

Mr. Hall—These gentleman are very fond of speaking of what Hall does. Allow me to tell you that they don't know what they are talking about. As far as the reversible or invertible or interchangeable is concerned, I have had one hundred and fifty of them for twelve years, and I don't handle them, and I don't interchange the sections from the outside to the end. I don't use those first class qualities that the super possessors, but I use a super that I like better than that, the one that Mr. Newton was telling you about just now, a super that holds but twelve sections and is reversible simply from end to end of the hive. I like them so well that I have given an order for three hundred more of them. Most of you have seen the super.

Mr. McEvoy—Please explain it.

Mr. Hall—(Using some sheets of paper to show the shape of a hive). Imagine that is the top of the hive and we have a small super of the size of that hive. We cut the honey board that lies on top of these frames in two, and we make two small honey boards instead of one large one. Last year some one said that I put these little supers on weak colonies of bees. The man that said that did not know me at all; I just do the reverse; I put them unto the strong ones. When I think they are active and willing to go up and the honey is there for them to go up I take off the little lid and put on one of my supers, and cover it up. There is room for twelve sections of honey there. It is not very much exhausted by that addition and if there is any honey coming in from the fields they will commence putting it in a small super. If you have to cover the whole of the hive, taking twenty-four or twenty-eight sections, they would be pretty loathe to leave home and go up in that garret. I find this is my experience, that they commence much sooner in these small supers than they do in large supers and they always commence towards the middle of the hive. When they have making it a sort of crescent shape just over commenced nicely in those little supers, the brood, I then put a second one on and they will continue this circle and make a crescent shape in the other end of the hive. When they have got thoroughly to work in there so that they have got the combs partially filled or some all full of honey, we just take the two supers and the honey is in the centre, and it is all empty around the outside. The honey is in the centre and they put the honey immediately above the brood and all we have to do is to reverse this from end to end and the honey then is at the two ends of the hive, the

middle, right above the brood, is a vacant space and they hurry up to fill it; they do not like a vacuum. By so doing we get our corner all filled and as soon as they want an addition, if you chose, you can give them an addition of twelve sections only, not twenty-four; they do not take the heat of the hive at all; they go to work and we just raise it up and give them twelve more and so on till we get up to perhaps one hundred and fifty sections and we give them a good rest at that. We mark on the end of the supers the date as we put them on so that we know what it is. You will be a little surprised how quickly they seal them over and you can't get them off. You get prize honey and fancy combs. They continue to put the honey right at the top of the hive; they are ready to come off in one half the time that a super the full size of the hive would be, because the corners are finished and the centre is sure to be finished.

Mr. Frith, You do not reverse any but the first two you put on.

Mr. Hall—It is not necessary.

Mr. Smith—Does it make any difference on which end of the hive you put the first super.

Mr. Hall—If the bees live in the parlor put the super there, if they live in the kitchen put the super there. The brood is more or less at one end of the hive; generally speaking, the brood is in the front, but not always. We put the first super over the first brood in the hive, whether it be front or rear.

Mr. Ortt—If you are hiving a prime swarm would you give them the twelve sections?

Mr. Hall—Forty-eight to fifty-six.

Mr. Gemmell—You would transfer the sections from the old hive to the swarm?

Mr. Hall—In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred.

Mr. Sparling—Did you ever try paraffine paper on top of the sections?

Mr. Hall—No sir. I have not tried that bee space, but allow me to tell you that I think it is a good thing, but I should have to go to a great deal of trouble in my supers to change them and I can do without it. That bee space with the perforation I think is a good thing but I am not going to use it.

Mr. Gemmell—I have used this divider of Mr. Pettit's, and I found it was a good thing for getting the outside section well filled. You have a double row of bees, so to speak; you have a row of bees outside of this divider and between the outside of the super, and if I had my choice in naming it I would call it a perforated