

honey, a frame of hatching brood might be given to some other weaker colony.

If I were making any change in this hive, it would only be to add another frame, but for all practical purposes here in Canada the number used will if properly manipulated give the best of results.

This hive is perhaps the most simple and *cheapest* of any in the market, and its cheapness in price has a good deal to do with my admiration for it, though I would wish it borne in mind that I would never dispense with utility for the sake of economy.

The authors of the revised Langstroth say on the point of a good hive :

"Of such hives, the best are those which best unite *cheapness* with simplicity, with *protection in winter* and *ready access* to the spare honey-boxes."

In the issue of *Gleanings* March 1, 1889, Mr. Ernest R. Root says :

"The tendency of the times is more and more toward simplicity. The most practical honey-producers (those who own colonies by the hundreds and not by the tens) incline toward (if they do not already use) cheap, substantial and simple hives and fixtures. Indeed the price of honey is such that they cannot afford expensive and complicated arrangements."

#### DIVISION BOARDS.

Ever since I first began to keep bees I have used division boards, or dummies as some call them, and I consider them an indispensable adjunct to any apiary. Besides being used for contracting the size of the brood chamber in spring or fall, and reducing the size of the hive for winter, they answer many other important purposes. In the winter the vacuum behind the division board may be filled with packing of some sort, thus reducing the size of the repository and requiring less heat to be generated to keep the brood chamber at a proper temperature. These division boards always keep the brood chamber compact even in summer when the frames do not occupy all the space. Keep them always close up behind the last frame, spaced from it just as if it were another frame. When handling the frames there will be much less trouble in loosening them after the division board has once been moved.

#### PAINTING HIVES.

I want to see every hive in an apiary painted. Paint keeps out rain and cold as well as preserves the wood. In an apiary of many hives, different colors would be better to assist the bees in the matter of location. Let all the colors be dark. I use a dark drab mineral paint very extensively about my premises, and on hives shipped out. Sometimes in the hurry of work we are forced to use hives before we get time to paint them, but we take the first opportunity of giving them a coat.

#### ROOT'S DOVE-TAILED HIVE.

During the past few months our friend Root has been devising a hive which would be more simple and cheap than the Simplicity, yet with as many and as good qualities. They believe they have found it in what they call a "dove-tailed hive." The brood chamber is exactly similar in construction to the brood chamber of the Langstroth hive as we have always made it, except that it is dove-tailed at the corners instead of being rabbeted and nailed together as we do it. No metal frame supports are used. This is, I think, a mistake which they will find out after a little experience. The body, too, is a trifle shallower, made so because the frames come flush with the top of the hive—the bee-space being arranged in the honey-board.

The supers are dove-tailed at the corners and are made four and five-eighths inches deep. They are so arranged that the  $\perp$  rests may be used, or, for those who prefer it, wide frames less the top-bar. This last item is, perhaps, the newest idea in the whole construction. They are the Heddon wide frame minus the top-bar, and with the remaining bottom-bar the full width of the end pieces. Out of the two sides of the bottom-bar, and so that they will come directly in under the openings in the sides of the sections, pieces are cut one-half bee-space in width, four to each side. Along the bottom edges of the super are nailed tin strips, and these "section holders," as they call them, seven in number, rest thereon. The principle of making openings in the bottom-bars to correspond with the openings in the sections, we applied