

The bee-hive. Vol. 3, No. 2 May, 1888

Andover, CT: E.H. Cook, May, 1888

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PUBLISHED FOR AND IN THE INTEREST OF BEE-KEEPERS, BY ONE OF THEM. -----ANDOVER, CONN., MAY, 1888. NO. 2 VOL. 3.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

A BEE'S SOLILOQUY.

BY JOHN JAMIESON.

A host of beemen in the land, And quite an intellectual band; There's Miller, Pond and Larrabee, And Hutchinson and Demarce.

Doolittle stands away up high And very few with him can vie. There's Boardman, Hilton, Muth and Hyde, And A. I. Root right by their side

With apiarian supplies; He's kind to us and ought to rise; Good feature of his shop, each day At noon they read and sing, and pray.

His A B C is full of food And for beginners more than good; He would not tramp upon a bee Unless he's so he can not see.

Besides James Heddon, none, perhaps, m. Has got so many handy traps; He's done a great and useful part In furthering the beeman's art.

Professor Cook for legs and wings, And tongues and glands, and eyes and stings, The little creatures he dissects And with his microscope inspects,

and tells us much we can not see About the wondrous little bee: does not make the honey flow, But then it's very nice to know.

journalism Newman's best, Not that it's older than the rest, at correspondence far and wide, Bee literature flows in a tide.

We must not pass the wee BEE-HIVE, Although 'tis small 'tis all alive: It teaches much by conversation, A pleasant way for information.

spicy, well conducted sheet, Well filled with solid beey meat, With now and then a stroke of fun Which always pleases when well done.

That's where my little song is sent And with the BEE-HIVE I'm content: I try to give my feelings vent,

But much I say's not worth a cent.

Root's Gleanings is among the best, It circulates from East to West.

From North to South it's on the wing And has a genuine moral ring.

To increase the business Root's done more Than all the beemen gone before,

In this great work he leads the van, He is the popular beeman.

The cat bird and the oriole First come along and make the hole, And by and by we come and sip,

Our mandibles a grape can't rip.

Such ignorance should be ashamed For we are innocently blamed: We're watched and tried in every way

But no one yet can guilty say.

We carry pollen from flower to flower And scatter life's germs in a shower; The fruit-trees blossom fruitfully, And then comes plenty by and by.

Some of them sadly us provoke With their malicious fumes of smoke; Some take too many stores away And leave us starving night and day.

Had I the power for just year I'd make some beemen shake with fear.

If bees would only render aid Upon them we would make a raid,

And make them jump and squeal with pain, And wish they ne'er had bees again. It only needs strong combination

To hasten our emancipation.

We've been in slavery far too long. Let's burst the chains however strong And tell the world that we are free, Hurrah! Hurrah! for Liberty.

West Toledo, Ohio.

(Continued next month.)

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"Beainner's Corner. 🤉

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N most localities bees will now commence breeding rapidly, and the beginner will need to look over his stocks once a week to see that they are supplied with plenty of honey, for not much dependence can be placed on what little they will gather before fruit-bloom.

Keep each stock tucked up as warmly as possible, and do not examine them except when you think they are in need of extra frames or honey.

is the completed queen-cell, wherein Nature transforms the worm-like larva into a finely developed and perfect queen. C, shows the cap end of the cell hanging down, which indicates that "her majesty" has hatched out and is probably being escorted about the hive by her admiring subjects. who are so much afraid of her being in want of refreshments that each one of her escorts tries to feed her at the same time. What a contrast between queen and worker is here given. When the worker emerges from her cell sheis jostled here and there by the hurrying throng, unless she gets her head part-

The Southern amateur apiarist is probably having his first experience in hivin g swarms about this time, and as he would like to know how the bees get ready to "move out," I will try and tell how they do it. After they have a



center of the comb we see two bees just at the wonders about then. As I have now shown you how the queens are raised, we will see what is the next step toward swarming. After the bees have started a number of queen-cells, and before they are ready to seal up on they will, if the weather is favorable, At A, is a queen-cell showing swarm out and alight on some tree of Sometimes they are delayed

cell having honey at the bottom, when they can run over her as they please, for she will not back out till her meal is finished.

way down a

E, shows a cell that has been tom down on one side. In the

good stock of drones on hand and the poking their heads forth to have alook hive begins to get crowded with bees, they commence to start queen-cells, which differ from the drone and worker-cells in size, a queen-cell being the size of three ordinary worker-cells, and extending beyond the surface of the comb, when capped, about one-half inch. a little larva, floating in an abundance bush. of milky food called "royal jelly." This by rainy or cool weather till the cells food is supplied so liberally to these are ready to hatch. If you examine little larvæ that are intended for the hive from which the swarm came queens, that it can often be found in you will find a number of queen-cells. the bottom of the cell after the queen Remove all but one, placing them in a has hatched. The cell at B, shows nuclei to hatch, and you will get some to one that is ready to cap over. At D, nice queens.-Worker BEE.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

THE

Beginner's Play - Ground in May.

