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THE
CANADIAN
BEE JOURNAL

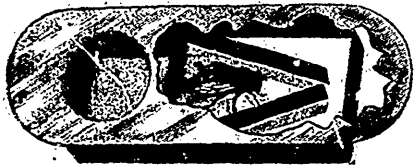
"The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

VOL. IX, No. 3.

BRETON ONT., MAY 1, 1893.

WHOLE No. 335.

The Porter Spring Bee Escape



Was awarded THREE PRIZES at the Toronto Industrial Exposition in 1891. Wm. McEvoy, Foul Brood Inspector, Woodburn, Ont., says of them on Jan'y 29th, '92:—"I know from experience it won't pay any beekeeper to do without them, as they are one of the best things ever brought into any apiary, and should be used in every bee yard in the

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BEE



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Send for sample of Hastings' Lightning Bee Escape and you will be convinced that it is the best and most practical Escape yet produced. It will clear the supers in a short space of time (2 to 4 hrs.) and it is impossible for the bees to clog the passage as they cannot return. Each Escape guaranteed as represented. Price by mail, each, 20c; \$2.25 per dozen. Full directions with each Escape. Write for discount. Electrotypes for dealers' catalogues furnished free.

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Dear Sir—The Lightning Ventilated Bee Escapes which you sent to me last season worked well and all that you claimed for them. They do not clog, and clear the supers rapidly. In fact it is the best escape I have yet used. I cannot speak too highly of the Escape and consider it a great boon to bee-keepers.

Dear Sir—

The Bee Escape invented by you is the best I have yet seen, freeing the sections most effectually in short order, and its construction being such as to make it impossible to get out of repair. It will therefore meet with the approval of all bee-keepers.

M. E. HASTINGS,

Dear Sir,—Your Lightning Bee Escape does away with the hard, disagreeable work attending the harvesting of honey, being very much easier than the old way. In my opinion it is the best Escape yet produced.

ORISKANY, N. Y., March 7, 1892.

Respectfully Yours, W. E. CLARK.

NEW YORK MILLS, N. Y., April 4, 1892

Yours Respectfully, F. A. GLADWIN.

UTICA, N. Y., October 21, 1912.

Truly Yours, B. E. FOSTER.



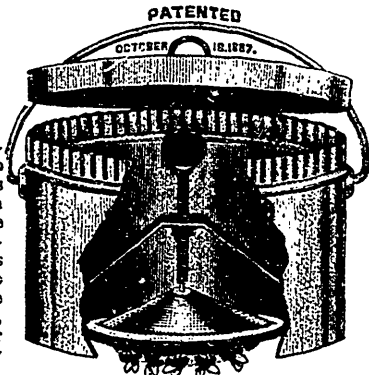
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It is not necessary to turn the crank more than one way in extracting; but if desired it can be turned either way. It is pronounced by experts in extracting to be the most desirable Reversible Extractor yet produced. When ordering send a sample frame and price will be quoted on either 3, 4, 5 or 6 frame Extractors.

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These Feeders are now made with a capacity of two quarts, and the price is reduced to thirty cents each, or \$3 per dozen, by express or freight. When ordered by mail add ten cents each for postage. These Feeders can be re-filled without moving the Feeder, or disturbing the bees. The letting down of food is regulated by a thumb screw. It is easy to regulate—either a quart or a spoonful can be given in a day or an hour, as may be required, and where it is most needed, over the cluster of bees. For rapid feeding two feeders may be placed over the bees at one time, not a drop of food can be lost, and the robber bees cannot get at it. Special rates to dealers. Write for prices. Supply dealers furnished at wholesale prices. An electrotype will be furnished free to dealers wishing to advertise Feeder in their catalogues.



M. E. HASTINGS

Patentee and sole manufacturer, New York Mills, Oneida Co., N. Y.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

EXCHANGE AND MART.

FIVE BANDED BEES.—I make a specialty of breeding Five Banded Bees and Queens. Had twenty-six years experience in breeding Queens and I have two fine Queens to breed from for 1893. Will sell interested in May, \$1: Tested, \$1.75. June, 75c. or \$8 a dozen: Tested \$1.60. August, 60c., or \$6 a dozen. September, 50c. Sample of Bees and Drones sent free. All Queens that arrive dead, return the cage and I will send another. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. N. H. SMITH, Box 2, Tilbury Centre, Ont. b24 5t.

1893. WRITE now and see how low I can supply you with odd and regular sized Hives and Frames. Also get prices on sections, foundation, Honey Extractors, Knives, smokers, and anything you may need in the apiary for 1893. W. A. CHRYSLER, Box 450 Chatham, Ont.

FOR SALE.—20 colonies bees, at a sacrifice, in good hives, will weigh from 75 to 100 lbs. Must be sold at once. Will give a good bargain. R. J. GRACEY, Wellandport, Ont.

WILL sell reasonable or exchange for a good greyhound, a cocker spaniel. He is one year and eight months old from pure bred stock. Has no bad habits and is a good bird dog. b22 6.

FOR SALE.—2,000 lbs. No. 1 Extracted Clover and Basswood Honey, mostly put up in 60 lb. tins; a portion of it in 5, 8, and 10 lb. tins. JAS. STEWART, Meaford, Ont. b24-5t

WE have several bound volumes of Clark's "Birds' Eye View" of Beekeeping. Will mail on receipt of 10c. CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, Boston, Ont. b-24-tt

A QUANTITY of Porter & Hastings Bee Escapes on hand I will sell them cheap. Would clear the lot out at a low price to a dealer G. T. SOMERS, Beeton, Ont. 1 tf

FOR SALE.—A limited quantity of Section Foundation made from my own white capping wax. For prices address, J. ALPAUGH, Box 704, St. Thomas, Ont. 25-4t

40 OR 50 SWARMS OF BEES for sale cheap, or exchange for a set of double harness, sulky rake, or seed drill. THOS. CHRISTIAN, Lorraine, Ont. b2-5t

FOR SALE.—13 Colonies of Italian and Hybrid Bees in 8 frame L. hives, in prime condition for May delivery at \$7 per colony.—W. J. SANDERS, Box 107, Meaford, Ont. 3-1

I HAVE a few 60 pound cans of Honey for sale at \$5 per can, or in smaller quantities. Clover, Clover and Basswood mixed.—THOMAS STOKES, Minesing, Ont. 3-1nd

SEND us fifty cents and get Hutchinsonson's "Advanced Bee Culture." C B J Beeton.

