

harvest, releasing her at the close of the harvest or when we thought swarming fever was over, or if we wished to supersede her, giving a virgin queen or cell in her place. In this way we did away with the necessity of watching for swarms, rarely lost a swarm, and on the whole found the plan worked well.

We do not advance it as the best way, but simply give it as one way of managing an out apiary for extracted honey. Would like to see the subject discussed by some of the veterans in the business.

Cairngorn, Ont., July 26th, 1896.

The Apiary of Mr. H. Holden, Port Dover.

The editor of THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL recently took a big holiday at Port Dover. During his holidays he visited the apiary and home of Mr. Horatio Holden, of Port Dover. Mr. Holden is a gentleman known to but few bee-keepers, and yet he is a specialist in bee-keeping. He is engaged in no other business, is thoroughly abreast of the times, and kept his first bees about forty years ago. Like many others he became interested in bees by accident. He was a great lover of nature, and seeing bees brought two box hives, and the next year put the swarms in Miner hives. These hives had no tops, were a foot square, and six inches deep. Instead of a board on top to which the comb was attached, there were eight laths with the lower edge sharp, placed regular distances apart, and over the top of the laths a piece of cloth was placed. Mr. Holden says this was a big improvement on the old box hive, the bees built their comb fairly straight, and a receptacle could easily be put on top for surplus. This was long before the Langstroth hive came out. He adopted the moveable frame hive after some experimenting. The first used was the Quinby hive. He visited Quinby during the American war, probably in 1864. About that time Mr. Holden bought some Italian bees. The year after Father Langstroth received them he purchased new bees. Mr. Holden speaks very highly of the late Moses Quinby. He was situated in a valley, and he remembered very distinctly a stream of water coming down the mountain, and a little overshot wheel gave power to cut hives. Mr. Quinby had at that time over 1,000 colonies, and Mr. Holden became more than ever interested in bee-keeping. Mr. Holden winters altogether

outside, and largely in the chaff hive. He uses the 8 and 10 frame Langstroth, and he has hardly any winter losses. He produces both comb and extracted honey. For extracted honey he rather prefers the 10 frame hive. I was much interested in a honey extractor he had; it was made in Hamilton about sixteen years ago, it was constructed exactly on the principle of the Cowan which the Root company put out some years ago. The frames rest in a swinging frame work and can be reversed by hand. Mr. Holden uses the comb honey super with section holders and separates like myself. He wants no slots in the separators and wants them to go from top to bottom of the section. He is delighted with the Hoffman frame for the brood chamber, especially as now made without a V edge, he finds the bees propolize in the V, and it is better to have the edges come together even. He also likes the wide bottom bar much better than the bottom bar as before made, narrower than the bottom of the side bar. For the extracting super, Mr. Holden had doubts about the superiority of the close end frame. At present he has about 150 colonies. Mr. Holden prefers full sheets of foundation in both frames and sections. He has a very good honey crop this year. Mr. Holden has been a great hunter. I found he had hunted deer and moose near my home on the Opsongo, in the county of Renfrew. He was and is an excellent shot. When a young man and belonging to the volunteer he won many prizes in rifle matches. To see his grass coat and hat to disguise him when shooting duck was interesting. He has a tent and bag to slip into and sleep at night when hunting. He is a skilled taxidermist although an amateur, and knowing the habits and movement of birds and animals is able to put them in a natural and graceful position, which is so desirable in this kind of work. He has some beautiful cases in his quiet and attractive home. I expect to be able to give our readers, before long, a view of the apiary of Mr. Holden, and I also hope that we shall occasionally have something from his pen.

We have occasionally increased the amount of reading matter in The Canadian Bee Journal. This month we have decreased the number of pages and will make up the deficiency when bee-keepers have more leisure for writing and reading.—Ed.