

of them who has no desire to go to church? Or would it be better to stay and have the bees myself or else go out of the business?"

The above query came to us, and rather than wait its regular turn, we sent it out to a few correspondents, whose answers appear below:

I think you would do well to consult with the pastor of your church as to what course you should pursue. I will not advise but as you ask for my opinion, here it is: I do not think it any more harm to have a swarm of bees that issues on Sunday than to secure a horse that breaks loose on the same day. To hire someone who has no desire to go to church would, I think, be about the worst thing you could do. We always aim to have everything arranged on Saturday evening to have as little to do with bees as possible on Sunday. Then if swarms are likely to issue on that day, as yet we have developed no better plan than to "take turns" with the rest of the family watching the apiary so that but one of us need stay from church on any Sabbath. The swarming season is of short duration anyway.

No doubt your sole object is to satisfy yourself as to what is best in the matter, but I have known people to ask just such questions who would strain at a bat and swallow a sawmill. Perhaps I haven't got that just right but it is the best I can do with the thermometer 90° in the shade.

J. F. DUNN.

I should certainly take care not to lose the bees. Swarming at most lasts only two or three weeks. Hence you will not lose very much. Why not clip the queen's wings, then some one stay at home, and if queen comes out catch and cage her, letting the swarm return. Then on Monday divide the swarm or let the queen out of the cage, and hive the swarm if it come out.

It is right to keep bees. It is not right to let our property go to waste. I say, hold on to the bees, and take care of the bees. With the proper thought and care this will disturb the Sunday quiet but very little.

A. J. COOK.

This query touches a very real difficulty which every child of God who can truly say, "Whereas I was blind, now I see," has to face and solve in some way. The devout soul can see "Jesus only" in doing the necessary work of the bee yard, but what are the careless to say of it, who only see what they desire to see when they look over the fence at your busy figure on some beautiful morning of the day of rest. I think where only a few hives are kept the drone traps

would solve the difficulty in a very satisfactory way. When a large apiary is kept an attendant in the bee yard is a necessity, as I generally have an assistant to do the other work, he is expected to remain in the yard during the swarming months till 3 o'clock p.m. If queens' wings are kept clipped (and I think the convenience and quiet of doing the swarming on Sabbath with clipped queens is with me one very great argument for adopting the practice) all the swarms likely to issue may be attended to with little disturbance. I cannot think that it would be necessary for any Christian to give up the keeping of bees on this account as long as drone traps, dividing of colonies, and especially the clipping of queens' wings, minimize so much the inconveniences attendant on the natural increase of these most wonderful specimens of the great Creator's handiwork. Shall the querist attend to the bees personally or employ some one who does not care to go to church? This question is to be settled mainly by the circumstances of the case, I have stated above what course I follow. I might under other conditions attend to them myself. Let us take in this matter the example of earnest prayer (see James 5, 17) and we may expect like results.

J. C. THOM, M. D.

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QUEEN INTRODUCTION.

FEAR be it from me to provoke discussion or intentionally wound the feelings of any writer. In any articles I have written or discussions in which I have engaged, I have never intentionally written personally, and my only aim and object has been to discuss matters with an eye to obtaining facts or information. So far as "A Hallamshire Bee-keeper" is concerned, I will say to him here and now that I did not mean anything personal towards him or to injure his feelings in any way. True, I said "all methods may fail"; I still think so, and his claim to infallibility has not only yet to be proven, but it has already been disputed on his side of the "big pond." Again, I have never claimed the system mentioned as my own; I have admitted it to be a modification of the "Simmins method," but I think it is of some value, and advise it as being as good as any, and this without endeavoring to cry down any other plan. I have always found by the method I have mentioned that no queen cells at all were started; and I judge from that fact that the old queen was not missed at all.

In this article I only desire to say to "A B. B." that I am sorry he took offence, and