

large the bees will not have enough room to raise brood, and not only the number of bees will be lessened, but most of them being old, will be more exposed to die by imprudence during the mild days of winter; for accustomed to long flights, they start in search of honey, and are killed by the smallest cloud, or by a change of wind; while the young ones, more careful, do not venture far from their hives.

5th. Then, the number of bees being shortened in spring, either by the bad quality of honey, or by the imprudent going out of old bees, there is more of that so-called spring dwindling, and when the honey flow of spring begins, a great many colonies are of no value.

6th. Bees winter better in large than in small hives. Nine years ago about 20 per cent. of our colonies in 10 frame Langstroth hives died in winter, while all but 5 per cent. of those in 11 frame Quinby hives were all right. Yet both kinds were in the same apiary and had received the same care. These, not intended, comparative results, which were not the first, led us to the transferring of all the remaining Langstroth in Quinby large hives.

From the above we infer that, although bees in large hives are considered as less productive of comb honey than those in small ones, if we figure the loss of time occupied by overwintering, the frequent necessity of feeding for winter, the increased loss of bees in winter and spring, the unpleasantness of seeing colonies recovering slowly in spring, etc., we will conclude that large hives for comb honey should be preferred, notwithstanding their higher cost.

HAMILTON, Ill., U. S.

Find enclosed \$1.00 for C. B. J. I am well pleased with the Journal since the change of management. Wishing you every success.

March 28, 1894.

ARTHUR NEUPHY.

Here is another \$1.00 for C. B. J. Credit me. Pitch into the fellows that cheat by mixing honey.

March 27, 1894.

A. S. SMITH.

Just received April number of C. B. J. and must compliment you on the marked improvement in it. It seems to me, that even if the excellent paper you use and the equally good illustrations do cost a little more, I feel sure that Canadian bee-keepers will rally to your support in sufficiently greater numbers to make up to you the extra cost.

E. M. HUSBAND.

No one knows himself until he has suffered.

FIRST STEPS IN....BEE-KEEPING.

KEEPING EVERLASTINGLY AT IT
BRINGS SUCCESS.

QUESTIONS SENT IN BEARING UPON FIRST STEPS
IN BEE-KEEPING WILL BE ANSWERED IN THIS
DEPARTMENT BY THE EDITOR.

A GAIN I have a host of questions to answer, therefore let me briefly say: During month of May, say 15th to end of month, is the right time to buy bees. Purchase good colonies, and not inferior because the price is a little less.

If you are beginning, start with only a few colonies and work your way slowly and surely.

As soon as the comb whitens in the brood chamber along the top bar of hive, put on your supers. Do not allow your bees to get the swarming impulse for lack of room. Get everything ready beforehand and do not run about the neighborhood in a wild and excited manner hunting a bee hive after the swarm is on the tree.

If you are a farmer, make one member of the household the bee-keeper, even if it be only a child, let its first interest be the bees. Everybody's work is nobody's work,

Beamsville, April 14, 1894.

On what grounds do you condemn the Heddon hive, as stated in your editorials of this month.

JAMES E. ZIMMERMAN.

Answer.—When we look at the vast majority of bee-keepers, many of them are far better off to leave the brood chamber almost entirely undisturbed. I, myself, am working more and more along this system. As often as not, one does more harm than good, and especially is this the case where there lingers traces of inexperience, and just as much is this the case when a man or woman is not in the apiary constantly and follows every change of weather or of the honey flow however great his experience. The system of management and the construction of the new, (now old) Heddon hive with two shallow brood chambers is certainly not in the direction we desire, as outlined above. One chamber is too small. An average brood chamber is therefore cut in two and gives greater opportunity for doing harm.

Again, I claim it is not a desirable, nay more, it is an objectionable feature, to have