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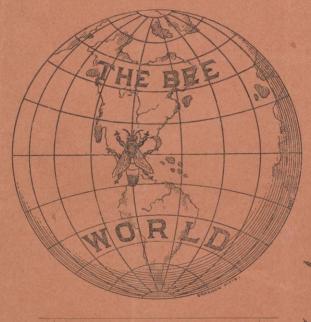
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APRIL, 1891.

The Bee



*World

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VOL. I.

WAYNESBURG PA., APRIL, 1891.

No. 3

For the Bee World.

Instructions to the Beginner
in Bee Culture.

BY M. H. DEWITT.

pring is here and soon we will hear the hum of the busy little bee. Spring is the season when the bees are most in danger of starvation and dwindling. Watch the colonies that are destitute or short of stores, and feed them until the honey crop opens.

If you have to feed do not feed at the entrance or out of doors, as it would teach bees to rob. Feed in the hive above the brood. When you see many bees hunting around nooks and corners, you may be sure there is some robbing going on somewhere.

One bee in March is worth ten bees in June, as it is the early bees that help to breed the large swarms. So make things convenient for your bees early in the season; supply them with water close at hand, and flour in place of the pollen which they cannot get yet. Early in spring remove the drone comb and replace it with worker comb or comb foundation as much as in your

power. You will always leave more drone comb than needed, and every square foot of drone comb replaced with worker comb is equal to a dollar saved. Remember that comb costs the bees ten pounds of honey for each pound of comb; so if your honey is worth 10c. per lb. worker comb or comb foundation is worth to you \$1 per pound. Every man who uses it doubles his investment.

My bees have wintered well so far, and are as strong almost as they were last fall. I wintered my bees in my grain house and they have done better than they have any winter yet. The weather has been exceedingly mild here this winter. Success to the BEE WORLD.

Sang Run, Md.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Friend DeWitt's advice is timely and should be heeded. I would say to all reading this article, who are in the habit of neglecting their bees, and perhaps have not examined their bees yet this spring to see if they are getting short of stores; should make an examination at once, for many colonies often starve out in April just for the want of a little feed and attention. If on examination you see plenty of capped honcy they are all right as far as stores

are concerned; if on the contrary you see no sealed stores and they seem to be short, you should supply them at once. Place the food in the top of the hive over the brood frames, and do not feed out side of the hive as there is great danger of inducing robbing. The advice in regard to cutting out drone comb is good, but it must be understood that there should be a little left; yet where there is any great amount it should be removed.

Spring Management.

BY DR. G. L. TINKER.

here are few bee keepers who have not practiced careful protection to their bees during the most active period of breeding of the season, which is in April and May, who realize its advantages. As usually managed, the most active period of breeding is in June, right in the midst of the harvest, and hence it is at the expense of a good part of the honey that should go to the bee keeper as surplus. If we are to get a crop of honey we must have a large working force of bees early.—We cannot get too many bees before the harvest.

Now as to the number of bees we may get before the harvest; that depends upon the management to a great extent, but where the bees are short of stores early in April, they must be feed liberally every day the bees can fly, say a pint at a feed, till the colony has at least ten

pounds of stores on hand, and the bee keeper must see to it that there is about this amount on hand all through April and May, up to within a few days of the beginning of the honey flow. Any neglect in supplying sufficient stores will result in limited breeding and disappointing results. Again, the bee keeper cannot fail to get good results from the feeding, as he is sure to get back the worth of the feed given and often ten fold in the crop of honey obtained.

By giving suitable protection, a colony is able to rear at least onethird more brood and a saving in stores of at least ten pounds of good honey. The average queen will occupy 1,400 square inches of brood comb readily, but the ten frame Langstroth hive contains but 1,350 square inches of brood comb capacity, and there must also be room for about ten pounds of pollen and horey. So if we give protection, we must have larger hives than the Standard Langstroth, or put up with limited results. For Spring breeding the brood nest should have a capacity of 1,660 square inches of brood comb. But as this is entirely too large for the colony during the harvest, I advise a twostory hive made up of brood chambers, of only 830 square inches brood capacity. Then, at the opening of the honey flow, contract at once in putting on the sections to

one story, getting the queen below a queen excluder. We place the sections on the queen excluder and the upper story of brood we place upon the sections.

