

heretofore produced my sections without separators, and got on fairly well, but was induced this year to try the separators, and using the Richardson Hive I had to use tin, wood taking too much room, I used them in about half of my cases, and I am not fully convinced of their utility. I have fuller and better selling sections without them, and do not think that I will bother with them another season; in most of the cases where they were used the bees built brace combs to the tin, whilst without them I had little or no brace combs.

I am now pretty well satisfied that, if full sheets of good foundation be put in, and care taken to have them attached in the centre, and the hives set level and a good strong first swarm, there will be nice sections without the trouble of separators.

"When should the last case of sections be put on?" For some years here we have had no flow of Honey after the Basswood, and I have at the end of every season had so many half and quarter filled sections that I have had to decide on a time in the season when the putting on of sections must stop, if we are to get full sections only. Therefore in this section I would say that as soon as the Basswood flow is on, stop, and if they should get these filled before the flow was over, raise them up, and put a set of combs under, and if these be not at hand, take out the outside combs in the lower story or brood part and put in frames of foundation. This will give the Bees all the room they will likely want for the remainder of the season.

Swarming device—I have this season been using one of "Manums" and have found it very useful, would have lost one or more swarms if I had not had it. Bee Escapes.—I have been using a few of those of the Porter make which I presume are as good as any, for some seasons past, and where only a few

colonies are kept, they may come useful I shall not bother with them any more. If the Bees are cross, I just put on a good pair of gloves and veil and go right ahead.

"Preparing the combs for keeping well over winter."

When extracting for the last time it has been my custom to put two or three cases of combs over one hive to have them cleaned out and afterwards stack them up in the cellar where they keep well and were in good shape for the next seasons use. This season I stacked up some four sets of combs upon one colony and closed the entrance to one bee space. The Bees in that hive seemed to get so demoralized, with the large space about them and the amount of honey at their disposal that they neglected to guard the entrance and in a very short time the other bees of the yard found their opportunity and not only assisted to clean out the combs but cleaned out the hive below and killed about all the Bees. Next year I shall stack my combs up at some little distance and avoid a recurrence of such an event.

These then are some of the "lessons of the season" with me, and may be useful to some novices in the business like myself. Practical and experienced Bee-keepers will of course only smile at my simplicity in some directions at least.

I have increased my stock from some sixty to one hundred colonies, and am now preparing these for winter. Formerly I have not been so particular as to weigh my hive before packing them for the winter, this season I am weighing them and have reserved sufficient full combs to level them up to say 55lb each, which will leave about 30lb of honey exclusive of hive, combs and Bees, which should be amply sufficient to carry them through the winter in good shape.