

section honey, and these eight colonies were second to none in the apiary in honey gathering, and not a swarm issued that season, while others were swarming all round them in the same yard. The next season, 1888, I ran two colonies of Black bees and two of Italians, on one stand, and four colonies of Italians on the other. All went splendidly up to the 18th of July. I was preparing a colony to raise queen cells. Through the loss of their queen and brood the bees were out flying almost like a swarm, when one of the black colonies on the revolving stands came rushing out and joined with them. This was about 3.30 p. m. I placed the queen in the hive that I was preparing to raise cells from, but nearly all the bees went back to the hive on the revolving stand. I opened this hive and there was not the least vestige of a queen cell in it. I then took their brood from them and let them build a batch of cells, and they built 16 as fine cells as I ever saw. They were given $\frac{1}{2}$ turn every day while building them. I allowed one of the cells to hatch, and after the queen was 5 days old I did not turn the stand for 4 days, but after that, went on as usual and the combs were soon filled with brood. I ran them the same in 1889 and they did remarkably well, and not a swarm issued.

During the past season I ran a car load of bees to an out apiary, and as the eight colonies on those two stands were very strong I moved them away on the 20th June. There were several colonies then in the apiary making preparations to swarm, but not one on the revolving stands.

The reason that I do not run more on this plan is that I have given up the production of comb honey. There is something fussy about it that I do not like. I would like to see some comb honey producers try it, and if it is any advantage to them they are welcome to it.

LAWSON'S AUTOMATIC EXTRACTOR.

Now, while I am writing I would like to say a few words about the new Lawson Automatic Honey Extractor. I have not used it in my apiary as you were under the impression that I had. Mr. Lawson extracted his last season's crop with one similar to it, but it was not at that time brought to its present state of perfection. I was at Mr. Lawson's apiary several times last summer, and tried the extractor with heavy frames in it, and if you were blind-folded you could not tell whether there were combs in it or not. As the combs revolve from the centre on a pivot, you scarcely discern the power required to turn it. This new machine is going to do the work. The principle is right

and there is no mistake about it. It's the extractor the bee-keepers of America have been looking for, for the last twenty years. I hardly expect there will be many put on the market this season. Mr. Lawson has an expert pattern maker now at work on the Langstroth size frame. The patterns are all got up in brass, and all the cog work cut by machinery to secure perfect accuracy, and the working parts will all be of the finest grade of malleable castings.

C. W. POST.

Murray, March 4, '91.

The interchange of hives to prevent or retard swarming is not new, but the novel plan adopted by Mr. Post is certainly fresh to me, and it appears to work perfectly according to that gentleman's experience. True, it does seem a little fussy, but if it is going to do away with that great bug-bear, in the production of comb honey—swarming—why not adopt it. I am sure it is very little trouble to go through the apiary every day and give each of those "revolving stands" a quarter turn. Out apiaries could be run on this plan with but little expense. Hire a good, smart boy in the neighborhood of the apiary, and let him do the necessary turning each day. Then the "boss" apiarist needn't call excepting as the hives required other manipulation.

I am glad to have Mr. Post's explanation with regard to the Lawson Automatic Extractor. I was under the impression I had heard Mr. McEvoy say, on the road home from the St. Catharines meeting, that Mr. P. had either worked or seen it worked the past summer. Now, if that extractor can only be kept down to a price that will be within the reach of all bee-keepers who follow the pursuit in a moderate degree, I fancy we shall have solved at least one of the problems recorded by Mr. Ernest Root in his paper on the "Demand of Apicultural inventions."

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Sectional Hives, Etc.

(REPLY TO MR. HEDDON).

ON PAGE 418 Mr. Heddon admits he was laboring under a misapprehension, as I have not made his close fitting frames for five years, but instead the suspended Langstroth, which I have found to be greatly preferable. Neither have I used, nor do I recommend, his divisional brood chamber since 1886,