

new stock, however, soon runs down, as there are no young bees added to it for at least three weeks. If the flow continues, and the queens deposit eggs, there will eventually be more bees in the two, but only in case of a prolonged honey flow will there be any gain in honey. Many a bee-keeper has lost his bees through excessive swarming, divided stocks and insufficient winter stores in such hives. By never having swarms (I call artificial division 'swarms') the colonies are always in best condition for surplus and the bee-keeper always has his dish right, side up when it rains porridge. If bees are well wintered it is only in rare seasons that they can be held together unless they are in large hives with proper ventilation and lots of super room. When I think now of the time and energy and patience I have expended chasing swarms when there were other matters which urgently needed to be done (which is now so largely a thing of the past that the bees are left alone in the apiaries day after day) I feel well-nigh sufficiently punished for belonging to the well-nigh, but not altogether, "unconvertible" class. To shake swarms or otherwise break up the swarming impulse is better, but does not compare with keeping bees continually contentedly at work. We hear that there is no use in having a larger brood chamber than the queen can occupy. This is quite true, but the powers of queens is very much underestimated. Many queens now in 8-frame hives could as readily fill a 12-frame chamber, and if any cannot they should be replaced.

In two apiaries, one 12-frame hives the other 8-frame hives, side by side and otherwise receiving the same attention, there will in fall and spring be as few frames unoccupied in the 12-frame hives, as the eight, in fact there will be less unoccupied space in the 12-frame hives than the eight. Left

to themselves there will be less queerness in the 12-frame hive for the same reason. **Breaking up by swarming in the bane of the specialist as well as the novice bee-keeper.** I am quite willing to admit that there will be more heavy lifting with the large hives but that is bound to be the case with a greater harvest. We never, in extracting, remove honey from the hive by supers. The super is left on and combs exchanged, and the honey taken out by combs. Large hives can easily be contracted, but small brood chambers cannot successfully be enlarged. The Langstroth frame is too deep for that. I feel that larger hives generally used would result in less winter losses, and more stability in bee-keeping. From a merely selfish standpoint this is no advantage to me.

#### My Own Hive.

Notices in Canadian papers having appeared that I have patented a hive, and having had letters asking for a description, I will try to briefly explain the hive which has been patented in Canada, and on which I have been awarded first prize as "the latest, best and most practical invention" at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, and also the Maritime Province Exhibition, also a gold medal in France. I have also a patent on this hive in the United States. In the "British Bee Journal" within the last month I see a hive illustrated with some of my portico ideas. I have some ideas he has not, and he has one which I have not. His appears to be 1905 issue. My patent was issued May 24, 1904, and the application was in quite a while before that time. The patent covers a hive with a portico and a groove, or its equivalent, to enable the ready attachment of a double door, screen or queen-excluding metal, or the like. The double door is valuable in the spring or fall of the year; in fact, it makes double the most vulnerable part of the hive

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