FIVE BANDED GOLDEN ITALIANS.

My Five Banded Golden Italians are not extolled by any bees in existence. A fair trial will convince. Queens, after June 1st, \$1 each; 6 for \$5. Special prices on large orders. Safe arrival guaranteed. Send for descriptive circular giving full particulars.

CHARLES D. DUVALL.
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TESTED ITALIAN QUEENS

to be shipped June 1st. Prices as follow those under one year old \$1.25, under 2 years, \$1.1 with a discount of 10 per cent for cash on orders received this month. I have been selecting and breeding queens for the past ten years and believe I have bees that are equal to any.

G. A. DEADMAN,

b 21 1 y. Druggist, Apiarist, Etc., Brussels.

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Bred from Select Mothers for the coming season at a grade of prices to suit the times. Orders booked now. Untested Queens, June, \$1; Untested Queens, July and after, 75 cents; Tested Queens, May, \$1.50; Tested Queens, June, \$1.25; Tested Queens, July and after, \$1. Select Tested Queens, May and June, \$2. Select Tested Queens, July and after, \$1.50. For large quantities, write for prices. All Untested Queens warranted purely mated. A. E. SHERRINGTON, Box 270, Walkerton, Ont.

Attention, Beekeepers!

Tested Italian Queen in May, \$1.50 each. Snow white sections \$2.50 per thousand. Hoffman frames and a full line of Beekeepers' Supplies. Twenty page price list free. J. M. KINZIE, Rochester, Oakland Co., Mich. b4 1 y.

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MENTION THIS JOURNAL.

b-c 17

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AFTER APRIL 30TH

I will ship Pure Italian Queens by return mail at the following prices:

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| Warranted Queens, each..... | \$1 00 |
| Tested Queens, each..... | 1 50 |
| Select tested yellow to the tip, breeders, each | 2 00 |

I refer by permission to the Editor of this journal who has purchased a number of Queens from me.

W. H. LAW,

b 22-7m.

Lavaca, Ark., U. S.

\$100 will buy a fine registered Jersey Cow, 5 years old. It is estimated she gave over 9000 pounds of milk last year. She is giving over 1000 per month now, on winter food. \$65 will buy a registered Jersey Heifer from above, same due to calve May 26th.

21 1y G. A. DEADMAN, Brussels Ont.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

"The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

VOL. IX, No. 3.

BEETON, ONT., MAY 1, 1893.

WHOLE No. 536.



R. F. HOLTERMANN.

The subject of the above illustration, is principally of Norwegian descent, some of his relatives having held office under the Norwegian government. Mr. Holtermann was, however, born in Germany (Hamburg, June 14, 1860). His parents emigrated to this country in 1862, living for twelve years at Vanbrugh, Renfrew Co. Here, as a boy, he acquired a great taste for country life, and made collections of insects which finally developed the study of bees.

Mr. Holtermann's youthful days were spent in a private school at New Edinburgh, from which he was transferred to the Ottawa Collegiate. Up to this time he was no stranger to the foot of his class. In 1875 he attended Upper Canada College and Hay's Commercial College, and took greater interest in study, ranking well in French and German. He also entered for a full course at the Ontario Agricultural College, taking in each year some of the highest prizes, and at graduation ranking second of the head of the college. He has since retained his association with that Institution, having been President of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union, composed of students and ex-students of the College, and for years he has been its able secretary, and chairman of the agricultural committee.

Mr. Holtermann has attended seven gatherings of the North American Beekeepers' Conventions, during the last nine years, becoming acquainted with Lois, the daughter of Mr. S. T. Pettit of Belmont,—to whom he is married—at the convention at Rochester. He has twice been a vice-president and, one year, secretary of the North American Beekeepers' Convention. He is at Brantford president of the Brant association, belongs to the Poultry and Pet Stock Association, Y.M.C.A., A.O.U.W. and the order of Oddfellows. He has written much for the *Farmers' Advocate*, *Live Stock Journal*, *Rural Canadian*, the *Globe*, *Mail*, *Empire*, United States Bee

Journals, *British Bee Journal*, and *Norwegian Bee Journal*. He has for two years attended regular lectures at Farmers' Institutes, taking up bee-keeping for the Ontario Government. He has just completed a pamphlet on beekeeping and Canadian hives for distribution in Europe. He has been selected to do this by the Dominion Government on account of his intimate knowledge of beekeeping and acquaintance with beekeepers in all parts of the Dominion. He has at his home between eighty and ninety colonies which have his careful attention. His success in wintering bees has been quite marked.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

LAMBTON BEEKEEPER'S ASSOCIATION.

MR. EDITOR,—The Lambton Beekeeper's Association will meet at the Town Hall in Sarnia on Friday, 19th inst., at ten o'clock a.m., sharp. Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson of the *Review* has definitely decided to be present, and as Sarnia is near the line dividing the two countries it is expected that other United States beekeepers will be present. This will also be an excellent opportunity for beekeepers to visit the St. Clair tunnel.

J. R. KITCHIN, Sec.-Treas.

Weidmann, April 24, 1893.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

REPORT OF RUSSELL COUNTY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the beekeepers of Russell county was held in the village of Clarence Creek on Thursday, 20th April, at half-past two p.m., for the purpose of organizing a local beekeepers' association. Owing, however, to the short notice given, and the dreadful state of the roads, the meeting was not so large as was hoped for. This is in friend Darling's territory (district No. 2), but the long journey of some sixty or seventy miles, and the shortness of the notice, prevented his attendance. I did not arrive there myself until about 8 p.m., and by that time quite a number had left for their homes. A sufficient number,

however, awaited my arrival, who had, in the meantime, received advice from Mr. Darling of his inability to attend, and expressing his best wishes for our efforts in effecting an organization.

The association was formed with the following officers:—President, Joseph Presley, Clarence Creek, P.O.; vice-president, Denis Brown, Chard P.O.; directors, F. Lafamme, and T. Delorme, Clarence Creek P.O.; with W. J. Brown, secretary-treasurer; the president and secretary form the Executive Board.

So far as I am aware, this is the first attempt on the part of the beekeepers of Prescott, Glengarry or Russell to have local associations established among them, and I hope that my successor, as a director of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association for this district, will follow up the work now begun and carried to so successful a point.

