upper chamber being provided with a glass front, which sets opposite a door in the wooden casing when in position, and the lower one being provided with a guarded passage-way extending below, for the entrance of the bees, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

In the drawing, the letter A represents the exterior casing, preferably of a rectangular form, and constructed of wood; and B, a stand or table for supporting the same. The said casing is provided with a hinged door near the top, through which the upper metallic chamber C may be inserted and removed, and has an open bottom for the insertion and removal of the lower metallic casing D.

The upper chamber C is constructed of metal, preferably of sheet metal, such as tinned sheet iron or zinc, of rectangular shape, and of such size as to be readily inserted through the door in the upper part of the exterior casing, and is provided with a glass front, which comes opposite the door in said exterior casing when in place, through which the interior of the hive may be inspected when desired.

The lower casing is likewise constructed of metal, and is provided with a detachable bottom, *d*, having legs *d'* at each corner, by means of which it is supported upon the stand or table B. Said bottom is provided with a passage-way, *d''*, leading downward from its center through an aperture, *e*, in the top of the table B, and projecting over a vertical

standard, *e'*, secured to a cross-piece, *e''*, fastened between the standards of the table, said vertical standard serving as a means by which the bees can enter the passage-way *d''*.

The letter F represents two shields or guards, secured to the under side of the stand or table top, for concealing the mouth of the passage-way. Above the upper end of the passage-way is secured a metallic guard-plate, G, leaving suitable openings *g* at its edges for the entrance of the bees.

The interior of the lower chamber is provided with a series of bars, H, to serve as supports for the honey-comb, and the upper and lower chambers communicate with each other by means of apertures J K, the apertures in the upper compartments having dependent flanges, which set into the aperture in the lower compartment, making a secure joint.

As thus constructed, it will be seen that the entrance to the hive is effectually guarded by the guards F and G, making it almost impossible for the moth or worms to find an entrance; and as the interior walls of the hive are composed wholly of metal and glass, no place is afforded for the lodgment of eggs, should the moth by any possibility get access to the interior of the hive.

The lower chamber, it will be perceived, may be readily removed from the exterior casing through its open bottom, while the upper chamber can be removed with facility, or inspected through the door in the upper part of the casing, as occasion may require.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In combination with the lower metallic chamber, the downwardly-extending passage-way, and vertical standard projecting within the same, substantially as described.

2. In combination with the downwardly-extending passage-way, the guards F and G, for protecting the entrance of the hive, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

JOHN A. BARKER.

Witnesses:

WM. L. JACOBS,  
L. T. BOWDEN.