MOMPEL yourself to play among your bees in May, and the bees will compel you to work in caring for them during the rest of the season. An invoice of your stocks now, will show some that are very weak, others fair, and still others quite strong. Plenty of the proper care apbied now will make the wear out of the fair stronger, and the strong to a swarm, and all by the first of June.

s

Neglect them all at this season and vour pocket-book must suffer ! Which shall it be, care or neglect? If this is your first season with bees, you can as have no idea as to what an exhilara-the bard, some June morning, as fast as al min drops; for him to be able to real-^{ine} that it was simply care and fore-^a sight, on his part, that has built them

as ap. Begin work to-day ! rn Get in readiness a clean, well paint-ne d hive, and see to it that no nails, he wrews, hinges or other belongings he memissing. The time for your next ee we will depend somewhat upon the ist reather. If too cool to handle bees, ok pend the time in preparing more we were; but if the day is warm enough and in the bees to fly freely, you are to at ok them over at once. Remove a es took from its stand, and place in its us, wad your clean hive. Take out the up ombs, bees and all, from the old hive ^{or} Juse. Combs that have dead bees ^{ed} anging to them must be thoroughly ^{lls} aushed. See to it that the frames ine fliving bees are arranged in the new ne parters in exactly the same order as le m found them. This is important, in sno valuable larvæ can be allowed to ^{me} come chilled now, as might be the would destroy the wax cells at once. ^{see should you set a frame of bees} You now have the means of feeding

at one side of the hive, and away from the other bees. As you set the bees into the hive, you are to take particular notice regarding their number and stores.

If the latter be about used up you can supply their needs now very easily. Simply hang in a frame of honey at one side of, and close up to the cluster of bees; or if the bees are numerous enough to be occupying five or six combs, it will be safe and a little better to spread the cluster and hang the honey in their midst. You say you have no frames of honev? What! not even a few that a dead stock may have left? Well, my friend, please don't allow this to happen again, but for the present you must do the next best thing.

Fly around now, and make a syrup from any common sugar. I should say use granulated sugar in the fall, but a poorer quality will answer in spring. Bring the water to a boiling point and then add sugar as long as it will dissolve readily. This done, remove from the stove and allow it to cool. While the syrup is cooling, hunt up some extra combs that will fit your hives. None of these either? Then go to the hive that you were working at and take out those combs that are empty, and are not covered with bees; and don't forget to put on the honeyboard when you leave them, even if you are in a great hurry.

By resting one end of the comb in a pan, and keeping the comb in a slanting position, you can pour the syrup from a small pitcher on the upper end and have it trickle along down the frame, filling the cells beautifully all along the path of the stream. The slower you pour the better the cells will fill. In this manner fill the combs two-thirds full, or as full as is practical without spending too much time. Care must be taken in this operation to use no hot syrup, as warm liquid

your swarm until they are able to gather nectar from the fields.

After closing the hive and gathering up scattered tools, next move will be to clean the hive just emptied and prepare it for swarm No. 2. You should keep right at this house cleaning for the bees until every swarm has been cared for. You will often find from a cupful to two quarts of dead, mouldy bees on the bottom of these hives and after cleaning out a few such houses it will need no orator to convice you that you have accomplished more in a few minutes than the bees would in weeks, say nothing of the needed stores that you may have Where you have had chaff supplied. or porous mats covering the brood chamber during the winter you should remove them now and substitute enameled mats or honey-boards.

C. H. SMITH. Pittsfield, Mass.

Cappings From Our Extractor.

I enclose 30 cts. for which send me the BEE HIVE. I have kept bees for thirty years and the greatest disaster I have ever experienced in bee culture is foul brood. I have tried the phenol treatment to no purpose. I have now transferred them to new hives. etc. and am in hopes of getting cleared of it. I saw in the sample copy you sent me an article on hunting bees which was continued, that stimulated me to subscribe for your valuable paper. I take great delight in hunting bees and am in hopes to get some hints that may be of help in the art. Bees have at times been bringing in pollen since the tenth.

C. M. D., Denison, Texas. Feb. 27, 1888.

[Driving the bees infected out of their hive into a new one, fastening them in for 24 hours without food and destroying all honey and brood of the diseased colony, is said to be a cure for this disease.—ED.]

The weather is very fine here now and bees are doing finely, gathering pollen from the maple and wild-flowers. Bees came through the winter in splendid condition; there are but few losses reported.

J. E. S., Friedens, Va.

Enclosed find P. Note for which please send me the BEE-HIVE for another year. The subscription price is so small compared with the information it contains I don't think it economy for bee-keepers to dispense with Elias Fox. Wis. it.

The prospects are good for a honeycrop, for we have had plenty of rain. Bees are storing from the black sage My first swarm came out yesnow. We have no bee-keepers' asterday. sociation here; it seems as though the bee-keeper here is all for himself. will let you hear from me later, and give you a short sketch of a San Diego Co. Calif. apiary. S. B.

San Diego, Calif., Mar. 30.

You are making a choice magazine of the BEE-HIVE and cramming it full of help to beginners in the delightful You must be art of bee-keeping. busy as a bee yourself and have Apis Mellifica's bump of natural selection to gather so much that is good in so J. B. C., Conn. small a compass. **************

Our Question BOX.

In this department subscribers are invited to ask practical questions on bee-culture.

