

purpose of clipping, but on account of the drones and the general hindrance of a limited number of holes for the bees to pass, it makes considerable obstruction at the entrance. A perforated honey-board placed directly under the brood-frames is about as perfect as anything we have ever tried and it does the business too."

When the Heddon hive was first introduced we suggested and used identically the same process as is above described and if we remember rightly we made mention of it in the C. B. J., some two years ago though we do not take time at this moment to look it up. However, all who were at Toronto the first season that the Heddon hive was shown and who listened to our explanation there will remember this. It is, as friend Root says, an excellent swarm deterrent and with any one using movable bottom boards having a bee space made by an outside rim it is just the thing.

A Real New House Apiary.

THE latest thing patented of interest to bee-keepers is a bee house for which letters patent No. 408,768 were issued from the patent office, Washington on the 13th inst. to Levi W. Spradlin, of Garnett, Kansas. The object of the invention is said to be "to provide a simple and convenient construction in bee houses.

It consists of a house of ordinary construction having an internal stationary rack of upright longitudinal parts and cross pieces fastened together in combination with supporting frames provided with two parallel upper bars of unequal length disconnected at their outer ends. Said supporting frames being hinged to stationary rack carrying removable comb frames.

The house proper is built after the same manner as ordinary bee houses, the space between the walls being filled with saw dust. The floor may be concrete or anything else that will exclude insects and animals that usually burrow into hives and bee houses. Ventilating pipes are arranged the same as in our own house at Beeton. Stationary racks are built one on each side of the house (of course the house is to be wide enough to admit of a passage way between the

racks) to which are hinged swing frames for receiving the honey or brood frames. These swing frames are so constructed that when opened the honey frames may be "drawn out and replaced in a convenient manner" at least so the inventor puts it.

Through the side of the house holes are cut at the outside of which are placed alighting platforms. The bees enter through these holes to the honey frames which are in close communication with them. The inventor says:

"Care should be taken to place the said honey frames a sufficient distance apart to allow the bees between them. The said opening being opposite said space. The opening for the bees may be cut at any suitable place through the side of the house. By this construction the bees do not die from cold in winter or suffer from heat in summer as they do in hives. And having freer access one can always know the condition of the bees without disturbing them. Heretofore it has been the general practice to provide means for separating swarms of bees by means of partitions or otherwise but I find that unnecessary. When a swarm of bees have hatched young ones it is only necessary to place in some new frames by the side of the old ones and they will immediately take the new ones without delay. I have also found by experience that it is not necessary to have independent brood frames as are generally used."

Summed up in a few words the whole invention is nothing more or less than a big house in which perhaps twenty or thirty swarms are hived (the patentee does not limit the number) where they are all huddled together and where no precaution is taken to divide the brood from the surplus department or to separate the colonies.

The whole invention will turn out a huge night-mare and we wonder how the patentee can have had the courage to have spent his money in procuring a patent on so useless a thing.

The patentee does not say how the bees are to be examined in winter or whether the cold air would likely get into his big hive when he opened the door for an examination on a day when the thermometer was standing perhaps at ten degrees below zero.

Again, what a nice time he must have cutting out the brace combs which are sure to be built all through the frames, as no trouble is taken to regulate the