

disease might break out in his own apiary he kept a close watch, and it was not long until he discovered several diseased cells in two of his colonies. He cut them out, burned them, and continued to watch, and, as others appeared, they were likewise cut out and burned. By watching every day and cutting out and burning every cell that showed any traces of the disease, he seemed to succeed in stopping the progress in all the hives but four. These four continued to show more signs of the disease, and after cutting some ten or fifteen cells out of each and finding the disease going on, he resolved to treat these four colonies on the fasting plan, and by this means succeeded in clearing it from his apiary. We have long since known that bees closed up in a fasting box when they were filled with honey would pass some of their food out to those on the outside of the wire cloth. In fact, we have closed up robber bees in hives and put a wire cloth over to prevent them smothering, and they seemed to carry on their work with about as much skill and rapidity as they did before it was closed. They would simply fill themselves with honey, pass to the wire cloth and hand it to other bees on the outside which would go to their hive, empty their sacs and return for another load. The same thing we have noticed in our bee-house. Bees closed up in the bee-house would fly to the honey, fill themselves, go to the wire screen on the door, pass it through to other bees on the outside and return to the honey for another load, keeping this up from morning till night. Now, friends, it is just as dangerous to leave imprisoned diseased foul broody colonies where other bees can get at them as above, as it is to leave diseased honey standing about the yard, and anyone who wishes to rid his apiary of this disease must exercise great care in this direction. We hope the above hints in connection with the cure of the disease will receive careful attention. It is no use attempting to do the work unless it is done properly. When properly done success is certain every time.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

HALF A DAY WITH MR. HEDDON.

A TALK ABOUT HEDDON THUMBSCREWS, FRAMES, AND TIN RESTS.

BEING in Chicago recently on the cheap ten-days' excursion, I took the opportunity of running out to Dowagiac for a brief visit. I found Mr. Heddon all tired out with his labors as a leading official of the county fair, which embraces two other counties besides Cass, and is rather a "big thing" in that part of Michigan. However, I accomplished my main object, which was to get some difficulties removed that had cropped up in the practical working of the new hive. They were briefly these: 1. Failure of the thumbscrews, which, in my experience, are apt to shrink and swell, if screwed tight, in a dry, hot time; they swell when moist, cool weather comes, and have to be started with a wrench. In some cases the thread gives way. 2. The tightening up of both frames and sections, so that everything becomes practically immovable—"fixed fast as fate." 3. The bending of the tin rests, as the result of which frames are thrown out of the level.

Mr. Heddon proved to me that none of these difficulties exist in his apiary, and I am inclined to think that with me they are partly climatic; partly the result of the screws and frames being made to fit too tightly in the first place; and partly for want of more skill and attention on my part. The climate of Guelph is subject to very great and sudden changes, and watch must be kept of these. It is not much trouble to go through an apiary and either tighten or slacken the thumbscrews, as may be needed. Mr. Heddon's frames and thumbscrews fit very loosely. As long as there is not a bee-space left anywhere there is no need of the frames being at all tight. As for the thumbscrews they are so loose that they wobble. Yet their holding power is so great that a case, dependent only on their grip, remained without the least of flinching when Mr. Heddon and I stood on a board resting simply on the eight frames. The tin strips are made of heavy tin and this, I think, is necessary in order that they may keep their places perfectly.

The one fault with the new Heddon hive—if fault it be—is that it requires the greatest accuracy in mechanical construction and very careful handling. A botch carpenter cannot make the hive, and a botch bee-keeper cannot manipulate it successfully. I am not sure that this is a fault. It is not desirable that bee-keeping should tolerate slovenly and careless ways. Both as a science and an art we should go in for its being carried on with intelligence and skill. The best

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