I would like to know the proper size of th board used to stand in front of the hive in winter if it ought to be as wide as the hive and ho many inches from the hive the bottom ought to be placed.

Also the construction of the dummies Mr. Doollie tle uses in his hive, wherein they differ from A. J. W. common division-board.

The shade board should be about 2x3 feet and the bottom placed at sufficient distance from the hive to allow of its standing firmly.

They are made of 3 inch boards the size of the inside of the hive with top bar nailed to the upper edge.

Sweets From Every Field

UR editor evidently "put his foot in it" when he made that remark about Dr. Tinker and his opinion of the Heddon hive. However, if every remark of friend Cook's brings out an article of as much merit as the one by Mr. Stiles, we will forgive him. Mr. Stiles is evidently one of Mr. Heddons admirers and has made out a pretty good case, but our Ed. is not alone in his distrust, e. g., Mr. J. M. Hamburg and Messrs. Dadants give some good points in A. B. J. of March 28. Mr. Heddon has reported a loss of half the bees in his vicinity this winter. We wonder if any of them were in Heddon hives.

[Here is what Mr. Heddon says in a late number of A. B. J.:

"Surely the reports published on page 253, of those who have my New Hive in practical use, give sufficient reply to the criticisms by Messrs. Hambaugh and Dadant, on page 199. Those reports also *settle* the question of its merits, and hereafter it will only be necessary to discuss the best way to use it."

I see you don't understand the object of the Heddon hive for wintering bees, friend Apis. It is to prevent overstocking (?), for you see that Mr. H. says its *merits* are already settled. -ED.

"Except for the rabbets, then, our hive is only a simple box. Such, in my judgement, is the ideal hive." —Prof. Cook in Api. We believe the Prof. has tried the Heddon hive.

The rage for foreign races of bees seems to be abating, and Prof. Cook on p. 220 of A. B. J. for Apr. 4 is, perhaps unknowingly, giving the brown bees or black race a great puff when he says, "They cap their honey thicker, * * * are very ready to go into the sections at the dawn of the honeyharvest." However, isn't it a pleasure

to open a hive of Italians after wading through a row of blacks. No running or flying and no danger of robbers.

Under the head of "Packing bees for winter," a writer in A. B. J. for Mch. 28 says: "Any top ventilation is always attended with injury to bees." Why speak with so much certainty about a thing of which the writer evidently knows nothing? Personally we would not dispense with it. We have just been looking 57 colonies packed last fall on the summer stands and every one is alive and *none weak*. Many of them have four or five frames solid with brood to-day, April 10th.

In the answers to Query 44 in *Gleanings*, twelve say use sections with starters from last year's stock, three are doubtful, while only one, Mr. Elwood, says *no*.

The long talked of great invention which the editor of the Canadian B. J. had made has at last been placed before the public. It is nothing more nor less than *another* section case with honey-board combined. We can not see that it is going to make bee-keeping any more of a pleasure than before nor lighten labor.

The discussion on "hibernation" reminds us of the story of the chameleon. One thought it black, another white, while a third said it was green. What matters it whether it is black, white, or green; hibernation, quiescence, quietude, or sleep. If Rev. Clarke will tell us how to secure hibernation, or Dr. Miller how to winter successfully, we will pardon their words making a distinction where there is no difference.

"It is an old saying and a true one that it takes more honey to spring bees than to winter them."

2 I

Wanted.—A recipe to cure the robbers. Must be immediate and sure. X

Another new invention — and one too which will surely revolutionize beekeeping(?)—is the one-side cell comb fdn. as invented by one Koerbs, in When we all use this Germany. comb for taking extracted honey the reversible extractors will be at a discount!

We find that the 3-8 inch space between brood-frames and super is more than is necessary and that an accurate 1-4 inch is almost absolutely free from brace combs, despite the assertion of the editor of the A. B. J. that 1-4 inch is "not large enough for passage ways." A bee can pass through holes almost 3-16.

Friend W. M. Barnum, of BEE-HIVE fame, as usual is very enthusiastic over the prospects. He says in C. B J.: "Shall prepare for unusual heavy honey crops." We hope he and all others as interested, will have their anticipations realized.

APIS AMERICANA.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

The Best Hive and System G. W. DEMAREE.

HAVE been requested to describe my hive and system through the columns of the BEE-HIVE for the y benefit of its readers. As I am not a supply dealer I feel free to do this because I am conscious of the fact that I am not writing up my "supplies" on the "sly" as do the "patent bee- inch to the depth of the body to make up gum" men and, I am sorry to say, too many others.

I do not claim to have "invented a hive," though my hive has as many features peuliar to itself and differing from other bee-hives as do any of the board) than the body of the hive as patent "bee-gums" with which I am acquainted. By long and close obser- three 2-inch strips are used, one of a

vation I have gradually systemized and combined the best bee-hive features so far as I have been able to judge. The old Simplicity hive was a commencement in the right direction. but its miter joints and its beveled tops and bottoms make it impractical to further progression in bee-hive system. Nevertheless it has served its purpose as a stepping-stone to a higher plain in bee-hive construction and manipulation.