I think, Mr. Editor, a short account of Clarence Creek and its people will not be out of place here, as the readers of your *JOURNAL* in Ontario probably desire to know still more of our fair province:—Clarence Creek is a neat little village, situated about four miles south of the Ottawa river, and about thirty miles east of the capital city of the Dominion. It is in the township of Clarence, and in the county of Russell, and is situated upon a fertile and beautiful plain at the base of a high hill. The inhabitants of the village and of the surrounding country for miles are of French descent, but nearly all of them are able to read, write and speak the English language fluently. The chief ornament of the place is the massive stone church, which is second to none in Eastern Ontario, in design and finish, and has Rev. Father Caron as incumbent, to whom the people appear to be much attached. The village has at present four licensed hotels, half a dozen stores, a saw mill, grist mill, carriage shops, and blacksmith shops; it has also a lodge of the Patrons of Industry with a chartered store. The two leading beekeepers are Messrs. Presley and Lafamme.

W. J. Brown.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

WHY MR. HOLTERMANN'S QUESTION AND ITS ANSWER WERE NOT REPORTED.

By W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

In Mr. Holtermann's explanation in the last C.B.J. I see only one thing that calls for any explanation from me, and that is why I did not report his question and Prof. Wiley's answer at the Washington convention regarding the Professor's ability to detect the difference between sugar and floral honey. The reason was that no new thought or idea was brought out in the question and answer. If everything that was said or done at a convention was reported, several numbers of a journal would be used up in reporting it. The reporter must use his judgment as to what is important, and not waste space reporting the same idea twice over. Prof. Wiley had already said in his address that invert sugar was optically inactive at a certain temperature, and he *hoped* (italics mine) that this fact would enable the chemist to detect sugar honey.

Mr. Holtermann is correct in one respect: there was no talk at Washington in regard to sugar and honey mixed and fed to the bees. It was in regard to sugar honey pure and simple, and Prof. Wiley did not say *positively* that he could detect the difference between it and floral honey; he said he *thought* he could. The Professor says in his letter to Mr. Holtermann, published in the last C.B.J., that he did not "say *positively* (italics mine) at the Washington meeting that he could detect this difference." As Mr. Holtermann says, so say I, "this letter from Prof. Wiley should settle this."

Flint, Mich., April, 1893.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

SUCCESSFUL WINTERING.

MR. EDITOR,—I put two colonies of bees in winter quarters in 1892; in 1893 I wintered seven colonies.

Some time about the 1st of March I found my bees getting very noisy. I thought

it was on account of their feeling so well that they wanted to get out; but in reading an article in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, I found out that uneasiness of bees was not a good sign. As my bees were in an out cellar, and the weather so much colder than the former year, I thought there must be something wrong. As I could not properly examine my bees in the cellar, I took the most noisy hive into a room and raised the temperature from 90° to 100°. I placed the hive on a stand close to a south window. I soon found out what was wrong with my bees; they had dysentery. I darkened all the other parts of the room, the bees flew out on the window and spotted it up so terribly that it took considerable soap and water to clean it.

After that I then heated up the bee cellar to a temperature of from 60 to 70°. I kept that up for about five weeks. The bees got perfectly quiet and appeared to be all cured of the disease when I set them out on the 5th of April. I gave them all clean bottom-boards and washed all the dead bees and mould from the combs. I did not set them on their summer stands, I put them in a place sheltered from wind and cold.

The bees fly out well on fine days, and have plenty of store left.

I have not seen them gather any pollen yet. Would it be safe to move them to their summer stands when the weather gets warmer?

I saw an article of Mr. Gemmell's in the last issue of the Bee Journal that his bees gathered artificial pollen. Will anyone be kind enough to let me know what artificial pollen is, and how it is given to bees.

THOMAS NESBITT.

Apsley, April 1893.

QUESTION DRAWER.

1. If a queen flies out and meets an inferior drone, will her drones be as pure as herself?

There is a very considerable difference of opinion on this subject. Our opinion, in the meantime, is that they will not.

WHY IS IT?—By J. K. DARLING.

When requested by the Secretary to prepare a paper for this meeting I did not know what to say in reply. My experience is not sufficient to warrant me in choosing a subject relating to apiculture and treating it as it ought to be treated. I thought I could not do better than note a few of the difficulties that I have met from time to time, some of which I have partly well overcome, while others remain as obstinate as ever. The object of this paper is not to show what little I know about beekeeping, but rather to string together a few of the difficulties that are more or less annoying to the majority of beekeepers, especially those who have not had experience enough to help themselves over these sand bars in the stream they have decided to float upon. I say "help themselves," for it is when a man is not able to help himself, and has to depend on the information he gets from the books and periodicals devoted to apiculture, that his real troubles begin.

QUESTION.

1.—Why is it that the instruction given in this manner so often proves partially, if not wholly, useless to the novice who is trying to carve his way as a beekeeper.

ANSWERS.

Assuming that it is true that the instruction given in bee books and journals often proves of little value to the novice the reasons may be various. In the first place the "instructions" may not be clear, and hence misleading. In the second place the "novice" may not understand the instructions; but thinking he does, he proceeds to follow them and "puts his foot in it." In the third place, he may understand the instructions all right, but, through lack of experience or skill, may not be able to carry them out right; hence the result reached will be quite different from the result expected. In the fourth place, instructions, perfectly clear and good in themselves, may not apply to the place where they are carried out, yet would be perfectly applicable to some other place; or they might not be applicable to the circumstances of hive and environment, and hence the result would astonish the "novice" instead of pleasing him. In the fifth place, the instructions themselves (probably only a theory or speculation) may be all off, and consequently just as likely in being carried out to produce a bad as a good result. It is a nice thing to be able to dis-

tinguish between a principle and an hypothesis; and in the realm of apiculture I presume the novice would be quite likely to confound them. And this is not to be wondered at when we see the old heads and the professional heads sometimes doing the very same. It is quite astonishing what a small amount of generalization will enable some reasoners (?) to reach a general conclusion. A few facts will suffice, and the principle is forthwith adduced or deduced, and is duly set up as a fundamental principle worthy of all acceptance. Facts are, it is true, stubborn things; but it takes more than one or two of them to transform a theory into a principle. Hence it is that a great deal of the popular literature of apiculture, like that of many other growing sciences, is crude and theoretical, and therefore just as likely as not to land the novice into a thousand and one dilemmas. He is utterly unable to sift the wheat from the chaff. The only and best advice I can give the novice in these premises is to hear all sides as far as he can; and then, wherever there is a conflict of authorities, use his own judgment as the final court, and follow the course which to him appears right under his own circumstances. By doing this, and carefully and intelligently watching results, he will soon get on the right track.—ALLEN PRINGLE, Selby, Ont.

