

## THE APIARY.

### ESSENTIALS NECESSARY IN ESTABLISHING THE INDUSTRY.

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THE study and practice of beekeeping requires the application of much intelligent thought and energy. To the average man little is known of our fascinating industry, but a perusal of the following brief notes will give a general idea of the various intricacies and scope of the apiary. It is commonly thought that little attention is necessary to be given to bees. This is erroneous, for to get the best results bees must be closely studied, be given considerable handling, and be subjected to many artificial systems necessary to control their work and life. Those most skilled in scientific and practical beekeeping receive the highest remuneration from their labours, and to-day we have numbers of men and women making independent incomes from the toll they receive in honey and various other commercial commodities from their bees. As previously stated, then, commercial beekeeping requires study of all branches of bee-life as well as the most diligent labour.

#### LOCATION OF FIRST IMPORTANCE.

Those entertaining the idea of establishing an apiary must first look for a suitable location. The etiquette of the bee world prohibits encroaching on another person's site. That is to say, do not place your bees near anybody else's, especially if the other person has fully stocked the district. Find some country rich in clovers and bee-forage that is free from any restriction as above, and there secure a site and establish your plant. It is unprofitable to keep bees in any but a good nectar-yielding district.

#### STYLE OF HIVE TO ADOPT.

After securing the site it is necessary to select the best style of hive. This is probably the Langstroth, which is used very extensively in the Dominion, and may be purchased at a reasonable price from the dealers. In a specially favourable district it would be an advantage to adopt the twelve-frame size, but for ordinary purposes a ten-frame hive will meet all requirements.