I use the Standard Langstroth frame which is 173x92; but by a little figuring my hive system can be applied to any size frame in use. I use dressed lumber, white pine or yellow poplar, just 7 of an inch thick, and from this standard thickness every I use a part of the hive is made. horse power and also have a "foot". power with which all my stuff is accurately cut out ready for nailing, the latter is used to do all odd jobs, repairing, etc.

HOW I MAKE MY HIVES, &C.

The body of my hive is a plain box 3 of an inch deeper than the outside depth of the frame and the end pieces are rabbeted just 1 inch to receive the projecting ends of the frames, which the are gauged at their ends to 5-16 of a inch. This arrangement adjusts the the frames in a central position in the body of the hive, leaving one half of the mechanical bee-space (3-16 of a inch) above the top bars of the frames that and the same below the bottom-bars it For a-10 frame Standard L. hive I th make the body 181 in. long, 141 wide in and 91 deep in the clear. Most al a lumber will shrink a little and hence he it is better to add about 1-16 of a m up the loss by shrinkage.

The bottom-board I make by cut an ting a board just as wide as the inside and of the hive and four inches longer (the ha odd four inches is for the alighting an For the rim around the bottom-board is

each side edge of the board and one at the back. They are nailed on in such a way as to make a rim $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch above the plain of the board and $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch from the plain of the board on the opposite side. This gives me a reversible bottom - board with which the amount of space under the frames can be enlarged by reversing the bottom-board.

My section cases are made just the same size as the top of the body of the hive and is simply a shallow box 3 of an inch deeper than the sections used. I use sections $4\frac{1}{4}x4\frac{1}{4}$, therefore my cases are just 48 inches in depth. To support the sections in the case tin supports are secured in saw kerfs, just 3-16 of an inch from the bottom edges of the case. At the sides of the case the tin supports on which the in T rails rest are not more than one inch long. Three tin T rails are used to support the middle tiers of sections. It will be foreseen that when the case s filled with sections the mechanical the space is divided, being half (3-16) le at the top of the sections and the same at the bottom. The shallow frame tering cases for taking honey from the combs with the honey machine, at the combs with the honey machine, at the made the same size as the top of the body of the hive, but only $5\frac{1}{4}$ he inches deep and take in frames just 4 inches deep.

This depth for the shallow tiering tames was chosen by me because two is them will go side by side in the ex-I tactor reel made for the standard L. the tame. The half depth frames are all djusted in the case so as to divide the mechanical bee-space—half at the an up and same at the bottom. My the usen-excluding horizontal divisionourd is made of a sheet of perforated and the state of the size of the outer ditact cut just the size of the outer ditact cut just the size of the outer ditact cut just the size of the body (brood the samber) of the hive. It has a woodng arim around it so as to divide the interaction of the plain of the metal sheet of teach side of the same. Dr. Tink-

er's wood and zinc honey board with a rim around it as above described so as to accord with my hive system will The cheapest and work all right. most accurate way to "rim" the zinc sheets (or even a wood slatted honeyboard) is to employ 8 pieces cut 2-16x 7-8. Have two of them just the length of the sheet of perforated zinc; and two just the width of the sheet less the width of the two long pieces; and two just the width of the sheet, and two just the length of the sheet less the width of the two long end pieces. Four pieces go on each side of the sheet, giving a lap-joint at the corners; when nailed firmly with small wire nails and clinched, the rim is as nearly perfect as the most costly plan could make it.

MANIPULATING THE HIVE.

The bottom - board rests on four stakes driven into the ground, the two front stakes being a little lower than the back ones, so as to drain the bottom-board of any water that may blow in at the entrance. The body of the hive sits on the rim of the bottomboard, and each sectional part of the hive fits the top of the brood-chamber, or each other, with a square joint.

In the winter the bees are confined to the brood department by spreading a cloth over the frames, lapping on the edges of the top of the brood-chamber, then an empty case is set on and partly filled with some good absorbent. In a cold climate a cheap outer case can be used to hold the necessary packing around the hive, but that is not necessary in my locality.

BEGINNING OF THE HONEY SEASON.

At the beginning of the honey season the queen-excluding division board is placed on the brood-chamber, and if the object is comb-honey, a section case is adjusted on the rim of the queen-excluder. A cloth is spread over the top of the case and then goes on the plain, cleated flat hive cover, and over this the shade and storm board. As soon as the sections are half or two-thirds filled the case is raised and an empty case is adjusted in its stead, and it is tiered on the empty one. This tiering up goes on through the honey season, the honey being removed at the top as fast as it is finished.

WHEN TAKING HONEY FROM THE COMB.

I use both the shallow tiering cases and the standard sized bodies of the hive. They work over the queen-excluders just like the section cases. Early in the season I commence with a shallow case, and when this is nearly filled I raise it, and if the colony is very strong, I put a full size super under it, and if not so strong another shallow case is used. By the use of these shallow tiering cases I have perfect control of all my colonies, weak or strong, and I never take a pound of honey till all is sealed and thoroughly evaporated by the bees.

If I could always have a supply of the shallow cases I would rarely ever use the standard size frames for surplus and I would never use the latter only when connected with the shallow The shallow case system gives cases. me much less hand labor, as I handle They are taken off them in bulk. when full of honey and set in a dark closet for the bees to return home, after which the honey is extracted and the case is ready to go back on the hive.