A highly important measure in spring breeding is to utilize the sunshine in warming up and drying out the brood nest and the packing used. Unless this is done. I am not sure that the protection is of so much advantage. The hive covers should be taken off every pleasant day, or at least every few days, about 10 a. m., and the packing removed down to the cover of the brood nest, which should have a thin board one-fourth of an inch thick. About 4 p. m., place back the packing removed and the cover. Also if any part of the packing is found very damp or wet, it should be removed and upon closing up the hive at 4 p. m., replaced by dry packing. The packing must be kept dry and the drier the better, otherwise the heat of the brood nest is rapidly carried away, and so the packing really becomes a damage, rather than a benefit. The effect of letting the sun shine upon the brood nest in the manner stated, is remarkable. It seems to give renewed vitality to both queen and bees and immediately brood-rearing proceeds at a very rapid rate.

The vast difference between the proper care of bees in the spring and the let alone plan can not be realized until the proper care of bees is at once given. For almost without exception the result in one case is a paying crop of honey and in the other a partial failure.

New Phila., O.

For the BEE WORLD.

the good ole way

or

ole foggy and his nabor

Mister editer i hev bin lookin them papers over i tole you about my nabor givin to me when i was over there and i find this bee bisnus has got to be, accordin to the tale tole in sum of them books a big immensity. i tell you it is most pas belivein. i hev bin over to my nabor bee keepers agin and i tole him these books had bin rote out first on purpus to git to cell hives and these new fanGled fixens i see in them books that sum bee min hey taken as hi as 200 and 300 pounds of comb hunny frum a hive of bees and as much as 500 to 800 pounds of extracted hunny frum a single hive of bees, now i jist tell you that is too much of a tale fur me, i wud rether see it than read of it in them books rote by them fellers that are so interested sellin the new fanGled hives. wy i tell you that is more hunny than i ever took frum 15 or 20 hives in a season all put together'i hev took as hi as 25 pounds frum a hive and that is considered a big lot to git frum one hive up here in lone holler and if we average 15 pounds we think we are doin well. i see in one of the papers that doolittle gineraly average 100 pounds to the hive and he got 309 pounds frum one of his best hives. now that that well i no that our bees up lone holler dont hev enny sich big tales as that follern after them, now my nabor jist believes all these big tales in these books and he says he has studeid the books so well that he jist nos these things can be done with bees, and he says he will show us ole fogies this season how to make bees pay. i argeed with him and tole him bees did not pay env more but he says it is because of bad management and not havin the rite kind of hives and i jist had to go off and leave him, you see he has got his head set. he give me a new fanGled hive to take home with me to test this season and he says if i dont git twice as much hunny frum a swarm hived in this hive and managed as he will instruct me to, he will give me the hive. you see theres one hive he will loose sure i will tell you about it when the bee season is over, he says he is not afraid to put out hives in this way of the new kind and managed as he will advise. he says we ole fogies never hav managed our swarms rite and that we loose most of the hunny crop jist on account of our ignorence and superstion. i got home with my hive

OLE FOGY, lone holler p. o.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Why Not?

by do not more of the ladies keep bees? It is not hard work to manage a few swarms, and will require only a little time; this could be spared by most housekeepers, who would find the time so occupied to vield both pleasure and profit. Most women spend too much time indoors, over their housework, and their health would be greatly improved if a part of the time were spent in some light exercise in the open air. I know there is much to be done in the house, especially where there are children, but a great deal of work is done which might much better be left undone; once a week is often enough for washing the kitchen floor in most families, the batter can be mixed a little thinner and baked in drop cakes instead of being kneaded and rolled into cookies, the children's everyday dresses can be plainly made, it is not a criminal matter to shake and fold dish wipers, common towels, jersey underware, and such things, and put them away without ironing; the kitchen stove need not be kept in a state of high polish; all these things save time and labor. and it is wise to do them, although very many methodical housekeepers would think it heresy.

In a good season, a few bees will yield a good profit, beside keeping the home table supplied with honey.

If one is unacquainted with bees, it is best to begin modestly, buying but one swarm at first. Take a good bee journal and study up the subject; you will be surprised at the field for thought and investigation the subject presents. Above

all, do not keep bees in old-fashioned box hives; I consider the Langstroth simplicity the most convenient and most easily handled of any. Manage the bees in accordance with the modern, common sense ideas. Try bee-keeping once and you will not want to give it up.

W.M.A.