On account of different flora, a different locality, and different manipulation.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

The instructions are nearly always correct; but we do not read or understand them as the author does. I find that if you request ten persons to read a set of instructions, eight will not get them correctly.—H. D. CUTTING, Tecumseh, Mich.

The instruction is not given in a plain way as a teacher should give it, and because a novice is slow of understanding.—JOHN F. GATES, Ovid, Erie Co., Pa.

The answer to No. 1 is to my mind easy and simple. Different writers write from their own standpoints, which takes in locality, etc., consequently the information

ings, is of value only to the beekeepers whose surroundings and situations are practically the same. The novice, then, when he reads an article must first ascertain whether or not he is like circumstanced to the writer; if he is not it will be folly for him to practise his methods.—W. H. POND, No. Attleboro, Mass.

As a people we read too much, digest too little. But do not let us fall into the danger of reading too little,—that is even worse. Let the beginner then really desire to learn, and the writer, when he writes, put himself in the place of the reader.—F. F. HOLTERMANN, Bradford, Ont.

Because he does not understand it, or perhaps I should say because he does not know how to apply it, the novice is apt to overlook many little things which he thinks unimportant, but which may be the very heart of his difficulty. Many a novice puts a super on a hive with a mere handful of bees, and blames the instructions he reads for the failure to find the super full of comb honey; and if you point out the difficulty he will likely insist that the hive is overmed with bees because he sees them spread out over the tops of the frames when he removes the cover. It is want of experience.—R. L. TAYLOR, Lipses, Mich.

I don't think it does so very much; but as far as it does, it is because it is not an easy thing to be understood fully by those who have no knowledge of the subject.—C. C. MILLER.

The modern method of bee culture is a thing as new to the novice, as the A. B. C. in letters are to the pupil when he first enters school, and he must learn it a little at a time. He cannot grasp it all at once. For example, tell a novice how to remove frames and cut out queen cells; if he does not know what a frame is, and what a queen cell is, your words are to him unintelligible, "useless." All learning is progressive.—G. W. DEMAREE, Christiansburg, Ky.

Because the editors of bee papers, either do not care about or do not recognize the difference between dollar-and-cent and literary honey producers. A theoretical beekeeper can often write better than a practical one, who is successful, but his writings are of no aid to the novice who desires to make money out of bees, rather than revel in the mazy field of literature.—JAS. HEDDON, Dowagiac, Mich.

QUESTION

2.—Why is it that men like E. R. France aver that they can reduce swarming to a minimum and obtain large crops of honey by caging or removing the queen for a time during the honey flow? Whilst, if this plan was tried on by a novice, nine times out of ten he would not only have no swarms, but also a lot of sulky bees that would do nothing for him or themselves either, and would ball their queen when returned or when let loose if she had been caged on top of the frames.

ANSWERS.

I have had good success in crossing queens when done at the right time (commencement of the honey flow), and don't see why you cannot.—DOOLITTLE.

I do not practise it; so will pass it and take No. 3.—CUTTING.

I don't know; I don't do things that way. I study to simplify the labor in my apiary.—GATES.

Mr. France will have to answer this question. For myself I have found results the same as the novice does when working on that line.—POND.

I believe in sulky men, women, and children, but have little faith in sulky bees. I can prevent swarming by removing at proper time, shade and ventilation; but I would not be bothered with caging queens. I know nothing about it personally.—HOLTERMANN.

France avers it because he can do it—the novice fails because he fails to consider all the circumstances. He may try it for instance when no great amount of nectar is to be had, though he thinks there is, or he

may try it on a nucleus which he takes to be a strong colony. It is want of sufficient experience.—TAYLOR.

The plan of caging queens during a part of the honey season, with the view of concentrating the whole of the force of the colony in the work of storing surplus honey, has succeeded in the hands of very few persons. If Mr. France makes the plan a success he ought to tell the rest of us how to do it.—DEMARER.

It isn't confined to novices, friend Darling. You would scarcely call me a "novice"; but I have done lots of caging and removing, though I doubt if I will do any more of it.—C. C. MILLER.

Much depends upon the locality and honey flow at the time and place where the caging is done. Perhaps Mr. France is not sure of repeated success yet, and I will predict that in five years Mr. France will not be found practising any such method.—HEDDON.

QUESTION.

3.—Why is it that others, like G. M. Doolittle (a very great misnomer, I think), declare that there is no way that they can get as good crops as by natural swarming? Yet, if a novice tries to follow their plan, he would be likely to have more swarms than honey.

ANSWERS.

I don't know, unless you do not look out for after-swarms. With the after swarm goes all prospects of honey.—DOOLITTLE.

I think in this that Mr. Doolittle is correct. I have tried so many different methods, and have come to the conclusion that "Natural swarming" is best for me in my location. I obtain more honey and so more increase than by many other methods.—CUTTING.

Natural swarming is best, I think; but it should be governed so as to only double the number of your colonies in one season. More swarming than this will reduce your honey crop.—GATES.

Mr. Doolittle resides in a peculiar location. Basswood is the supply from which his honey comes; it blossoms in late June and July, and as he himself says, he has only about thirty days or less in which to gather his whole honey crop. With him undoubtedly "natural swarming" is "the thing," while with the novice, differently situated, it would prove a failure. As to the balance of the queries I will say, one trouble with our bee-writers is, that they use too much guess work and call it theory. Desirous of winning fame as a writer, too little pains is taken with practical work. Many "pad up" from the articles of others, some even "cribbing" entire paragraphs. The cure for "novice" is for him to study bee culture thoroughly, practise experimentally till he knows the possibilities of his own locality, and then take advantage of every thing that can work in his favor. By so doing, and only by so doing, can he bring about success. He can study the experiments of others; but in their application to his own case, he must be guided by common sense, and not attempt to do that in Northern Maine, which is done with impunity in the extreme south.—POND.