» COMIC*HITS. ₩

Christiansburg, Ky.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

Effects of the Blizzard.

RIEND COOK :- Notice came that my time had expired on the that my time had expired on the BEE-HIVE; can not have that dis-continued. No sir, better say give up bee-keeping. I don't see any notice in last number of BEE-HIVE about Rose Cottage Apiary (owned by E. H. Cook.) Can't you tell us in your next number how your bees wintered? My bees were in extra good shape the Saturday before that blizzard came, but that used up about every bee that was in L. hives. I have four stocks that are in the Bristol hive (it is a chaff hive) and I think it is the best hive I ever saw. If you never see any of the Bristol hives, the next time you go to Willimantic just call on friend Trowbridge; he will be glad to show you one. Although they use a $10\frac{3}{4} \ge 12\frac{1}{2}$ frame—a very nice frame to handle— I made a larger brood-nest for mine, and put my L. frames, bees, etc., into them last fall. I like them so well that I have made four this winter, and shall give them a good trial this coming season. Can use 2, 4 or 6 honeyracks to a hive; each rack holds 16 sections. I think they are the hive for me. Saw pollen coming in March 28. Can you beat that?

L. J. WALDO.

Merrow, Conn., Apr. 11.

The effects of the snow on my bees were nearly similar to yours. The Saturday before it came, they were m the best condition I ever had bees at that time of year, and I was inclined to rejoice thereat; but it was premature. The 19th of April I looked over my stocks (this was the first day warm enough to do so), and though I found but four dead, nearly all of the others had lost from one-fourth to one-third. I had but two stocks in chaff hives. One of these was very strong and the other no stronger than those in single walled hives. Your report of pollen is the earliest for this State.-ED.]



"Begorrah! I thort that blizzard had finished me base, bad luck ter the tormints !"

Written for the Bee-Hive.

A Correction.

N page two of April BEE-HIVE (an unusually good number) the beginner is instructed to unite a colony found without eggs. Let me give you an incident in my own experience. Nearly thirty years ago I found a colony in spring with neither brood nor eggs. I set the few frames with bees in another hive having brood and eggs. The next day it occurred to me that possibly they had a queen after all, and I set the frames back again (it was so cool the bees had not mixed) and gave them a comb with pollen. The queen went to laying and proved good.

They were simply eggless because without pollen. The advice given is good in general, but it is well for beginers to look out for the exceptions. If no eggs, look for pollen before miting.

DR. C. C. MILLER. Marengo, Ill., Apr. 11.

[Thank you Doctor, for the correction. I hope every reader will feel free to correct any errors that may appear; for much valuable information is often brought out in this manner.]

Written for the Bee-Hive.

Spring Management.

PRIZE ESSAY, NUMBER THREE.

J. L. HYDE.

PRESUME that your offer of two queens for an article on "Hints for Beginners," would mean beginners that had never kept bees and wish to start an apiary now. My advice to meth would be to get a practical beebook and study it; for whoever wishes to start an apiary in this age of the world must give some time to the sublet. Get your supplies ready; make four hives, and have them all of one ize—the L. frame I think is nearest the standard. I like a large two-story

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is

hive best, such as I have illustrated in a back number of the BEE-HIVE.

Make two division-boards to each hive, so you can pack and keep the brood warm in spring and your bees that are wintered outdoors, for it does not pay to winter a few colonies indoors as the cost would be too much for a beginner to undertake. When it gets warm enough to buy a few colonies of bees in your vicinity, in old box-hives if you can buy them cheap, then transfer them, for this will give you a little experience in manipulating You will have a little trouble in bees. this transferring business that you don't read about, and one trouble will be in making your comb stay inside of the frame. If you use sticks or tins they will drop out or be in the way, and if you use strings they will cut into the comb or the bees will pick them in two.

But I have in mind a way that I think would hold the comb in, even if it was all in small pieces, better than any thing I have used. You want first to get frames that have no wire in them, then buy a little poultry netting and cut it in pieces that will just go around the frame and fasten, but not getting it so wide that it will reach by the ends of the frame. When you are ready to transfer get a wide board, and after you have tacked one side of this poultry netting to the upper side of the top-bar of your frame, lay it down flat on this board (or some other level surface) with the netting underneath; then after you have filled the frame full of comb bring the netting over and tack to the other side of the top-bar. When you have it all finished it will have the appearance of pieces of comb caged up inside of the frame.

I will further add that if you have not comb enough to fill a frame and you can not get the under part of your comb so you can spring a stick underneath the comb, from end-bar to end-bar, so as to hold it up against the top-bar, you want to take a few strips of tin, having them long enough so you can fasten one end onto the wire netting above the underside of the comb on one side, and then poke the tin around under the comb, and bend the other end over the wire in the same way, above the other side of your wire netting. You want to use strips about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide, so as not to cut into the comb. Wide strips of cloth would do if you have no tin.