TESTIMONIALS.

A Journal Among Journals.

The BEE WORLD for March is at hand bright and clean. It is well edited and with its present vigor kept up, will prove a journal among journals. Here is 50 cents, mark me a subscriber for 12 twelve months. Will get other subscribers if I can. Bees have wintered well but have been kept back considerably by our recent freeze. Our 100 hives are working nicely to-day. Our fruit bloom has been delayed and I think with the bloom now, will come warm settled weather: so much the better for the bees. If we only had a Texas or Southern department with some of the bee journals of the North, it would benefit us and the publisher al o.

Dr. Miller and W. S. Huchinson are to fight the next time the Doctor catches W. S. from home. Let somebody watch them for we can't afford to have either of them killed or injured just yet.

Earnest R. Root is afraid to journey over land by the wheel. The bull dogs get after him. Never

mind we will have the dogs all tied when he comes through Texas.

Well I am afraid I have taxed your patience too much already and law me, so much to do on all sides, I am too busy too write. May be I will come again.

Jennie Atchley, Farmersville, Texas.

+ 6

DEAR FRIEND, your sample copies of "THE BEE WORLD" is at hand. Thanks! I will distribute them for you and will try and send you some subscribers soon. Your paper is a real beauty and as nice a bee paper as I ever saw. Enclose you an article for publication in the April No.

M. H. DEWITT, Sang Run, Md.

Friend DeWitt proposes writing a series of articles on "Instructions to Beginners in Bee Culture." These articles will certainly be very useful to all beginners in bee keeping, as well as to those more advanced, and it will pay ametures in the pursuit many times over the cost of this journal a year to read these articles. A sample of this No. is sent to many that received the March No. to give you one more opportunity to subscribe and start in with these useful articles. Subscribe at once if you wish the benefit of them.

Dowagiac, Mich.; Feb. 21, 1891.

I'm this morning in receipt of the March No. of your paper, "The Bee World." I presume you know I run a local newspaper, consequently have learned something about paper, press work and typography

and right here I wish to congratulate you upon the get-up all around of the BEE WORLD. * * * Your highly calendered paper which is so nice in every other regard is a little dazzling to the eyes, and not as easily read as a paper with a dead surface; however your type being new, large size and bold face, there is no trouble with reading your paper. I think I may say you have a weedy row to hoe before you. A lot of papers have to die, and while yours gives most evidence of living of all the new ones, you are not forgetful that failing competition is the worst kind * * * *

JAS. HEDDON.

SANG RUN, GARRETT CO., MD FRIEND W. S. VANDRUFF:

Your book, How to Manage Bees, is at hand and I like it better than any Bee Book I hive read for some time. I would not take \$5.00 for it if I could not get another copy. All your subscribers should send at once for a copy, if they want to learn how to handle bees successfully Your Bee World is the best Bee Journal I have read yet. I wish it long lived and good success.

Yours truly,
March 4, 1891. M. H. DEWITT.

Price Lists Received.

Thomas S. Wallace, Clayton, Ill., Italian queens and bees.

The W. T. Talconer Manufactur-

ing Company Bee Keepers' supples.

St. Joseph, Apiary Company, St. Joseph, Mo, Bee Hives, Sections, etc.

G.B. Lewis Co., Watertown, Wis., Manufacturer of Bee-Keepers Supplies.

William W. Cary, Coler aine, Mass. 40 page price list of Italian bees and Apiarian supplies.

W. F. & John Barnes Co. Rockford, Ill., Catalogue of foot, hand and steam power machinery.

Dr. G. L. Tinker, New Phila., O. White poplar sections perforated zinc, Nonpareil Bee Hives and other supples.

Catalogue and price list for 1891 have been received from Joseph E. Shaver, Friedens, Va. Advertisers favorite, 40 pages.

Chicago Bee-Keepers Supply Co., Chicago, Ill., and Topeka, Kansas, Catalogue and price list of general supplies for bee-keepers.

My prices of hives, etc., will be found in this issue: this will take place of a price list for this season. I had intended to put out a price list this spring but being delayed in getting some cuts made and other intervening matters, it seemed impossible to get it out in time for distribution. My prices for the American Italian queens will be given in the May number of The Ber World.

THE * BEE * WORLD.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

W. S. VANDRUFF, Editor & Proprietor

TERMS:-50 cents a year in advance, two copies for 90 cents; three for \$1.30; five for \$2.00.

