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BEEHIVE

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Beehives with cells made of metal have been constructed now for some time; these are preferably made of aluminium since the qualities of this metal and of its alloys are very suitable for the purpose.

By the use of the beehive cells according to my invention all the operations of extracting the honey from the hives are greatly simplified by dispensing with manipulations in the interior of the hives with the result that the work of collecting the honey, which is long, fatiguing and even dangerous, is converted into a short and easy operation, which can be performed by any person.

On the other hand the bees are not annoyed by the operations which have to be carried out in order to gather and store the honey, thus avoiding diminution in the amount of honey produced, all of which is to the benefit of the bee-keeper.

It follows from the improvements herein referred to that the extraction of the honey can be carried out in the same hive without the bee-keeper having to resort to fumigation, nor need he come into contact with the bees thereby avoiding all danger of being stung.

The principal feature of the invention resides in the fact that the cells are composed of three parts, two of them being lateral parts and a third central part hereinafter referred to as the matrix wall. The matrix wall is adapted for a certain extent of movement relatively to the lateral or side parts whereby the matrix wall is enabled to take up a suitable position whereby the honey produced and contained in the cells can drain towards the outside and pass to receptacles which can be conveniently removed by the bee-keeper.

Other advantages and features of the invention will hereinafter be described.

As is well known, the cells constructed by the bees consist of a very large number of small receptacles, cells or vessels of hexagonal section joined together in juxtaposition so that they touch each other at the sides top and bottom. The bottoms are constituted by a pyramid of triangular section the sides of which are equal and are connected together at an equal inclination, so that the cell is constituted as a whole by a hollow body of hexagonal section with a pyramidal bottom, the arrangement being such that the bottom of each cell acts partly as the base of three other contiguous cells.

The bodies of the cells form two symmetrical series with openings leading to each side of the cell, each one of these series occupying part of

the thickness of the cell and a central wall or matrix wall forming the bottoms of the cells and separating the cells of series from those of the other. The central axis of each cell is at an opposite inclination to the cell on the other side, thus preventing the escape of the honey which remains stored and contained in the cells.

The invention is diagrammatically illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a front sectional elevation of a beehive constructed according to the invention.

Figure 2 is a detail in vertical transverse section on an enlarged scale, of part of two cells.

Figure 3 is a side elevation of the hive showing how the honey is extracted from the cells.

Figures 4 and 5 are theoretical diagrams on a reduced scale showing the relative positions of the side walls of the cells.

Figure 6 shows diagrammatically a modification.

The hive has provided at 1 the habitation of the bees, above which are provided two series of cells, as at 2 and 3, which are mounted in a wooden frame 4, which is itself mounted, as at 5 and 6, between the walls of the habitation 1 the said cells being capable of being removed from and replaced in this frame.

According to the present invention each cell consists essentially of three enclosing parts. Two of the said parts 7 and 8 (Figures 4 to 6) form the longitudinal prismatic cavities such as 9, 9', of hexagonal section, and the other part 10, which is adjustably mounted between the first two parts, forms the bottoms of the said cells in the form of triangular pyramids, the said bottoms being arranged in such a way that those on one side form the bottom of the cells on one side and the others form the bottom of the cells on the other side. The relative positions of these three parts are variable to suit requirements as will be explained hereinafter.

The three parts or members above referred to composing each cell are constructed with the greatest precision, so that by suitably connecting them together, the walls of the cells of the side parts may be extended and their bottoms fit exactly to the matrix or central wall so as to produce when assembled complete cells.

The matrix or dividing wall of each cell (Figures 1 and 2) is mounted on a supporting member 11 by means of a screw-threaded rod 12 which passes through the supporting member 11, and on which is screwed a nut 13 which rests on the supporting member so that the matrix or dividing