After the bees have well fastened the comb you can take your netting and tin off. If there is not much honey coming in you had better feed. Feeding will not hurt bees in spring. But if you want the full benefit of the feeding you must know when the honey-harvest is coming, and feed your bees six weeks previous to this time: say about the first of April for fruitbloom; first of May for clover, and so on. Feeding is not the only way of increasing bees, for if the brood-nest is not kept sufficiently warm the bees will dwindle away in spite of you. You will often see larvæ being dragged out of the hive on this account; there being too much room in the hive for the bees to keep up the desired heat.

In this case you must make the brood-nest smaller, to correspond with your bees, by taking out a few frames and moving your division-board up to the bees. Your bees should cover every frame, and when you see brood all capped over in the middle frame, place one of your outside frames next to it, and when all of the frames are filled with brood and well covered with bees, put a frame filled with comb or foundation in the center, spreading the brood-nest for this purpose. Work in this way slowly and carefully, keeping the brood-nest always warm with your winter packing till warm weather sets in, and you will soon have a fine colony of bees that will do to divide if you do not wish them to swarm naturally.

Swarming is the better way for a beginner, for if he divides he is apt to divide too much. When hiving a swarm never carry the hive to it, but take the swarm in a box or something to the hive (after you have placed the hive where you wish it to stand); shake them onto a sheet placed before the hive and they will go in if it is carefully done by dropping a few bees first, and when these start in shake the rest down on the sheet. If you want surplus honey in sections you must also keep that department of your hive warm so the bees can work the wax easily, but don't let the sun shine on that part of the hive where the sections are as to make it so hot that the bees will be forced out. There is a good deal more to be said but it will not do to make this article too long, besides if you get a good book, like A. I. Root's A B C book, you will find in that all you can remember and practice the first year; but I want to add one more item, that is to always keep your face covered with a veil, and work carefully about the hives and don't try to show off.

Pomfret Landing, Conn.

Written for the Bee-Hive. His First Swarm.

N 1868 I was called a pretty good bee-keeper, and I hired out to an apiarist to watch one hundred colonies of bees; my wages were 25 This man loaded his cts. per day. bees on wagons and had them taken 50 miles to where there was an abundance of rape. It is the best and earliest honey-producing plant growing in that part of the country. At the end of about one month the honey from that source is gathered, and the bees have to be moved to the buckwheat fields.

Then swarming begins and a fellow has to get his bread by the sweat of his brow. Right here friends, if you have not had much experience at swarming time, I would say that first or prime swarms generally come between 10 and 1 o'clock; after-swarms at any time from sunup to sundown. I have had them after sundown.

The labor which I had to do, was hiving the swarms and watching the gums. If the combs were built down to the bottom-board they had to be set up. I had them five feet high, and some of the whitest combs you ever saw. I think the black bees are better comb-builders than the Italians. In the fall I took my scales and weighed every hive. All those weighing over 30 lbs. and under 20, had to die. By digging a pit in front of every condemned hive, placing a lighted brimstoned rag in it; then setting the hive over the pit and banking dirt around it the doom of the bees was certain.

The next day a Jew would come with his wagons and buy the honey, There paying you the money for it. is no peddling or commission there Germany] as it is sold for cash; even f you had a million pounds.

W. G. HAYEN.

[Continued next month.]

Written for the Bee-Hive.

Bee-Hunting.

CHAPTER 5.

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INING bees as they leave the combs is one of the most difficult things for an amateur bee-hunter. But one who has had no experience can usually determine about which way the bees fly by carefully Then select some good watching. place a few feet from the stand, and the side opposite to that direction which the bees go. Get near the round, as then you will have the bee between you and the sky. When it ises, shade your eyes and keep your Fixed on it, as it circles around you be stand. Each circle will be larger,

and the bee will gradually move toward the tree.

Sometimes they circle clear out of sight, and often the wind carries them in the wrong direction. Don't depend on first lines. After they have made several trips they will fly from the combs almost straight toward the tree. It is policy to get them well at work before moving to a second stand, and meanwhile we may continue lining, and also timing. When timing I mark one bee with paint from one of the vials. This should be done carefully. Do not daub the bee; the slightest touch is sufficient. When the marked bee rises, note the direction of flight, and the exact time when the bee passes from sight.

Then keep your eye on the combs and see how many minutes elapse before the bee reappears. Then time it again. I have found by careful experiments that bees will, on an average, fly one mile in five minutes, and that they spend about two minutes in the tree or hive. Thus if you were one mile from the tree, the bee would be gone 12 minutes; if one-half mile, 7 minutes. Hence I deduce the following rule: From the number of minutes absent subtract two and divide the remainder by 10, the quotient will be the number of miles which you are from the tree. I have never run bees over three miles. You will easily see the advantage of knowing how far you are from the tree.

I place more dependence upon timing than on the number of bees that work on the combs, as sometimes when a mile or two from the tree, I get a large number of bees at work, and at other times when close to the tree only a few. On windy days bees may be gone longer than stated, and sometimes for unknown reasons they are gone a long while. But the tree is not apt to be farther away than the time indicated.

WILLIAM E. GOULD. Fremont, Mich.

Note.—Chapter 4, tenth line should read "uncover" the window instead of unscrew.

[Continued next month.]



Exposing Larvae.