Waynesburg, Penn'a, April, 1891.

Entered as second class matter at the Waynesburg, Pa., Post Office.

Editorial.

THE merry hum of the busy bee is now heard in the land.

Subscriptions are coming in from various quarters. Send them along, there is yet room.

The March number of the *Inter-Mountain Horticulturist* was exclusively a floral number.

The American Bee Keeper comes to hand with four extra pages for March and otherwise improved. It is progressing fast.

The American Api for April is to be a Queen Bee number. It will be devoted entirely to the subject of queen bees; it will no doubt be good.

The engraving of the World on front cover was executed by Mr. J. C. Bragdon, of Pittsburgh, Pa. His advertisment will be found in the advertising columns. Any of the bee keeping friends or others wanting engravings of any kind made should give him a call.

THE Missouri Bee Keeper, Vol. 1, No. 1, is at hand. It presents a neat and attractive appearance and is well printed on good paper with new large type making it easy read. It is published by the Bee Keeping Publishing Company, of Unionville, This is, I think, the sixth or Mo. seventh bee journal started since Jan. 1, 1891. Some of the older journals are inclined to look down on us rather complainingly already, and still they come. All right let them come. While some may think the bee journal business is being over done, I think there is room for all, if all would take them that ought Every state in the Union ought to take interest enough in bees to support a journal for each state and the time is coming when such will come to pass. We need more teachers in this pursuit. Increase the liturature and throw on the light. This is my welcome.

Samples of perforated zinc have been received from Dr. G. L. Tinker, of New Philadelphia, O. It is the finest, neatest and most accurate in Mechanical construction that has been my pleasure to examine. It is simply perfection. It is made on his fine new perforating machine made expressly for that work. It is made with both wide and narrow ribs between the rows of perforations. Those in need of queen excluding zinc will find nothing better.

READ Dr. Tinker's article on Spring Management. It will be observed that he is not an advocate of Spring packing as usually practiced. Although he is an advocate of Spring packing, he finds it necessary to unpack every few days to dry out the packing and give the bees a good warming up from the reviving influence of "Old Sols" heat and he thinks unless this is resorted to. Spring packing is of little value. Now this is coming towards my views of the matter as mentioned elsewhere. I venture the prediction that the near future will find bee keepers using thin hives with no packing. With thin hives we get the benefit of all the sunshine, drying out, warming and infusing new life and energy into the bees.

Winter packing seems to be on its last round, but spring packing still holds its ground. I wonder how long it will be until it will also be dispensed with.—Read O. B. Barrow's article on spring packing to be found under the head of World Bee Notes. I am coming to the same conclusion. I firmly believe there is more in the strain of bees than all the packing that was ever invented.

FRIEND Alley's bees must not have wintered very well. I see he is doubling them all (in price) up, his famous \$100 queen is now a \$200 one and her daughters have doubled in price. Nothing like good stock

As E. R. Root seems to be afraid of dogs, Jenny Atchley promises to have all the dogs tied when he takes a trip through Texas. Now E. R., just send a card to Jennie before you start and I think you will be safe, but to make sure perhaps you had better send some rope of your own selection and test i well, for if about the time you get in near the middle of the great state and you would see great and mighty dogs tied all around, raring, tearing and charging and the strings should begin to break,—OH! MY.

Gets the Queen.—I received sample copy of your Bee Journal, and like it first rate, and you may send it to me a year.

Yours truly Frank Wilkins, Pelham, N. H.

Mr. Wilkins being the first subscription sent in from those receiving a sample copy of the March No. is entitled to the queen spoken of in that issue.

As all the journals seem to be going into the "cream" business, Pratt is troubled to know where we are going to get the milk to skim. Well it is a little difficult this time of year, when the cows seem to be on a strike, but we hope for better times when spring opens up.

Many colonies run short of stores in April and often swarm out and enter other hives; look your bees over and see if they need feeding.

I AM un'er obligations to T. K. Massie, of Concord Church, W. Va., for a copy of Farm and Fireside, containing an article written by him for the Feb. 1st number of that paper on the manage of an Apiarv for surplus honey. It is a most excellent article and gives his plan of management, and it is evident that Mr. Massie thoroughly understands his business and has given the subject much thought and study. He is no doubt a thinker and a hustler. as his friends term it. If friend Massie could favor the BEE WORLD with some of his excellent articles they would be thankfully received.

