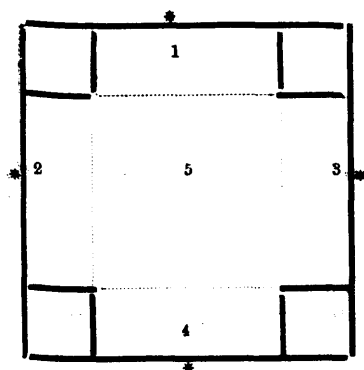


factory to make me some hives similar to these shown in the diagram.



NOTE.—The * denotes the entrances; the dotted lines represent the perforated metal division boards; the four corner squares were filled with sawdust.

You will see by this that I had 5 hives inside of one outer case—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5—these were so constructed as to hold the ordinary Jones frame and there were four entrances to the hives numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4, while the 5th compartment had no entrance to it. Now I placed a laying queen in the 5th compartment and then placed brood and bees in all the others—brood in all stages—and made it a very strong colony, and as the bees hatched there were five strong colonies joined in one, and they built some queen cells. I placed hatching cells in the four outer compartments and have had three or four queens laying at one time in the same hive, but a larger proportion were killed in returning from their wedding flights to these compartments, than to ordinary hives; apparently the bees having free access to all parts of the hive, and becoming accustomed to one queen, did not take to the new comer so readily. They never swarmed and it seemed to be the means of preventing them from swarming, but they might have swarmed if I had not changed the queen cells they had built, as the object I had in view was to ascertain if a number of queens could be kept long in the same hive. You see that the old queens in the centre and the young queens in the four outside compartments were all in the same hive so far as the bees were concerned, as they

passed through the perforated metal freely to every part of the hive, and we sometimes turned two hives around, so as to change the entrances at the north and south, and from east to west, so that every few days although the old bees returned to the same entrance they were really entering through another compartment. Whether they placed their honey and pollen in the new compartment, they hunted around until they found their own, passing the central one to it. I cannot say that we did not find the results so far as the production and easy manipulation of the colony was concerned, entirely satisfactory. On the whole we considered that it had advantages over the single hive system, but its disadvantages over-balanced its advantages. I have long known that queens can be fertilized in the same hive with the old queens and, if my memory serves me right, it was about ten years ago at a Michigan convention I was telling someone, I forget who, perhaps it was Mr. Hutchinson, that I was then practising and testing the mating of queens in the same hive, but had not, from all the experiments that I had tried, been convinced yet. I think what would be preferable to the sugar holes would be a double hive with a wooden division board and a queen excluding metal division board, then when the hive got sufficiently strong, draw out the wooden division board, thus you allow the bees to cluster more readily in the next hive.

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D. A. JONES, - - - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.
F. H. MACPHERSON, - - - ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

BEETON, ONTARIO, JUNE 15, 1890.

Orders still crowd us, and we are subjected at times to some pretty harsh letters, when we have been doing our best to get off whatever may have been ordered in each case. Our trade in foundation has been larger this year than ever before, even though some of the other supply dealers have been selling it at less prices than we; at this moment have about all