

with the work they have undertaken, and that their exhibits of honey will not only be large in amount, but the best and the purest that the country can produce. They have the right men as their leaders, who are ready to prove their ability to take a proper advantage of the opportunity now offered them, and to see that Canadian apiculture is worthily represented at the forthcoming Exhibition.

CURRENT NEWS FOR BEE-KEEPERS.

THE HEDDON HIVE.

Read at the meeting of the Rhode Island Bee-Keepers' Society, held at Providence, R. I., March 17th.

I HAVE been requested to give the current news relating to our industry and will endeavor to do so by touching on the ideas that interest me most and which seem important and desirable for application in our apiaries.

Perhaps the subject now causing the most interest is that relating to the new Heddon hive and system of hive manipulation. As all may not have seen the description, I will say that the brood chamber of this hive consists of shallow cases or hives of closed end frames; one or several of these cases are used according to the requirements of the colony, making a sectional brood nest.

Each horizontal section can be interchanged, also inverted. Each frame can also be inverted singly. These frames are the Quinby closed-end and open top standing frame, but made shallow as used by Mr. Bingham, of Mich., for many years. A thumb-screw crowds them together that the case may be inverted. The surplus department consists of wide frame with the separators for holding sections arranged on same principle, also invertible. The system is in handling hives instead of frames, and it seems to me must be appreciated by all who give it a careful study.

About all can be accomplished by manipulating these sections of brood nest that are obtained by reversing singly each full depth frame.

The hive and system came out about Jan. 1st, although it was described a few weeks before at the convention of the North American Bee-Keepers' Society held at Detroit. Since then the editor of the *American Bee Journal* has come out in its favor, and both he and D. A. Jones, of the *CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL*, manufacture them for sale.

W. L. Hutchinson, Rev. W. F. Clarke and many other of our brightest writers have written of it in glowing terms. Our large producers are also looking upon it with approval, among them

Mr. Manum, of Vermont, who has nearly a thousand colonies and whose crop last season was twenty-two (22) tons.

The general verdict is that it is a good thing and will change our methods of hive construction and management. Mr. Heddon has patented the hive, and so far as I can see he has a right to for the combination, as it is new even if the different principles combined are old and common property. I have not read the specifications of his patent, but should judge from the writings of Messrs. Pond and Demaree, that he had claimed as original principles in common use, and as they were not patented he has received a patent on them.

A brood nest having horizontal sections is not new, as will be seen by referring to ninth edition of *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 1878, where under head of "Bees" are illustrated and described several hives, one of the which "The Stewarton Hive" is a top bar hive although frames are sometimes fitted to it. It is described as follows:

"It usually consists of three octagon breeding boxes, 14 inches in diameter, by 6 inches deep—there are also two supers or honey boxes the same diameter as the stock boxes, but only 4 inches deep; these are furnished with wider bars." On the next page the management is given, two boxes are given to a swarm, and soon another empty one, or one containing another swarm, is added by placing underneath or between the two, then the shallow supers are placed on the top. In "Miner's Am. Bee-Keepers' Manual," 1851, he illustrates and describes the Subtended Hive (page 141), which hive consists of three horizontal sections with openings from one to another, one receives the swarm and others are added beneath as required, each section was 11½ inches square, by 9 inches deep. He speaks of it being in use in New Jersey, and that "some savant is deluding the good people by causing them to believe that it is original and the very best hive in existence," that empty parts are placed under or between two full ones and the lower one only left when wintering. He condemns the hive and plan and praises his own system. These principles seem to have been lost sight of by the majority after the invention of Langstroth's easily movable hanging frame hive.

Mr. Bingham binds his frames together and handles them like a shallow box. Mr. Manum has used wood thumb screws in section cases which were invertible. Invertible frames are common, and J. M. Shuck has given us a patent invertible hive. Shallow frames in cases were also used by the Dadants for extracting supers, and in the *American Apiculturist*, Vol. 2, page