I think the day for dividing bees artificially has gone by. If you increase at all, I should say let it be by swarming. The best result I ever had from a colony was one run for extracted honey. It was a strong colony in the spring; it never swarmed; had at one time three full supers on. It gave me two hundred and seventy-five pounds of extracted honey. I fancy just as we think a colony that has no queens fills up with honey quickly because the larvae are not using it up, so we think a new swarm for a few days does better. We often come to conclusions too quickly, just as they did on the quality of that Hutchinson taffy.—HOLTERMANN.

They declare it because it is true as a rule. The novice fails because he allows his bees to swarm themselves to death, and then puts supers on the old hive and the after swarms, and leaves the prime swarm without any till the honey season is past. Want of experience.—TAYLOR.

I can see the secret of this claim of Mr. Doolittle very plainly in the conditions with which he has to deal. During the white clover, in his locality, his bees can build up, swarm, and be ready for his best source for surplus (the linden), while my bees must get their surplus from white clover, and if they swarm right in the midst of the harvest the effect is very different to Mr. Doolittle's experience.—**DENAREE.**

Regarding results with natural and artificial swarming, everything depends upon the operator, the locality, the kind of bees, and the character of their honey flow. Novices had better, and nearly always do, follow natural swarming. That is, they let artificial swarming alone.—**HEDDON.**

Every man's own way is his best way. Let one man for twenty years encourage swarming, and another of equal ability repress it as much as possible for the same time, each being equally successful; then let them change plans, and they will both make a mess of it. Besides, in some cases a man succeeds not on account of his management but in spite of it.—**MILLER.**

QUESTION.

4. Why is it that the majority of writers advise keeping the queens doing their level best?—Professor Cook going so far as to advise having laying queens ready to put in a hive after it has swarmed, so that no time be lost; while the experience of a great number of beekeepers shows that a larger quantity of honey is stored when there is no brood to feed for ten or fifteen days, than there is when the colony is kept raising bees that may be good for nothing except to consume the stores that have been laid up for winter use.

ANSWERS.

This is a poser. It is like Mr. Darling. I don't understand such advice when in connection with securing a crop of comb honey. With extracted honey it is all right.—**DOOLITTLE.**

I have lost many times by not having colonies strong, and gained so much by having strong colonies, that I prefer strong colonies every time.—**CURTIS.**

I want all the bees I can get in my hives twelve months in the year. I never try to subvert nature's laws.—**GATES.**

I don't know why the majority of writers should advise queens to do their level best all through the season. I am hardly prepared to admit they do so advise. I say, have a queen do her level best (even if linden is your first possible source of surplus) right along through spring until within four weeks of the close of the last possible source of surplus. I care for nothing stronger than medium colonies for winter. I have now a two frame nucleus alive in good condition in cellar (date Feb'y. 20th).—**HOLTERMANN.**

To use a slang phrase, Mr. Darling is "away off" here. I don't know of a single respectable writer that advises that now. Prof. Cook would write very differently now from what he did when he wrote his Manual. Brood that can never result in useful bees should be discouraged.—**TAYLOR.**

This also is a question that is seriously affected by locality. As a general rule prolific queens are the best; but in some cases, where the honey season is extended and the yield slow, some colonies with very prolific queens will rear brood to excess and store little surplus. But, on the other hand, if a colony like this should be confronted with a flow of nectar such as I have seen, you could count on them; they would open their eyes. My experience is, give any colony of bees all the nectar they can handle, with plenty more in sight, and for the time being they will ignore the prolific notions of any queen.—**DENAREE.**

Because they entertain the erroneous idea, that it is cheaper to use large hives, and fuss and labor with the queen, than to have two queens to the same amount of combs, by using small hives. They think capital is invested in queens, when it is nearly all in combs. The only time to push the work of the queen is when, by the death of bees, we are left with more combs than queens. You see a great advantage again in small brood chambers.—**HEDDON.**

Because neither of them know, certainly, which is best.—MILLER.

QUESTION.

5. Why is it that some of those very prolific queens sometimes prove to be the poorest stock a man has in his yard. I remember one such case in my own yard some years since. There was one colony—a prime swarm—that pleased me very much—*always at it*; and when I would lift the sheet off the frames everything appeared *“ovely*. In a short time I began extracting, and took a lot of honey from other colonies; but when I came to my favorite, what did I find? Twelve “Jones” frames solid with brood, with a little honey along the top bar; not ten pounds of honey in the hive. Everything was converted into brood, and that in July, when it was not wanted in anything like that quantity.

ANSWERS.

Because they do not put the maximum of bees in the field just when the honey harvest begins. Where the maximum of bees come either before or after this, the largest crop of honey will not be secured.—DOOLITTLE.

That is not my experience, give me a prolific queen every time. That favorite queen of yours with the twelve frames of solid brood, in July, would be worth \$8 in my location in a good fair season.—CUTTING.

Because they swarm very early and go to the woods when you are not on the watch.—GATES.

Take races of bees naturally very prolific, such as Holy Land, Cyprian, or Carniolan under normal conditions in the hive, and they breed to such an extent and have the propensity to swarm so strong that they turn all their surplus into bees. I would suspect a dash of other than Italians in colonies which acted so.—HOLTERMANN.

Is the assumption true? I never saw such a case. If true, then the bees were of a poor strain probably—but more likely that “prime swarm” contained only bees enough to care for the large amount of brood.—TAYLOR.

This query is answered by what I have suggested in my answer to No. 4, and I have only to add that “one swallow does not make a summer.”—DEMAREE.

Because quantity and quality, usually shy each other. There is more dirt in the world than diamonds.—HEDDON.

Because prolificness and industry don't always go together.—MILLER.

QUESTION.

6. Why is it that some writers will tell you to “crowd” the bees below in order to drive them into the sections (is this not the advice generally given to the inexperienced)? And yet, if the “crowding” is done by some other than the writers, they swarm,—that is, the bees swarm and not the writers,—and the game is up. While at the same time these very writers, if asked how to prevent swarming, would say, “Give plenty of room.” Will the veterans stand up and be catechised on this point for the benefit of the order?

ANSWERS.

There is a certain time when this crowding can be done, and that time is with new swarms when hived, and with all others when the harvest has been open for three or four days. With the latter no more crowding should be done than to take away the combs not accupied with brood. To do more than this might tend to make bees swarm even in the honey harvest.—DOOLITTLE.

