

increase was desired and so wanted a non-swarming hive and the Jones hive seemed to fill the bill. By extracting every week and destroying all the queen cells formed I very effectually prevented swarming and got a very large yield of honey. But while extracting from the brood chamber of the Jones hive gave these satisfactory results, it had some serious objections. It thoroughly roused up the inmates and led them to offer a determined resistance. They might not feel so bad about being shaken off the first comb but as the operation was repeated and they were again and again suddenly dislodged and thrown with some force back into the hive it was too much for weak bee nature to endure and they resented such treatment in the most decided manner. Then I found that many queens disappeared. The next time I opened the hive to ascertain if it was ready for extracting I would find quite a number of queen cells formed and the size of these cells indicated that the colony must have become queenless immediately after the previous extracting process had been performed. Besides I found that turn the extractor as carefully as I might some larvæ were disturbed and either driven wholly or partly out of the cell. This was a loss in increase and did not add to the excellency of the flavor of the honey. All this has convinced me that extracting from the brood chamber is a mistake, and that whatever hive we adopt it should have a second storey from which alone extracting should be done. The Jones hive is a little too large for this although I see that very excellent results have been obtained by practising the tiering up system with the Jones hive. If the Combination hive was a little larger, some way devised of keeping the surplus arrangements in their place and a more substantial cover and one that would keep out the cold, better at the two sides where there is no cleat, it would be all that could be desired. It is very good as it is but in my humble opinion and that of others with whom I have conversed, the changes I have suggested would improve it very considerably. Before I close I would like to warn your numerous readers as to following your advice as to how to preserve surplus combs from the ravages of the moth. You maintain that if they are hung up at a distance of about two inches apart they will be all right. Now, having a large number unused last season I nailed strips across the ceiling of the driving shed and hung the combs on these, carefully keeping them two inches apart and when I examined them in the fall I found a large number of millers in them. Please wise and explain this. My bees have wintered well so far. I have about half packed in chaff and

the other half in the cellar. I took out the latter and gave them a flight on the 4th inst. All were alive and strong but one which was very weak when set away. Those outside seem all in good shape. It is too soon, however, to shout. We are not by any means out of the woods yet.

J. CAVSWELL.

Bond Head March 15th.

Comments are omitted this week; will appear next issue.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

WHO OUGHT TO KEEP BEES?

WELL, now, Mr. Editor, this has been such a hackneyed subject that I ought to leave it quietly alone, but the subject will stand a little further consideration. So here goes. When I moved up here it was with the intention of establishing a permanent home for myself and family. You see I was hauled up at home alongside of a neighbor who kept bees, and the annual brimstone pit with the dripping fingers and occasional stings lending zest to the fleeting hours, while squeezing out the honey, though the cruel slaughter of the poor bees was a thorn in the flesh that I oft grieved over. However, I was fully resolved to have some just as soon as I settled down permanently—this independent of the actual dollars and cents view of the case—so I bought 18 stocks to commence with, thinking those would give a good start, and if found profitable, why, so much the better. But who ought to keep bees? Well, you see, having bought a hundred acres of land, I think I bought the right to the proportion of honey, then there are hundreds of acres of land belonging to other people who did not keep bees nor care to either, and whose proportion of honey it is a sin to allow to go to waste, so the report for the first season stands thus: Increased to 46, extracted 750 lbs. and enough to winter on. The following, April 19th, when taken out of cellar nine were dead, diarrhoea and suffocation by entrance being left too small or closed wholly by neglect when placed in the cellar the cause—a friend having undertaken to put them in and take them out again, thus leaving me at liberty to forage distant fields for stray shekels. I was thus away from October 9th to May 12th. This was what I found upon arrival. In a temporary shed put up according to order were stacked 34 hives, outside stood three more by themselves. Those three gave for the season up to July 20th thirty-five dollars worth and six swarms, while the other dropped to 10 and gave \$10.50 and 7