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THEN there came a time of struggling for some self-spacing arrangement, closed-end, partly-closed-end, and what not. I tried a good many different kinds. Closed-ends were probably warmer for wintering, and were certainly self-spacing, but it took time to avoid killing bees, and the trouble with propolis was no small matter. Half-closed-ends were the same in kind, only different in degree.

Of these last the Hoffman is probably the most popular, and I put in use enough to fill a few hives, and most of them are still in use. When new they work very nicely, but as propolis accumulates the difficulty of handling increases, and the frames become more and more crowded, until it is almost impossible to get out the dummy, the easier thing being to pry out with a good deal of force, the first frame, either with or without the dummy. Indeed, the difficulty of getting out the frames is so great, that the sight of a set of Hoffman frames when the cover is removed always produces something like a shudder.

Although I could not have anything in the line of closed-ends, I wanted the advantage of the self-spacing, and not finding anything on the market to suit me I was, in a manner, compelled to adopt something of my own "get-up," and so for several years I have used with much satisfaction the Miller frame.—Dr. Miller's "Forty Years Among the Bees."

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