The Bee World all the rest of 1891,—nine months, for only 25 cents. By sending me the name and address of five bee keepers with 25 cents by postal note or 2 cent rtamps, I will send you the Bee World the rest of 1891.



Under this head will be included the latest Apicultural news, discoveries and happenings throughout the bee-keeping world.

Six or seven years ago, when most of the bees, generally kept in this locality by farmers in a careless way, died, their absence made a remarkable difference in the fruit yield; especially in small fruits. Even wild raspberries and blackberries did not yield as well for several years afterwards.—D. Wyss in American Bee Journal.

THE fact that every bee keeper should take at least one first class bee paper or magazine proves itself to us almost daily. The careful reader of such, always orders his supplies in a much more comprehensive manner, and is more sure to know just what he wants, and thus saves what he might otherwise have spent for articles of little use to him. Then, too, he keeps posted on the value of his honey and bees wax. Only a few days ago we heard of a man who sold nearly 2000 pounds of good bees wax for only 20 cents per pound, just two-thirds of what it was worth, or \$20.00 less than we would have paid him for it. Do you suppose he took a bee paper? Well if he did, he didn't read it. A. B. K.

The above shows the importance of being posted, but a greater loss will no doubt result by not taking a bee paper from the lack of knowledge on the proper management of your bees. No one keeping bees can afford to do without one or more bee journals. If you have but one hive of bees it will pay you ten times over the cost that a bee book and journal both would cost Don't try to go it blind—where you thus save one cent you lose ten from improper management of your bees.

What Honey Costs.—The honey bee has long been a type of the industrious worker, but there are few people who know how much labor the sweet hoard of the hive represents. Each head of clover contains about sixty distinct flower tubes, each of which contains a portion of sugar not exceeding the five-hund

reth part of a grain. Some enthusiast who has watched the bees' movements concludes that the proboscis of the insect must therefore be inserted into 500 clover tubes before one grain of sugar can be obtained. There are 7.000 grains in a pound; and, as honey contains three-fourths of its weight in dry sugar, each pound of honey represents 2,500,000 clover heads sucked by the bees.—Halifax Gazette.

I have seen the above somewhere before, I believe. I gave it to my readers for what it is worth. The estimates seem rather high, but I have not time to investigate. Who of my readers have?

It is not always economy to purchase the cheapest hive you can get. The best way for beginners is to look around and investigate the merits of the different hives, then purchase the one having the most good points. It may cost a little more but if you can manipulate and protect your bees better in it, and consequently obtain larger surplus, is it not the cheaper hive after all? * * * This theory of frowning down upon new inventions would eventually debar us from the advantages of any new methods that might otherwise be discovered. It is an "old foggy" idea.

A. B. K.

The above are my views exactly. I have told you elsewhere the American Bee Keeper is progressing and the above explains it. You see it is backed by an editor of progressive views. It is the best hive we want, not the cheapest. Beginers should investigate. That's right.

BEES are doing fine here in the hills; they have been gathering pollen for three weeks past; the season is very dry up to the present time, but if we get rain, (later in March, even,) we will get honey. I find that bees do better here on an average than south. I have handled bees in Los Angeles county, but I find that when we have a good sea son. I get more honey here. I shall have bees in three places this year; one lot shall be in the hills some 2,000 feet higher than the others. I find that they get more honey in the foot-hills and earlier, but the hills are very good for a late harvest. It would pay if a person could move bees from valley to hills. The secret of the whole mystery of bee keeping is to have the hive full of bees at the right time, and good prolific queens should always be kept in the hives. The quality of honey here cannot be beat; we are getting a good price for it at pres-P. Keating in C. B. K.

New Almaden, Cal.

There are numerous indications that the honey season of 1891 will be an excellent one. It will therefore be well for every bee keeper to get as many swarms through the winter safely as possible, and if he expects to need any supplies, our advice is to order them as soon as possible, so they will arrive in time. Nothing is so vexatious to the average bee keeper as to be compelled to wait two or three weeks for his supplies when he needs them at once. Profit by last years experience and order at once. C. B. K.

The above is timely advice and should be heeded by all needing supplies. Look about early for

what you will be needing and make arrangements therefor. Quite often a good honey crop is lost just by negligence in this matter.