Well, my friend, this does look a little mixed, and if you attempt it with every colony in your yard you will get badly left in many colonies. Some colonies you can “crowd,” and they will not swarm; and others, if you attempt it, will swarm; and then is your time to mark your queens for breeders to suit the method you wish to adopt.—CUTTING.

I use a hive nine inches high, put on one case of sections early, with only starters in, give plenty of ventilation at entrance, shade them a little; and as my hives are pretty full of bees at all times of the year they soon do their own “crowding” into the

sections, and soon need more sections and get so interested that they forget to swarm.—GATES.

I have not noticed any one say to crowd bees to get them in sections; they may however. I have often known people to expect bees to work in sections when there was no honey flow, and when bees were not crowded enough below. I say when bees begin to get crowded below, and the combs have that new white appearance along the top bar when you lift your quilt, put on your super. If you delay till the bees get the swarming impulse you can put fifteen supers on. They will swarm.—HOLTERMANN.

Yes, the writers are right in both points. Experience is necessary to find the golden mean.—TAYLOR.

"Contraction and "crowding the brood nest" has been a great fad with some certain conspicuous individual, but most of us know it is a humbug, because its general application would produce the effects indicated in the query. But in a locality such as I described Mr. Doolittle's, the main flow of honey coming after the bees had satisfied the "swarm impulse," they will bear crowding in the brood nest, and suffer themselves to be cheated into storing all their honey in the shape of surpluses.—DEMAREZ.

In the production of comb honey, the smaller brood departments are best. In such, the bees are more liable to swarm. But "the game is not up." Aside from the labor of watching and caring for the swarms I would rather they would swarm than not. The act inspires the workers with new energy, and if the swarm is hived in small brood chamber, supplied with combs or full foundation and their surplus receptacles transferred to them, no better condition can exist.—HEDDON.

I don't know. I am not my brother's keeper. I never crowded to get bees in sections.—MILLER.

(To be Concluded.)

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.
AFTER DINNER THOUGHTS.

SUGGESTED BY "WHY IS IT?"

Friend J. K. Darling has asked us some practical questions in his article, headed "Why is it?" which was read at the Ontario Beekeepers' Association. We think he has overcome the difficulties referred to, and merely asked the questions for the special good purpose of bring out what other people think. All his questions can be answered in one sentence, viz. :—"Because of a certain touch,"—not uncertain, but certain. A lady who is a very near relative of mine, and who manipulates the food required for my sustenance—and who boxed my ears for mentioning her name in your JOURNAL, in connection with good cooking—was asked by me: this question, "Why are those dumplings which you make so much lighter and nicer than the general run of such goods I find elsewhere?" She replied, "Oh, its because of a certain touch."

After dinner I analyzed her answer, and found enough solid wealth in it to make every person on earth rich. Yes, "a certain touch"—nothing uncertain when all is certain. Aye, but there's the rub; we can't all be certain about things of this world, and especially about beekeeping, for the reason that all are not natural beekeepers. Then the first point is to be certain whether one is adapted to apiculture; if he is not, all the books and teaching will not make him a certain beekeeper, and he will naturally stumble through the business in an uncertain way. It is this uncertain class of people who are always having trouble, worrying over poor seasons and a hundred other things that a certain beekeeper would not consider at all.

To those who are certain they have not missed their calling as beekeepers, but are trying in earnest to reach the goal of success, I would say, study the nature of bees; find out their wants; establish a certain language between your bees and yourself that will be unmistakable.

Mr. Darling asks, "Why is it?" The 'why' part of it is just what every

beekeeper must find out for himself by observation and experience before he becomes a master of the art of beekeeping. Books will help, but they will not finish your education. Ask your bees questions, and you will get honest answers. Bees have a language of their own, and unless you understand it you will have to employ an interpreter or else have lots of trouble. Much of the trouble encountered by the novice in following advice comes from a misunderstanding of terms used. Crowding bees below does not mean to smoke them down or drive them against their will, but rather to manage them so that they will be crowded almost without their being conscious of it, and which is essential to keep them from swarming.

"Give them plenty of room" does not signify that a large number of cases should be given them at once, but a *certain* amount of room should be given at a certain time, and he who is earnest in the pursuit need be told but little concerning these things, for his earnestness will soon discover almost to a certainty what is needed and when. Friend D., the "why" is just this, that I make a success of hiving on starters because I observe what my bees have told me. I don't hive a second swarm on starters; in fact I increase my stock, when desirable, only with first swarms. My bees tell me they had rather build their own comb, and want me to give only starters and a case of sections in an hour or two after hiving, when they will be clustered and the queen will not be apt to go in the sections as when first hived. The bees say, "this case of sections which also has only starters, draws a large force from below, leaving just enough to build nice worker comb," which, they say, they always do, when not rushed for room to store honey. The bees have not lied to me yet.

One year I detected bits of pollen in a very few sections, and I sent and got fifty queen excluder honey boards, intending to experiment with that number. To my surprise, next day, when about to apply my experiment, I found my bees engaged at a mass meeting, passing unanimous

resolutions against those honey boards or any other tomfoolery; and, as I neared the apiary, they sent out a committee to meet and entered their protest. I told the committee that the evidence was sufficient, and those honey boards remain to this day boxed up just as they came from the factory.

Never at any other time than that particular one have I been bothered to any extent with pollen in sections. My hives are nine inches high, with top bars three-eighths of an inch thick, with three eighths of an inch space between the frames. Friend D., I can't condense this letter so as to get into it my entire opinion regarding your valuable article, "Why is it?" but will try and answer the rest soon.

Yours etc.,

JOHN F. GATES.

(Ovid, Erie Co., Pa.)

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

LITERARY AND THEORETICAL BEEKEEPING.

MR. EDITOR.—Because the Editors of Bee Journals do not care about or do not recognize the difference between dollar-and-cent and literary honey-producers, a theoretical beekeeper can often write better than a practical one who is successful; but his writings are of no value to the novice who desires to make money out of bees, rather than revel in the mazy field of literature.

Much depends in the locality and honey flow at the time and place where the caging is done. Perhaps Mr. France is not sure of repeated success etc, and I will predict that in five years Mr. France will not be found practising any such matter.

