

ly new or sufficiently so to call it a system.

I do not think the Doctor should have come out quite as bitterly as he did and make so many statements that certainly are not correct, because I filled a couple of columns with verbatim quotations from my book published long before he claimed any new system and while he was using the Victor hive with its continuous passage ways. The Doctor is still determined to make the manipulation of two brood chambers identical with that of one brood chamber divided into two parts, each used for specific purposes. Well, that he cannot do. I have looked over all this ground, read Mr. Quinby as quoted by him, consulted my patent lawyer faithfully on the subject, and it won't go; Doctor, it won't go.

The doctor does me injustice by saying that I design to lay claim to his new system of management. I claim nothing that I did not claim before he had any new system and when he was using the Victor hive with its continuous passage ways. If the two columns of solid, verbatim quotations from my book, lays any claim to his new system, why that proves conclusively that his new system is thus far claiming my invention, because I was prior, don't you see? There is no getting around this. Columns of aimless assertions will not disprove this self-evident fact.

I did not know before that the Doctor was using and recommending the Langstroth frame. I am glad if he has gone back to that, because, if nothing else, it will save all infringement upon other inventions.

The Doctor says that I patented a copied invention. That I could not do. The patent office would not allow it had I tried to do any such thing. The Doctor says I sought certain claims through a re-issue, and that I make claims that are an imposition on the bee-keeping public. One of these statements is just as true as the other. I did not seek any re-issue. I announced that I expected to do so, but later consulted more fully with my patent attorney, and he, while in Washington, looked the matter up carefully in the patent office, and said I did not need any re-issue. My patent was strong and valid enough, and would hold everything I desired or ever claimed in public print. It seems as though the Doctor did not mean to tell the truth about it. In regard to the truth of my statement above, the records of the patent office will show if I ever made any application for re-issue.

Another mistake the Doctor makes, is, I never claimed to be the author of the contraction system so far as I know. Ed. J. Oatman,

of Dundee, Ill., was the author, but he would not publish it, nor let me, until I had used it three years privately, and he had used it several more. I do not know how many before he told me about it. Then I did publish it, and another thing the Doctor is very mistaken regarding, or wilfully mistakes, I published it before Mr. Doolittle did. The Doctor forgets that Mr. Doolittle and myself had a controversy about that, and that the public records proved my claim to be prior, by several months.

It would seem as though this question of the wood zinc honey-board had been discussed enough. It is a well known fact that wood zinc honey-boards were made before the Doctor invented the device of slipping the strips of zinc between the slats, which we have given him credit for, but the Doctor cannot make, and does not make, and never will make a honey-board worth a cent, of combined wood and zinc, unless he uses my features of the bee-space and break-joint principles, one or both, in connection therewith. I think more of either one of these features than I do of the arrangement of the zinc. Perhaps I am not right, but the Doctor must understand that these strips of zinc had been tacked on both the upper and under side of my honey-board, and it is furthermore a fact that can be proved by good witnesses, that they were slid in grooves in the edges of the slats by several different parties before the Doctor ever described them. However, that may be, as he was the first to *print* it; he should have the credit and we have always given it to him. But suppose I had patented the break-joint, and bee-space principles when I invented the honey-board, about twelve years ago, and for which A. I. Root made me a present of \$100 as a token of his appreciation of the invention. Then the Doctor could not use his zinc slide system in any arrangement of any value.

The doctor accuses me of copying from Mr. Hetherington, when in reality I do not know, and never did know what kind of a hive Mr. H. uses. I never told of copying from Bingham. I mentioned the fact that Mr. Bingham's arrangement suggested to me certain things. Without occupying too much of your space I will say that Dr. Tinker has misstated dates. What was two years and was published as two years, he has called four years. I am not so anxious to have a reputation as an inventor as I am to protect my patent, and that I shall do and do it by law, and I guess there will be no trouble with the Doctor, for it seems now that he has gone back to the suspended Langstroth frame.

Another point, I never claimed to have invented the wood zinc, queen excluding honey-