

ever since, and at the same place, and thus I have had a chance to know about the workings of these hives as compared with the nine-frame Gallup hives of my home yard."

"How do they compare?"

"The result has been that I can by giving plenty of section room, hold these colonies at the outyard back from swarming about a week later, on an average, than when the nine-Gallup frames are used; but this out-apiary is no nearer being a non-swarming apiary than my home yard, and, in fact, I often consider them more determined to swarm than those are here; but the swarming comes a little later in the season."

"Do you consider this little later swarming of any benefit for comb-honey swarming?"

"This being held back a week in swarming has quite a bearing upon the problem of comb-honey production, from my present standpoint; for when the colonies are manged on the 'shook' plan of swarming, as given in the February 1st number of "Gleanings," of this year, this holding back puts them in just the right position to have the swarming done up so they can take advantage of the honey harvest when it comes, with the largest possible working force, with no desire to swarm after the manipulation."

"But all this requires work."

"Yes, some work; but no more work than we are well paid for. One thing I find, no matter what hive is used, or how many frames that hive contains, within the bounds of reason in securing a good crop of section honey, either way, toward large or small brood-chambers, a given amount of labor must be performed, so that the idea of letting the bees take care of themselves is nearly or quite a myth, if we expect to reap any great success from our bees. This no-labor part, and that of putting more colonies, into the field, has been harped on so much

of late, that it has become a sort of bugbear, and a desire seems to have sprung up for a 'holding of the pot to catch the porridge,' sort of apiculture, unworthy of the best attainments. 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread' brings the highest joy that is attained in this life. Is it not to the one who has labored and toiled patiently, day after day, till at last the problem worked upon has been fully conquered and solves, that the greatest satisfaction comes?"—Conversation with Doolittle in "Gleanings in Bee Culture."

CAPPED HONEY NOT ALWAYS RIPENED.

In L'Apiculteur, a writer says that capped honey is not necessarily ripe, and relates an experience derived in his own apiary. His supers were being rapidly filled when suddenly, on June 4, the yield of nectar ceased, and some of the supers were not nearly completed and there was much unsealed honey. On June 16 the second flow of nectar commenced, and in order to avoid the mixing of the two harvests it was decided to extract all the honey from the first harvest. The uncapped honey was extracted first and then that capped, and care was taken to keep them apart in separate jars. The writer was astonished to find that the unsealed honey was some days sooner in granulating than that which was sealed, showing that it was riper. He explains it by saying that bees cap the honey-cells as soon as they are full, even if the honey is not always ripe. On the other hand, when a harvest ceases suddenly, the unfinished combs, although containing thoroughly ripened honey, remain uncapped. In his opinion, it is not correct to say that in order that honey should keep well all combs should be completely capped; it is preferable to make sure that it is ripened and evaporated to a proper density.—British Bee Journal.