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Shook-Swarming a Success

I will not discuss methods here, but will say that shook-swarming is a success, if properly done, in working for comb honey. I know many imitators say it is not a success; others say it is too much work; still others say their bees swarm after shaking them, even worse than before; but I am sure that they are wrong, either in their methods or practice, as I have never had any one watching my bees an hour; never had more than two helpers; and have not had a prime swarm in the air during the past ten years; and surely no extracting man could do any better or more work; and, with swarming out of the way, I feel sure that I could leave my extracting brother behind. With a warehouse filled with prepared supers I can give all the room needed for a honey flow, while most extracting men must extract to give more room during a heavy flow; and I know that I can take off more honey in a day than can my extracting brother but I admit the comb honey must still be cleaned and cased afterwards.

When the last super is off, my bees are in better winter condition than his, either for indoor or outdoor wintering; and, as a rule, will care for themselves a month later than his the next spring.—M. A. Gill, in The Bee-Keepers' Review.

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