

**EVERY STEP IN
BEEKEEPING: A
BOOK FOR AMATEUR
AND PROFESSIONAL**

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Every Step in Beekeeping: A Book for Amateur and Professional by Benjamin Wallace
Douglass

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BENJAMIN WALLACE DOUGLASS

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EVERY STEP IN BEEKEEPING



A medium-sized swarm clustered on the branch of an apple tree.

Every Step in Beekeeping

A Book for Amateur and Professional

By

BENJAMIN WALLACE DOUGLASS

AUTHOR OF

Orchard and Garden

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To

GEORGE S. DEMUTH

THE GENIUS TO WHOM I OWE MY FIRST INTRODUCTION INTO THE MYSTERY AND FASCINATION OF BEEKEEPING, THIS BOOK IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

FOREWORD

The beginner in any field is always more or less at sea. There are always little, fundamental things that he wants to know and too often these same little things are the most difficult to discover.

Often, too, when a man learns enough of any one subject to write a book about it, he forgets or overlooks some of the fundamental things that he learned in his own beginnings and as a result assumes that his readers know as much about his subject as he does himself.

In this little book I have tried to keep in mind my own troubles when I first started to cultivate the festive bee. I then knew the creatures only as an entomologist would know them. To me they were merely a species of insect having certain anatomical characters. I knew their life-history in a perfunctory way,

FOREWORD

but when it came to real knowledge of their habits, I had none.

But for the kindly help of the man to whom this volume is dedicated my flounderings would have been prolonged and I would have accumulated information as I accumulated stings—by a painful process.

A book of this size does not and can not claim to tell all there is to know on the subject of beekeeping in spite of its title. The subject is a big one and it has many sides. The beekeeper must be content to be a student, learning a little each year and with the consolation that men have spent their lives in the study only to leave many unsolved problems behind them.

If the little book serves as an introduction to the fascinating business of keeping bees and if it guides the steps of its readers in the right direction it has fulfilled its purpose. The writer has had no other object in view.

B. W. D.