Query No. 19. — How low temperature will half-grown larvæ stand (out of the hive) and live ? E. H——Conn.

W. M. BARNUM.

I have never taken the pains to try this experiment : consequently, don't know.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

I don't know, but under ordinary circumstances as low as it is proper to handle bees, if not kept out too long.

J. L. HYDE.

I have never tried. I should not want to leave larve out of the hive a long time with temperature at less than 60° .

S. P. YODER.

Half-grown larva is easily chilled. Just how low a temperature it takes to kill such larvæ, I am not prepared to say.

J. H. LARRABEE.

I never experimented, but should I require to keep larva out of the hive, say over night, I should take pains to keep it at about the temperature of the colony.

PROF. A. J. COOK.

No answer can be given. It depends upon the length of time the brood is kept out. Brood could be just lifted out for a moment on a very cool day, but it is never best to disturb brood except the day is warm. G. W. DEMAREE.

I can't exactly say, but some years ago some thieves robbed some hives in my apiary in the spring, on a night that was cold enough for a heavy frost. They scattered the clusters of brood on the ground, and when I made the discovery the next morning, the combs of brood were white with frost; I restored them to the bees, thinking that the brood was ruined by being chilled; but to my astonishment the brood hatched, apparently all right. I don't think that brood would stand a low temperature very long however.

Clustering Without Queen.

Query No. 20.—Will a swarm cluster if, for any reason, the queen fails to issue with the bees? T. M—Or.

J. L. HYDE.

Yes, sometimes.

J. H. LARRABEE.

Yes, though not always.

S. P. YODER. Sometimes ves, and sometimes no.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

Generally not, but I have known a swarm to cluster and remain perhaps fifteen minutes.

G. W. DEMAREE.

Sometimes they will, and somtimes they will not. I have often seen it both ways.

PROF. A. J. COOK.

Usually they cluster just the same, but rarely they will return to the hive without clustering,

W. M. BARNUM.

Sometimes, but I think it depends principally upon whether the swarm discover the absence of their queen or not.

28



By the time this number reaches subscribers we shall be ready to fill orders for G. M. Doolittle's pamphlet on "Rearing Queens." Price, 15 cts., or pamphlet and BEE-HIVE 40 cts.

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A nice way to stimulate brood-rearing at this time of year, is to hang a frame of honey in the space between the division-board and side of hive, allowing the bees access to it. Sections of poor or unsalable honey can be used to good advantage in the same manner.

That fellow who publishes a little green-coverflbee-paper down in the Nutmeg State must feel had of sore over the enterprise some bee-jourals have shown regarding the honey-plant busibase. He says:

The "honey - plant" seed business is a good wheme to reduce the surplus cash of overcred-Wous bee-keepers.

This is a sad case of "sour grapes" or a sore lead, and is a contemptible and mean insinuation at the best. We are glad to note one change in that fellow's paper, and that is the nonsense with which his columns have been filled the past six months has been left out. He must have had a queer set of "subs." If they were pleased and satisfied with such an amount of nonsense.—Manager of Apiculturist.

"That fellow" discovered his subs. were tired of "nonsense," so he gave them a little *sense*. We are sorry however, that the TRUTH caused the "Manager" to cut so comical a figure. By the way, didst ever hear that a "hit bird will flutter ?" Read the "Review" for March, brother. "Try and keep up with the times."

REV. L. L. LANGSTROTH.

It is with regret we inform our readers that the pioneer of modern bee-keeping has now reached that age where work is impossible. So freely has he given all of his improvements to the public in the past, that now, in his old age, he has almost nothing for his support. Friends, now is the time for every bee-keeper who feels willing to do something toward liquidating the debt he owes this venerable apiarist, to contribute in a manner that shall prove, "a friend in need is a friend indeed." If each one will add their mite it will never be said of bee-keepers as a class, that the one who has done more to advance the art than almost (shall we say anyone?) was given the cold shoulder in his days of need. Today is before you friends; to-morrow may be too late. Do not put off this act of restitution, it can be called nothing else; but send a postal now, to-day, to Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ills., asking for information, and our word for it, you will never have cause to regret doing so. Send Now.

We have wondered why makers of thin section fdn. cut it in strips that are too wide for the one pound box and when cut through the center are too narrow for full sized starters. The bee-keeper who pays from 50 to 60 cents a pound can ill afford to

waste a particle of it at these prices, yet what can he do? He must either cut it too small or else trim to the right size and put up with waste. Friend Larrabee of Larrabee's Point, Vt., in sending us a sample of his fdn. savs:

"I have it for sale cut in squares or strips to suit the purchaser, just right so there will be no waste or bother to purchaser in cutting it. Cutting fdn. to any size is, I think, a new idea."

Brood fdn. is usually cut to fit the frames in general use, but section fdn. has never been offered for sale This is certainly cut to size desired. the most economical shape in which to The saving of shrinkage on buy it. a 50-lb. box of section fdn. would almost or quite pay the transportation charges, to say nothing of the extra labor and inconvenience of cutting to size wanted.

ADVERTISING RATES.

As we are constantly receiving inquiries in re-gard to our rates for inserting advertisements, we give prices below. IF Terms, cash.

