


Two," dubs me, has been very much taken up with other matters the past year, and hence have not been able to be present at the various bee conventions though my heart was with those who were present. I hope, however, to give things apiarian more of my time from this out, so that "Number Two" may not have occasion to call on me again.—D. A. J.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Horizontal Divisible Brood Chamber Hives.

 HAVE read Mr. Heddon's article on page 327, July 3, with amazement. I had no idea until I read it, that he was so "wrapped up" in American notions, was so totally innocent of a knowledge of British hives and systems.

Here is a choice sample; "Perhaps he (i.e. myself) does not know that in England and Scotland these storifying hives of which he speaks, had gone out of use, Simplificities and other American patterns having taken their place. These, however, are the facts and the divisible brood-chamber hives never existed in that country. They simply had divisible nives and so did we when we had two apartment hives. They had what was called Stewarton's storifying hives, but they had no well defined division between the brood chamber." Then he ends up with: "I hope I have made this matter sufficiently clear so that those reading such misleading statements as the one quoted above will not be led astray by them."

He also quotes Messrs. Geo. Neighbor & Sons, so that no doubt he has had several of their catalogues, if so, he will have seen "Stewarton," which is a development, through long usage, of Stuart Town, also "Renfrewshire Stewarton" hives, the illustrations of which, have always shown a number of horizontally divisible brood-chambers, also supers, called "honey boxes," as they are made shallower than the brood boxes.

The "Stewarton" hive is worked with bars only, fixed in an octagon box, with five eighth walls and about 14 inches wide inside, by six or nine inches deep; these are for brood only and are worked with two nine or three six inch boxes at least. The honey boxes are four inches deep, every one of which will fit exactly on the top of each other. This is the hive that is in such extensive use in Scotland to carry out migratory bee keeping, to get in the heather harvest; in fact no hive has yet been able to come up to it for this purpose. The "Ren-

frewshire" Stewarton, is exactly the same, but it is fitted with movable frames, instead of bars only, and is nine inches deep. When the clover harvest ends the top brood box is mostly full of honey and some of the supers are unfinished; the practice is to put the top brood box under the other, and as the instinct of bees is to keep the brood nest in one solid globe, they carry up the honey to finish the supers and fill the emptied cells in this box, with brood, which when hatched comes in to gather the heather harvest. The Stewarton hive has always been a comb honey hive and the amount of comb honey to be got has always depended on the depth of the brood nest. Heddon teaches that the shallower it is, the better, if a large harvest is wanted. As to it having "gone out of use," it is a fact which cannot be disputed, that there are more Stewarton hives in use to day than ever before. More are made every year, while for his other assertion, I have never seen or heard tell of an American "Simplicity" hive in use on this side, nor do I think one is in use. There are a few "Heddon" hives being tried, but none are being made now; and as to "other American patterns," no one in his senses uses them, as no American pattern hive is suitable for this climate.

The reason the Stewarton hives are not more in use is the difficulty of making them, no one that is not trained being able to make them. Robert Kerr was a cabinet maker, and to this day no one but a cabinet maker or one who has served an apprenticeship to learn the art can make them properly. Then they are expensive, and they are old, which fact is not without its influence, when one is looking for a novelty. No other hive has been so much discussed in British literature. If one will turn to the British Bee Journal for Dec. 1st, 1880, they will see a paper published that was read by the Rev. E. Bartrum, M. A., before the British Bee Keepers Association on this hive, also in every number forward until, and including the issue for June 1st, 1881, they will see a long controversy on it, between Thos. Wm. Cowan, Esq., who is now the editor, and a "Renfrewshire Bee Keeper." The paper and the controversy will give any one a good insight into the manner of working a storifying horizontal divisible brood-chamber hive, and set at rest the question, if such a hive ever existed or not, in fact I have shown that such a hive was patented in April, 1675, only four years after bees were first landed in America, read A. B. J. for May 25th 1885, page 739, and if Mr. Heddon does not know of such hives ever being in use, well, he has no one but himself to blame.

Now a few words on the U. S Patent Law, and