

of them were so quiet and clustered so tightly together between the combs, that after being out one or two hours, we had to jar the hive and arouse them; in some instances we thought they were dead until we examined the hive and found them in this very quiet, semi-dormant condition. We found them (the quiet ones) among our best stocks. If the day appears to be all that could be desired, we sometimes set them out early in the morning, so that they can get a good flight before the cool of the evening; but if we have any doubt about the day being warm and the sky being clear, we wait until about noon, when the indications then satisfy us whether the balance of the day will be fine or not. We never set bees out with a North or Northwest wind, especially if dark or black clouds are occasionally passing over the sun.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE-JOURNAL.

HOW DR. C. C. MILLER TAKES COMB HONEY.

IN reply to your question as to how I take comb honey, etc., I would say, there is very little that is original in my operations, or specially new. I take whatever I can learn from any quarter, and make the best use of it I can. I have had much experience with wide frames but have laid them aside. If I were obliged to use them I would have them made half the usual height, so as to hold four "one-pound" sections, and would have top bars same width as bottom bars, that is $\frac{3}{8}$ inches less than the side or end bars. I tried the Heddon super, but I cannot get as good results as others do without separators, so this year I shall use a separator with each section in the Heddon supers. When I was in Toronto, at the National Convention, a jolly looking Canadian, by the name of Jones, showed me a super which I liked well enough to give it a trial and am now using almost exclusively. I should like to know who is the inventor. Perhaps Mr. Jones will tell us? Mr. C. H. Dibbern described much the same thing, not long ago, in the *A.B.J.*, and I think he was the inventor of the one he described. The sections are supported by strips of tin folded in the form of a $\perp$. In order to use them interchangeably with the Heddon supers, I had to change one thing. In the super Mr. Jones showed me, the $\perp$ tins rested on wooden strips nailed on the inside edge of the

bottom of the super, making the sections come flush with the top of the super. In mine the $\perp$ tins rest on pieces of sheet iron nailed on the bottom of the super, making the sections come flush with the bottom. In this I think there is an advantage, for no matter how much the sides of the super may shrink, the sections will always be flush with the bottom; whereas, in the other case, any shrinking would raise the section above the level of the super and make trouble. I use the ordinary one-pound sections four and one-fourth by four and one-fourth by one and fifteenth-sixteenth with wooden and tin separators, but I think I like wood best. For wide frames I would not have wood separators. I am glad you are able to squander some money on a bee paper, for I know we will thus get some information about bee-keeping that would otherwise never see the light. I wonder if you can get correspondents to attach to their names, number of colonies last May, also at time of writing. This is a "baby" of mine and I am glad to see it slowly growing into favor.

C. C. MILLER, 200-295.

Marengo, Ill., March 10, 1885.

Thanks, Friend Miller, for your reply. Some are now using section frames the same width as sections, with slots cut in the section frames to match the slots in side of sections. The section frames can then be crowded up tight together and yet allow the bees to pass through without hindrance. The sections with the slots in the sides as well as top and bottom, give the bees free access all around, and when the section frames are so slotted the bees are perfectly free. Section frames if made thus, to hold the number of sections to cross the section crate or hive would protect all parts of the section from the bees, and could be tiered up without any difficulty. Partitions in section crates are being cast aside by many of our most prominent bee-keepers and the metal $\perp$ used instead. It is so much more difficult to use separators with the wooden partitions in section cases.

There are many advantages, and many disadvantages too, in the different systems of taking comb honey; doubtless many of these will be overcome and the system simplified the coming season.