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Space.	1 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	12 mo.
One inch	\$.25	\$.60	\$1.00	\$1.50
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Four inches	.90	2.05	3.60	4.50
One column	1.50	2.80	5.40	8.00

E. H. COOK, Andover, Conn.

Exchange Notices.

Exchanges will be inserted for Subscribers free. Any thing savoring of an advertisement will find place in the waste-basket.

WANTED.—To exchange eggs from thorough-bred Pekin ducks for patent hives or a 100 egg incubator. If you have either write. Otis Callahan, Wellsboro, Penn.

WANTED.—To exchange 1 cloth-bound copy of A B C (new) for Quinby's New Bee-Keeping; also a "Young Naturalist" microscope for "Bees and Honey," by Newman. Write first. Jacob T. Timpe, Grand Ledge, Mich.

WANTED.—To exchange Cuthbert or Hansell raspberry plants for Italian queens or nuclei. J. B. Clarke, Barkhamsted, Conn.

WANTED.—To exchange a Lamb Knitting Ma-chine, nearly as good as new, for aplarian supplies: sections, shipping cases, hives, etc. A. Jennie Wilson, Macedon, N. Y.

WANTED.—To exchange a double barrel, muz-zle-loading shot-gun in good order, price & for Wyandotte or Patridge Cochin fowls. Write. Harker Bros., Hornerstown, N. J.

WANTED.—To exchange instructions in elec-tro-silver plating, with and without battery, for instructions in rubber stamp work. Would exchange for other useful articles. Write. Chas. Everts, Gould, 0.

WANTED.—To exchange bees and queens for printing-press and outfit, or offers. G. D. Black, Brandon, Iowa.

WANTED. — To exchange chaff hives, with standing or Langstroth frames; also one 4-frame honey-extractor (new) for bees-wax, honey, or offers. Mrs. Oliver Cole, Sherburne, N.Y.

WANTED.—To exchange 1 new Lovell washing machine (cost \$5.00), for dictionary or other books or offers. Wm. H. Bright, Mazeppa, Minn.

WANTED. — To exchange good strong hives of Italian bees for good chickens, ducks and turkeys, or any thing I can use. A. B. Howe, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

WANTED.—To exchange 1 pair W. C. D. Polish fowls (Seely strain), perfect birds, for A B C of Bee Culture or good Simp. hives. E. C. Francis, Madison, Conn.

WANTED.—To exchange the Bee-Keepers' Ad-typertiser, for your name and P. O. address. State the number of colonies of bees you keep. Wm. Hoyt, Ripley, Maine

T^O exchange.—Eggs from Single Comb White Leghorns for Italian queen or for Light Brahma eggs or offers.

Glenn Clarke, Pipestone, Mich.

WANTED.—To exchange an 8 frame colony of bees with pure queen in July, in shipping box, for a good violin and bow. C. E. Andrews Jr., 5 Richardson St., Prov., R. I.

WANTED. — To exchange eggs from White Turkeys for Pea Fowl eggs. Write. stating number you wish to exchange. E. T. Anthony. Lock Box 104, Normandy, Tenn.

T^O Exchange.—3 Novice honey knives, Cooks Manual, 7 upright show cases 16 x 26 ins. double barrel shot-gun and case and Italian test-ed queens for poultry and eggs. C. H. Watson. Box 92, Newton, Pa.

To Exchange.—Butcher tools, wagon, buffalo parber chair, mounted squirrels, blooded poultry and eggs, for bee supplies or any thing useful. Elias Fox, Hillsborough, Wis.

Circulars, Etc., Received.

C. D. Duvall, Spencerville, Md.-Bee-hives, supplies, seed potatoes, poultry and eggs.-4 pages.

We have just printed an 11 page list of supplies —hives, sections, fdn., crates, bees, queens, etc.-for R. Stratton & Son, Hazardville, Conn.

J. Lingenfelter, Akin, N. Y. – Queens, honey labels, comb fdn., etc.-12 pages.

Some very nice samples of heavy and thin foundation have been received from R. Stratton & Son, Hazardville, Conn., and from J. H. Larra-hae, Larra-back Petret Vr. bee, Larrabee's Point, Vt.

C. H. Smith, Eox 1087, Pittsfield, Mass.

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Look, read, and think, before ordering !!

Look, read, and think, before ordering!! Northern usens reared from pure, bright yellow Italiaa mothers, wintered out-doors, are hardy, vigorous, more prolific and a larger bee. I rear my queens from cells of natural swarms, therefore do not send out any queens before May: I employ no experienced hands, but look to the rearing of my queens and shipment of my goods, and will cheerfully answer all correspond-ence. I solicit early orders as I book and fill them in rotation. I would further ask your patronage and also of your friends. Desiring to make a change in my Langstroth-Simplicity frames, I will sell in May and through the season two-frame nucleus with uncleated queen, brood, bees and honey, that will build up to a full colony by fall. If you should desire fo see my bees send 10 cts, for sample. Circular free. Prices are as follows:

free. Prices are as follows :

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In Simplicity hive with cover, each		. 2.75
Tested Queen	••	. 1.00
Untested Queen	••	1.00

For reference, if desired, send stamp for reply to Sherburne National Bank.

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