

be "sickly over" with plagerisms; let it come without half bee-spaces, or shifting bee-spaces, double brood-chambers, double outer-cases, or any other functions known to be the inventions of others. Let it bear the marks of honesty.

Mr. Armstrong infers that I wish to hurt his business. *Never*, so long as he doesn't make a business of trafficking in the property of another. He has no right to use my one-half bee-space in any way, shape or manner.

History repeats itself. When poor old father Langstroth was endeavoring to defend himself from the unjust encroachments of Mr. King,—when said King was selling his property—Mr. King said that Mr. Otis and Mr. L. were doing all they could to injure him and his business. He said that Mr. Langstroth had aided Mr. Otis in malicious designs against most of the enterprising bee-keepers of the U. S. (see *A. B. J.* for 1872, page 172.) How does this sound at this day? It is the same old cry. "The common interest of the intelligent and enterprising bee-keepers." I dislike to see "intelligence and enterprise" debased to purposes of robbery. It requires no sacrifice and no manliness to say "Langstroth hive" or "Father Langstroth," now. He is dying a pauper; he can't live on honors alone. No "beg pardons" are needed, for this is an important subject striking directly at progress and justice. We want the truth, and fair candid discussion is the agitation which brings it to the surface.

JAMES HEDDON.

Dowagiac, Mich.

P. S.—Mr. Shirley has just sent me his testimony to the effect that I first invented and constructed the half bee-space in January 1883, and refers me to several other witnesses.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

COMB VS EXTRACTED HONEY.

THE honey crop this season although hardly up to the average was quite satisfying. Clover yielded well, Linden was a total failure, but fall flowers furnished a good quantity of honey the most of which was stored in the brood chamber, the best place for it. Ever since I have kept bees I have worked for comb honey and have had very little experience with working for extracted honey, but having heard the statement so often made that two or three times as much honey could be secured by the use of the extractor, I decided to find out just how far the theory would hold good with me in my locality. In looking over my bees this spring I selected eleven strong stocks to extract from and eight

colonies of equal strength for comb honey. Three of the colonies run for extracting cast one swarm each, the rest did not swarm at all. The eight colonies run for comb honey were allowed to cast seventeen swarms or a little over two each. All the increase I ran for comb honey. The eight colonies with their increase re-inforced by the three prime swarms from the "extracting" stocks produced 1,150 lbs. of comb honey in one lb. sections well filled. While from those run for extracting I only secured 1,100 lbs. nearly all the above mentioned crop being from white clover. With this experience before me I very naturally conclude that at least for me the production of comb honey is the most profitable. Part of the extracted honey was secured by the tiering up system the balance was "slung" out when about two-thirds capped over. We are told that while it takes skill to get a crop of comb honey any novice can get a good yield of extracted honey. Well now that hits me hard on extracted honey, don't it? I think it was Josh. Billings or Artemus Ward that said. "Every man should have a forte, but there seems to be numerous shiftless critters that don't seem to have any forte at all". While I do not believe that I belong among the great majority it is very clear that extracted honey is not my forte, certainly I should have had a better yield of that article; the fault was in me undoubtedly, and I shall hunt up my old files of bee-papers and re-read them not forgetting the late publications of Mr. Heddon and Dr. Miller then use the extractor on a larger number of colonies next season. "One swallow don't make a summer." Comb honey is growing in favor here, the people preferring to buy it at a considerable advance in price as compared with a good article of well ripened extracted honey, and it seems to me the latter never can take the place of comb honey in nice clean sections. Not long ago a lady said to the writer, "Oh yes your extracted honey is very nice indeed, but I like to *shut my teeth* on a chunk of comb honey." As long as our customers are willing to pay from 5 to 10 cts. a lb. more for the privilege of "shutting their teeth" on comb, we have no reason to complain when we can with proper management secure nearly as much as we can of an A. I. article of properly ripened extracted honey.

J. F. DUNN.

Ridgeway, Ont.

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