

30-frame Langstroth super. Not that this is such a large yield under favorable conditions, but it is the unfavorable that staggers me.

This is the first year that I have been annoyed with swarm desertion. Nearly 50 per cent of the swarms, after having been hived in new, well made hives, with new frames and full sheets of foundation, deserted, some the second, third and even the fourth day. The latter having the foundation nearly all drawn out and filled with honey. I can account for it in no way, as the hives were all kept in the shade before hiving, and on the stands they are pretty well shaded with trees. All those deserters had clipped queens, and of course it was an easy matter to return them, but it makes extra work. By the way every swarm without an exception remained and did well after being returned. Will some one please tell me where the trouble lay, that I may try and avoid it another year. [Desertion has given much trouble to everyone this season.—Ed.]

For the benefit of the journal readers who noticed the wailings of that Bachelor bee-keeper, page 301, I may say. There has been no "assassination," I am yet alive. Reason? Let him have two colonies of bees just to square matters. If his case is as hopeless to catch the fair spinster as he would have us believe, and his sympathy for widows and orphans is genuine, he will no doubt manifest it in the near future, as there are quite a number of both in the county. When the afore mentioned sympathy is manifested in a genuine way by our "Bachelor Brother," I will deem it a pleasure to apprise the Bee Journal readers of the fact, if he should fail to do so himself.
—July 9th, 1898, Bethesda, Ont.

BEE-BREAD IN SECTIONS.

How it may be Avoided.

C. DAVENPORT

in A. B. J.

In my last I made mention of the fact that the previous season I lost a large amount—large at least for a bee-keeper—by not understanding the business of producing honey better than I do. This loss was caused partly by bee-bread. A num-

ber of thousand sections, when finished, contained so much of this that they were unsalable, and the honey in thousands more was so poorly fastened to the wood that it was almost impossible to haul them to the nearest towns without breakage, let alone shipping them. In fact, a great many were broken in handling before they left the apiary, as a large part of them were but slightly attached to the wood at the top.

With but few exceptions, bee-bread or pollen in sections has always caused me some loss each season, and to a less extent sections containing honey imperfectly fastened also, but never anything like this. The year before, under the same management, there was practically no loss from either cause. The reason might, therefore, in some sense, be accounted to blame, but a bee-keeper in order to make a success of the business at present must be able, and understand how, to meet the conditions of different seasons, and I have no doubt this loss I have described might have been avoided if one had known how; and while I will admit that I might not be able to entirely avoid it if the same conditions were to occur again this season, yet I consider what I did learn in regard to the matter was of more benefit to me than what was lost; that is, that it will, or may be, in the years to come, for I am a young man yet, and expect to continue to follow bee-keeping as a business in future.

As I have said, what I learned last year cost me hundreds of dollars, and now it is to be laid before the reader at a cost to them of but a fraction of a cent. I wonder if many of us appreciate what benefit a first-class journal like this is to its readers. By this I do not necessarily mean that anything from me may be of value, but there are hundreds of others who each year, through its columns, tell us their experiences, and what is constantly being learned that is of value to our pursuit. There have been in the past, and no doubt there will be in the future, single copies that are worth much more to me than the entire numbers cost for a year.

I will first say that pollen in this my immediate locality is very abundant through the entire season, but as this is used mainly in brood-rearing, the natural instinct of bees causes them, when conditions are so they can, to store it in the brood-chamber, where it will be easily accessible for this purpose. But the plan I follow with swarms, either natural or artificial, and one which I believe is largely practiced, is to hive them in a