Spring Packing.—In the spring of 1890, I took seven hives, with caps seven inches deep, and porticoes and broad boards to keep off the sun and lined them with Asbespaper, such as plumbers wrap steam pipes with, which I thought would be good to keep the heat in, and later to keep it out. I covered the asbestos with seperators, lifted the frames of bees and honey out of the other hives into them, covered the brood frame with a quilt and packed the cap with dry straw, expecting to see them build up very rapidly; but imagine my surprise to see the first colony to build up was one in a single walled hive with nothing over it but a quilt and a board shade, the latter being raised an inch at the back end, giving free circulation of air over the quilt. I also packed the caps of many more, and watched carefully, but failed to see any benefit therefrom. While spring packing may be beneficial, the above mentioned experiment has led me to think otherwise. A. B. J.

O. B. Barrows, Marshaltown, Ia.

The First Honey of 1891.—Bees have been gathering pollen for several weeks. During the last three or four weeks they have been bringing in immense loads, chiefly from the Acacia, and the cells are now loaded with new honey, or rather nectar, for there is none of it sealed yet. Brood raising is going on at a rapid rate. We need rain very much, everything is at a stand still in vegetation. The weather is too

delightful. Camping out might be indulged in with perfect safety.

WM. STYAN & SON.

Jan. 24, 1891. San Matoe, Cal.

California can beat us for early honey sure, for we were at that date in the midst of the winter.

We are, however, in need of no rain, in fact could spare our California friends all they wanted and then have plenty left. It would be nice if we could exchange some of our rainy weather for a portion of their fair weather.

BEES' WAX GETTING SCARCE.—The price of bees' wax in eastern states, is from 26 to 30 cents per pound, while in Ontario, Canada, it cannot be bought for less than 32 cents per pound. The cause of the rise in this article, is, no doubt, the increase in the manufacture of comb foundation. I lately received a communication from Messrs. Chas. Dadant & Son, Hamilton, Ill., stating that they have made and sold in 1890, over 30 tons of comb foundation. It is possible that we may have bees' wax selling at 50 cents this year, if the scarcity continues. C. B. K.

The editor of the C. B. K., says: There are supposed to be about 9,000 bee keepers, in California; surely out of this number we can find sufficient to support a bee-journal; here in a land of sunshine and flowers, a very paradise for the honey bee, where we have the largest apiaries in the world, producing 6,000,000 pounds of the finest honey in the world, in an unfavorable season like 1890, a bee journal must be a necessity.

Surely a journal ought to find

support in a state where there are so many bee keepers, producing millions of pounds of honey in a poor season. It was but a few years ago when bees were a rarety in that state. The first colony ever sold, if I am not mistaken, brought \$125 and many thereafter sold as high as \$100 a hive, and now bees and honey there are so plenty that both can be bought cheaper perhaps, than anywhere else in the world.

GENTLEMEN:-This has been the coldest winter Cuba has seen since 1855. From 10 to Jan. 27, 47 days, there was a cold north wind llowing all the time, and it cut our honey crop short very much, so at this time we have only 60,000 pounds out, but shall get close to 75,000 pounds. perhaps more. Those 47 cold days were right in the midst of our surplus season, and the bees stored very little honey. It is warmer now and they are doing better. I will send my yearly report when the season is over. Yours etc.

A. W. Osborn, in A. B. K., b. 8. Punta Brava, Cuba.

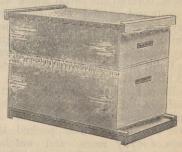
While we have been having rather a mild winter, it appears by the above that far off Cuba in the land of sunshine and flowers; they have been having a comparatively cold winter, (if winter it can be called.) It will be seen that my estimate in the March number of The Bee World was pretty close. He has taken 60,000 pounds already, Feb. 8, and says he will get 75,000 pounds and perhaps more.

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I am using the 8 frame L hives with Johnson's closed tin end reversible brood frame and can furnish them either with this frame or the ordinary hanging frame. With the closed end frame they cannot slip about in handling hives and are always in theirproper places, also by reversing the frames, we can get the combs built solidly all around on all sides of the frames, getting more comb built in each frame and little or no danger of combs breaking out in handling frames or moving hives, and many other advantages are gained by their use, as reversing to get the bees started to work in the sections, giving the queen more breeding room, and causing more honey to be stored in the sections, etc., the cut below shows the outside appearance of the hive.



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