Regarding results with natural and artificial swarming, everything depends upon the operator, the locality, the kind of bee, and the character of the honey flow. Novices had better, and surely always do follow natural swarming alone.

Because they entertain the erroneous idea that it is cheapest to use large hives, and fuss and labor with the queen, than to have two queens to the same amount of combs by using small hives, they think

capital is invested in queens when it is nearly all in combs. The only time to push the work of the queen is when, from death of bees, we are left with more combs than queens. You see a great advantage again in small brood chambers.

Bees use quantity and quality are usually shy of each other; there is more dirt than diamonds in the world. In the selection of comb honey the smaller brood departments are best. In such the bees are more liable to swarm; but "the game is not up." Aside from the labor of watching and caring for the swarms, I would rather they would swarm than not; the act inspires the workers with new energy, and if the swarm is hived in a small brood chamber, supplied with combs or full foundation, and their surplus receptacles transferred to them, no better condition can exist. I think it must be because the "hive" being young at the business, having always had comb and foundation to use, they have not learned to manipulate right in order to get worker combs almost exclusively by the use of starters only. We used to do it. We had to do it; and necessity is the mother of invention. Hutchinson's book tells how to do it. I have successfully practiced the tiering up system for a quarter of a century, and cannot imagine how any beekeeper who is worthy of the name can get the best results that way. If so, there must be some strange difference in climates or in the character and habits of the bee, or in the flow, or some other condition which I do not understand. Much of it may depend upon the difference in the yield of pollen in different localities and still further much may depend upon management.

Well, because so much of this "instruction" comes from men who should be receiving it instead of supplying others with what they have in such limited supply. But it can't be helped. Somewhere the novice should receive that instruction which will enable him to correctly determine whether the literary instructor is writing from an apiary on the ground or from one in his mind.

J. HEDDON.

Dowagiac, Mich., March 1893.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE WALKERTON PICTURE, ETC.

MR. EDITOR,—As a good deal has been said about the Walkerton picture, and as I have been one of the grumblers myself, I think it is my duty, in justice to the photographer, to say that, after waiting about three and a half months, I received what is very good value for the seventy-five cents I gave him. I certainly admit that it was a very agreeable surprise to me to have such a fine picture of my old companions. I could easily recognize every one of them, except a very few new faces, without reference to the names below. It is a souvenir that will be long cherished by me.

My bees are still in their winter repository. The weather is too cold, wet and windy at this date (April 27th) to let them out yet.

I wonder how the new race of bees Mr. Clement purposes to have this summer would suit down east here. Perhaps he can infuse enough electricity into them to enable them to heat up the air so as to start vegetation a little earlier than nature has arranged for. Who are we to address our orders to—Mr. Clement or Mr. Sher-
rington? Of course Mr. C. is the "grafter;" but as Mr. S. is already in the queen business, perhaps they may amalgamate.

Yours, etc.

W. J. BROWN.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

NEW BEEKEEPING PATENTS.

The following is a list of patents issued to April 26th, 1893, from the United States Patent Office, Washington, D.C. :—

Device for casting bilateral artificial honey-comb. Paul Wornstorf, Buslar, Germany. Filed May 4th, 1893.

Claim.—In devices for casting bilateral artificial honey comb the combination of two plates having the core pins and the two stripper plates having hexagonal holes fitting over the core pins as described and shown.

Shipping case for honey. Terance Mo-Manua, Sexton, Ind. Filed Nov. 27th, 1891. Renewed, March 8th, 1893.

Claim.—1. The combination with honey sections provided with projections, of a shipping case, provided at opposite sides with stretched wires engaged by said projections and forming a cushion between the honey sections and the shipping case and supporting the former, substantially as described.

2. A shipping case provided on opposite sides with intermediate and outer rows of pins and having wires arranged on the pins and forming inverted triangular yielding supports and having re-entering bases, combined with the honey sections provided at their sides with projections arranged near the ends of the same and adapted to engage the triangular supports, substantially as described.

The honey sections provided with projections combined with the casing having supporting wires arranged on pins and laced across the sides of the case and forming a yielding support adapted to be engaged by the projections, substantially as described.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

BEEKEEPERS' REPORTS.

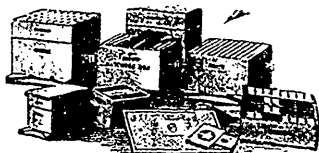
Mr. W. A. Chrysler of Chatham (April 17th) writes us as follows:—"My bees have wintered well, and are now very strong. Pollen was first noticed on the 3rd April. Last year I first noticed pollen on the 26th March. Nearly all the bees in this section of the country are wintered out of doors. There are no cellars to speak of in this flat and mild portion of the province for wintering bees. I have noticed that the dark grades of honey have caused a great many bees to die during the winter, while the lighter and well-ripened honey has fetched them through in good condition. Although we had a steady cold winter the bees consumed no more, if indeed quite as much, stores as in a mild winter."

A. E. Sherrington of Walkerton says (April 18):—"The bees brought in natura

pollen to-day. It is the latest I have on record for a number of years."

Mr. John Dunn of Willowdale writes:—"Three colonies of my bees wintered well outside packed in chaff. Two that were wintered in the cellar came out in bad condition, one of which I have since lost. No more cellar for me."

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MR. H. L. JONES, of Goodna, Queensland, is our agent for Australia and adjacent British colonies and will receive subscriptions at the rate of five shillings per annum postpaid.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

BEETON, ONT., MAY 1, 1893.

EDITORIAL.

Mr. S. Corneil, Lindsay, secretary of the O.B.A., is in receipt of a letter enclosing \$1 from Walton, Ont. There is no name attached to the letter, consequently it is quite impossible for Mr. Corneil to credit the proper person with the amount. If this should meet the eye of the sender, it will be in order for him to forward his name to Mr. Corneil at once.

We referred in last issue to the two catalogues issued by Mr. F. W. Jones, of Bedford, Que., in English and French, the latter as we presumed the first publication of the kind in this country in the French language. We find we were mistaken, having received one quite recently from the Goold, Shapley and Muir Company (Ltd) of Brantford, in which we are informed that "pour augmenter leurs relations avec les apiculteurs francais, ils ont resolu

de publier un supplement en langue francaise." Vous allez a bon pas, Messieurs, et nous esperons que le chiffre de vos affaires s'augmentera jusqu'a l'autre 50 par cent. The catalogue is neatly got up, and is well printed.

