

and shall have pleasure some time in tasting the celebrated cheese from the Honey Grove Cheese Factory. We shall be pleased to allow your amendment to stand, and the names of all now on the defence fund who are desirous of contributing to the Tribute Fund may do so. We would only add to the amendment that another committee be appointed and that Mr. Chalmers be the chairman of that committee.

HEDDON VS. SHUCK.

A correspondent at Owen Sound asks the following questions, with intimation that we may answer either by letter or through the JOURNAL. As the D. A. Jones Co., Ltd., are the owners of the Heddon patent in Canada, it might be thought that we could not give an impartial answer to these questions, but we assure our readers that such is not the case. We felt that a reply from Mr. Heddon himself would be interesting, and submitted the questions to him. Here we have his answers; the sentiments are ours, only better expressed than we could have done.

What advantages, if any, have the "Heddon Hive" over "Shucks Invertible Hive."

If you mean in the aggregate, perhaps none, and if so, time and experience, will tell with greatest certainty of correctness. There is little doubt but that each have some points of superiority, as compared with the other, and which would suit you best, no one but yourself should judge. I advise sending for the descriptive catalogues of both, reading carefully and deciding for yourself. The hives you mention, are designed for carrying out nearly the same principles, but are in no ways copies of each other, as each patentee had no knowledge of the works of the other, and so worked and patented on entirely different plans, and at the same time. This cannot be said of several hives that have come out later.

SEPARATORS WITH NARROW SECTIONS.

Can separators be used between $1\frac{1}{2}$ sections, if not, what is the smallest?

Of course you can use separators between sections as narrow as $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width, but $1\frac{1}{2}$ is as narrow as we use with them. This is the width that we prefer.

PREPARATIONS FOR CLOVER HONEY FLOW.

What is the best method for preparing your bees to take full advantage of the white clover?

This needs an answer too long for this place, and is answered in my book.

SOMETHING ABOUT PATENTS.

Can a private individual copy a patent for his own private use without infringing?

No. One has no right to use a patented article without first getting the consent of the owner of the territory in which the use of it is to be made, than to likewise make or sell the same.

JAMES HEDDON.

Dowagiac, Mich.

SPECIMEN OF BEES.

I send you a specimen of my bees. Are they pure Italians, if not what cross are they? What kind of queen would you advise me to buy to improve them?

The sample of bees referred to did not reach us, so that we cannot give an answer to this question.

THE ARMSTRONG HIVE.

For The Canadian Bee-Journal.

I AM very sorry we did not get that promised instructive article on "Bee Hives." Did Mr. Heddon, in his correspondence, find too few facts or too many?

As a business man there is not much in his letter for me to answer. Mr. H. is "an artful dodger." He knew I could not have plagiarized his description, for I told him I had never seen it nor heard of it. Every intelligent business man knows that the patent office records do not cover the age of an application nor give the birth of an invention. He claims the first printed description of the half space, after his attention has repeatedly been called to prior descriptions of the same arrangement under different names. He denies claiming the half space when in fact he not only claimed it but he claimed a royalty from every bee-keeper using it in the United States or Canada, even from those who have used it for years and this too in the face of the fact known to all intelligent bee-keepers, and admitted by himself that neither in the half nor whole bee space has he, or can he ever have, any exclusive, legal or moral rights, except in combination. Frequent improvements may be a crime, as he suggests on page 789, but frequent patents are a necessity so long as monopolies pick up known common property, and by publication and cheek attempt to freeze or scare out the real owner and inventor that they may extort from the whole bee fraternity a royalty for their own benefit, as he and his partners are doing. Comparing [himself to Father Langstroth is adding insult to injury and is an uncalled for outrage upon the sweet christian charity and character of our common benefactor, for from the first Mr. Heddon has made and held his claims, with and without patent against the written protest of those to whom his special