

would move two frames of brood to the outside of the brood-nest, placing two empty combs next; then the rest of the brood, and the remaining empty combs to the other side.

In from four to eight days, according to the weather, and the condition of the bees, we can spread the brood again, and here we must exercise caution, or we may spread it too much. If the weather is fine, and the colony is an average one, I would divide the combs having brood, placing those with hatching bees out to the side of the hive, and the empty' combs in the center. The above is for a 10-frame hive.

If we use a smaller hive, commence sooner—that is, with a less number of combs filled with brood. If there are no cracks in the hives, the entrances are contracted to the right size, and packed warm and snug on top. I do not know of anything more to be done.

I know it pays to draw a frame of brood from a strong colony to help build up a weaker one. Perhaps those of you who have all the colonies you want, could unite weak colonies to better advantage.—BYRON HAMS.

MRS. J. M. NULL—A SUCCESSFUL BEE-KEEPER.

No doubt the powers that be feel highly amused at the very ridiculous predicament in which they have placed me. But as they wield the whip of authority, when they bring the long lash cracking around my head I know full well enough they expect me to respond, and that too in my very best manner. I may as well confess right here that I feel the utter hopelessness of me, a woman, and so thoroughly imbued with "Millerism" as to not know that she knows anything, ever indicating to these practical, intelligent and successful veteran bee-keepers the essential elements of success.

At the same time, I feel sure that if I have to beat an inglorious retreat, there are those present with large hearts and yet larger intellects who will bravely come to my rescue.

"What are the essential qualities for making a successful bee-keeper?" There a number of things to be considered outside of the man. A good location, a good season, a good strain of bees, with a plentiful secretion of nectar.

Then the man must possess every quality that would make him successful in mercantile or professional life. He needs the qualities that would carry him to the front in any other business. First of all, a love for the pursuit which will beget enthusiasm, of which will be naturally born all other necessary qualities.

The first born I should christen courage—physical and moral.

Physical courage that [will banish all fears of

stings, or any disastrous results therefrom. Imagine, if you can, the successful jockey who is afraid to handle his own horse, or the teamster who through fear would attempt to harness his frisky mules from the end of a ten foot pole. And should the milkmaid stand in fear and trembling, and shrink and cower at each movement of the cow, how long would it be before old brindle would be mistress of the situation? Had man been a slave to that old tyrant fear, think you the grand powers of steam and electricity would ever have been discovered, controlled and utilized?

Moral courage is in demand to enable us to stand by our rights when they or our pets are assailed and maligned. Were it not for the indomitable moral courage of the persecuted and that noble band of defenders, the managers of our National Bee-Keepers Union, where would the business of bee-keeping be to-day?

Patience should come next to courage. Patience to endure the attacks of our little pets, always remembering that they are endowed alone with instinct, while we are supposed to possess reason; also, that this very propensity to sting is more of a protection to our calling than any tariff bill ever formulated by man. We should be armed with patience to handle them humanely, never jarring them unnecessarily, or cruelly crushing them, thereby invoking their just wrath on our hands. Patience over the ignorance of those who insist that bees soil the clean washed linen at all times of the year, or that they destroy sound fruit by stinging it and causing it to rot, or that they interfere with the grazing of stock, etc. Patience when the different parts of the hive refuse to adjust themselves automatically. Patience when the help seems entirely oblivious to our interests. Patience when robbers utterly refuse to be controlled. Patience over the long days in June, when instead of the eight or ten hour system we are compelled to adopt a fourteen hour system, and that too with the mercury hovering around 100. Patience when anywhere from five to ten swarms issue at one and the same time, thickening and blackening the air with the flying hosts. Fortunately, we are promised relief right here through the swarm catcher.

A few years ago I happened to have a very energetic uncle and aunt visiting me during the swarming season who had kept bees in the long ago, and notwithstanding all my protestations to the contrary, every time a swarm issued they were on hand with all the force they could command, drawing for that purpose even from the streets, and equipped with tin pans, buckets, etc., created the most unearthly, distracting confu-