O O O

That the weather we have been having here is not a novelty by any means, we quote from the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL of June 12, 1889:—"It has rained here almost incessantly since the 21st May, and we have had *terribly cold weather*, so much so that the bees have had but half a day in which they could fly without danger of being chilled."

Hints to Amateur Beekeepers.

Having been a constant reader of the *Horticulturist* since its initial number was sent out, I have noted with pleasure its steady improvement, until now it is a credit to the editor, the publisher, and the society whose organ it is. I am satisfied of the wisdom of devoting a portion of its columns to beekeeping, because of the intimate relationship that exists between bees and fruit, if for no other reason; and I trust this "new departure" will be favorably received and worthily maintained. It should be borne in mind however, that it is a different thing to write on beekeeping for a journal specially devoted to apiculture from treating the same subject in a horticultural paper. In the one case the writer addresses himself to an audience fully conversant with the practice and principles of the science, whilst in the other he speaks to people, a majority of whom are novices in the business. To be interesting and instructive, his treatment of the subject in hand must be regulated by the capacity of those for whom he writes to comprehend and appreciate what he says. Under existing circumstances, I think your correspondents should mainly confine themselves to discussing the initial steps in beekeeping, and the primary principles of apiculture. Debatable points may profitably be kept in the background until first principles are exhausted and a desire for further knowledge manifests itself.

If there be any avocation to which beekeeping may be profitably added, it is fruit growing. Farmers should keep bees, but not become beekeepers in the ordinary sense of the term. They should keep bees to supply their families with an abundance

of honey throughout the year. Beyond this, as a general rule, it will not pay them to go. The reasons for this are obvious enough; but those reasons do not apply to the professional orchardist. He can prosecute the business with as little inconvenience and as little tax upon his time as any one. The nature of his business confines him to the vicinity where his bees will be kept. In the season he will be on hand to capture and hive his swarms as they issue, and then resume his work. He can harvest his honey without interfering much with his other duties. This is usually done after small fruit is marketed and before the harvesting of larger fruit begins. Then he has a good deal of spare time in winter, a part of which may be devoted to hive-making and other appliances used in the business of beekeeping. As a rule, he will make a better beekeeper than the farmer, because he is more accustomed to attend to details in small things, which counts not a little in the successful management of bees. Apart from the beneficial results accruing from the work of bees or fruit bloom, most fruit growers may considerably augment their income by adding beekeeping to their business.

All this by way of introduction as to the best way to begin the business. It is not at all necessary—nor is it desirable—to incur a heavy outlay in starting; on the contrary, it would be unwise to do so. Bees multiply so fast that their increase will keep pace with the growing knowledge of their keeper on managing them. In time the problem with most people is, how to prevent becoming over well stocked. Two stocks are quite enough to begin with. These should be bought in the spring, and, if possible, purchased from a reliable neighbor. There is no extravagance in paying a good price for them, provided they are strong in bees and well provided with food against the time of need. A strong working force is the secret of getting honey. It is absurd to expect large results from a small working party. One strong hive is worth half a dozen weak ones. To collect and store honey in a short time—and the honey season is short—there must be a large working force in the field. A hive of bees is valuable or otherwise, just in proportion to its numerical strength, coupled with the presence of a young and vigorous queen. The novice will not be in a position to make a wise selection—hence, the wisdom in purchasing from one in whose honesty he has confidence. The price should be a secondary consideration; low priced things are seldom cheap. When approaching a man with the view of making a first purchase, don't do so with the question, "What do

you want for a hive of bees?" As well ask him, "What price do you ask for a cow?" There is just as much difference in the value of one hive of bees as compared with another, as there is between one cow as compared with another. Some of both are dear at any price.

The beginner should start with not more than two or three stocks. He should commence in the spring. He will consult his own interest by buying from a man whose reputation for honesty is unquestioned. He should bargain for the best, and be prepared to pay a good price. This being done he may reasonably expect two swarms from each stock by the middle of August. For these he should provide hives similar to those in which the parent stock are, and which may be purchased from almost any supply dealer. He should subscribe for the Canadian Bee Journal and provide himself with one or other of the standard books on beekeeping advertised in its columns. The rest may be left for his zeal in the work, or his inquisitive disposition to find out.—R. MCKNIGHT, in *Canadian Horticulturist*.

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BEES FOR SALE.

I am instructed to sell 35 Stocks of Bees, now in first-class condition. They are in hanging frame hives, in which, for several successive winters, the bees have come through in prime condition, attributable to the way the hive is ventilated. On account of their present prosperous condition, these bees will be profitable the coming season, if there is honey to be gathered. Supers for both comb and extracted honey. Bees delivered F. O. B. here any time up to May 25th. Correspondence solicited.

S. CORNEIL.

Lindsay, March 28, 1893.

13

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| 2 Frame Nuclei with any queen, | \$1.50 each, extra. | |

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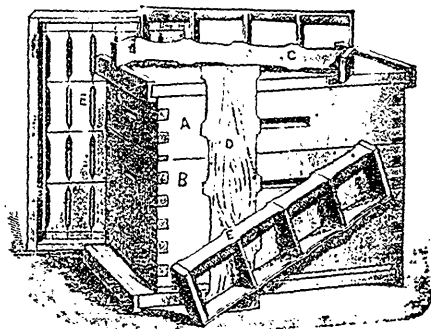
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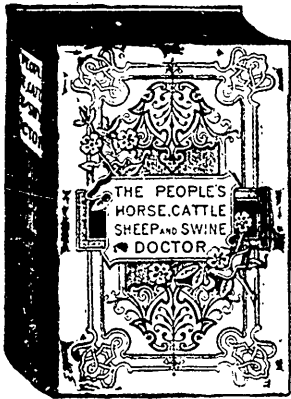
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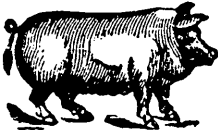
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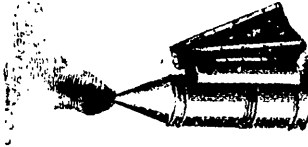
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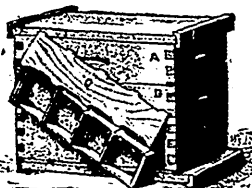
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