

The bee-hive. Vol. 3, No. 9 March, 1889

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PUBLISHED FOR AND IN THE INTEREST OF BEE-KEEPERS, BY ONE OF THEM. YOL. 3. ANDOVER, CONN., MARCH, 1889. NO. 9.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

A BEE'S SOLILOQUY.

BY JOHN JAMIESON.

Tis wonderful how she can lay, Above three thousand eggs a day, Enough to make a decent swarm, She well deserves a guard from harm.

Three kinds of cells, each kind its own, The Queen, the Worker, and the Drone; The Queen-cells large and like a cup, Where she can Royal Jelly sup.

The Worker cells are very small, But plenty of them, room for all; In one and twenty days gnaw thro', Peep out, the situation view.

"What kind of world is this I'm in ?" And wonder at the constant din, And very soon come creeping out, And thro' the hive they run about.

When six days more are nearly done, They'll leave the hive, sport in the sun, And soon begin to do their best, To gather honey with the rest.

The Queen in hatching takes less time, Insixteen days she's in her prime, And soon begins her eggs to lay, And runs about the hive all day.

In size, the Drone-cells lie between The little Workers and the Queen ;

In five and twenty days I'm sure, The Drone will perfectly mature.

In two more weeks they hum around, Bound from your face upon the ground ; He is a clumsy, awkward thing, But cannot hurt—he has no sting.

His tongue's too short to gather sweet, So from the hive he gets his meat; To Bees, and men, of not much use.

And hence gets little but abuse. He's only good to fertilize—

When that is done he always dies : And in the fall, to save our stores, We kill, and shove them all out-doors.

(Continued next month.)

A Bee-Keeper's Success.

Mr. C. H. Dadant's Early Experience in Hive-Making and Bee-Keeping in this Country.

HE following article from the British Bee Journal, contains much that is instructive and interesting. It shows what determination and good business tact can accomplish in the face of many obstacles.

On arriving in the United States twenty-five years ago, I had never seen shallow hives. In all those that I knew, the Lombard, the Radouan, and even the Debeauvoys, the combs were higher than they were broad. Also the first hives that I made very nearly resembled the Layens, reduced to eight or nine frames. As soon as I was able to translate a little English, with the help of a dictionary, I procured the American Bee Journal, then the Mysteries of Bee-Keeping, by Quinby. I bought this book first, instead of Langstroth's, because it only cost one dollar instead of two, for, by emptying my purse, giving even the lining, its old leather, and the pinchbeck clasp, it would have been impossible for me to find two dollars.

Quinby seemed to me reasonable with such a long frame as he had adopted. Like many other bee-keepers, before comparing another hive with my own, I had made my choice, and I boasted of what I then called my favorite hive. Nevertheless, Quinby obtained honey with his hive. They spoke of a harvest of twenty-two thousand pounds, which he had sold at one shilling and eight pence a pound in paper money. This was a fortune of which the idea alone turned my head. I then gave up my first favorite in order to try his hive. Two observations had shown me the value of large hives. The friend with whom I stayed on arriving here had seven or eight hives, of which one was enormous, made of planks 60 centimetres high, by 40 or 45 broad. The sap of the front plank having rotted, left an opening of 3 or 4 centimetres from the top to the bottom of the hive.

The bees of this hive had survived, whilst those of all the others, which were smaller, had died, and had been replaced by swarms. I asked the age of the colony, Mr. Carpentier's fatherin-law, who had sold it, told me that it had existed at least twenty years.

One of my neighbors, whose hives were suspended on simple cross-sleepers, not closed, the bottom of the boxes being without floor-boards, showed me one day combs that filled the space between the hives, and which contained honey and brood, the queen not having had enough room in the hive, this being, however, of an ordinary good size. About the same time a bee-keeper called Jasper Hazen, stated in the Journal that he was obtaining enormous returns by surrounding the brood-chamber with little boxes placed on the sides, at the back, and above.

"I must try that," said I to myself. I had bought cheaply some secondhand carpenter's tools. For want of money I pulled up parts of the floor from the granary of the log-house in which we were living, to get the boards that I wanted for this purpose. As that was not enough, considering the size of the hives, I bought at a very low price some hard deal planks, which had been sawn from a tree that had not been squared, and which I planed and replaned, sawed and re-

ize the breadth of the planks in order to make frames of them. In short, I succeeded, although my hard deal planks warped, became unnailed. lengthened or shortened more or less in proportion with the soft pine planks with which they were joined,

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In spite of all this, however, I succeeded in making thirty-two hives, with Quinby frames, capable of holding, besides the eight frames of the Quinby hive, such as he described it, boxes on the sides and at the back, as Hazen advised, without counting the super. But I soon found that the bees preferred to put honey above the Then I filled the sides of the brood. hive with frames, and I also placed three at the back, in all, seventeen. This was too many; my fourteen frames in the front, even reduced to twelve by two division-boards, were also too many, and I therefore reduced the capacity of the hive to eleven frames. However, I had bought an Italian queen for five dollars. I hesitated for some time before spending so much, but I hoped to rear queens and to recoup myself from the profit that I should make by them

My wife and I were going to live in a hut without doors or windows, in the middle of the woods, for five or six weeks in the summer, to pick berries off shrubs, called here blackberries, and which our son Camille was I still see my to sell in the market. wife's look when I took this sum m order to send him. She said nothing; she loved me too much to make the slightest objection, but I read by her eyes that she could have found plenty of ways to utilizing so large a sum of My rearing of queens sucmoney. My first sale of queens realceeded. ized nineteen dollars. One day, the following year, a man, rather shabbily dressed, appeared and asked to Then he selectsee my Italian bees. ed six or seven queens, which I gave him in small boxes. I still remember sawed, over and over again to equal my wife's astonishment when I put

into her hand the nineteen greenbacked dollars. She could not believe her eves. From that time I began not only to sell queens, but also colonies of Italian bees. My reader will certainly think that I am a long way from my subject, however it was this rearing of Italians that led me to compare the Quinby hive with that of langstroth, in the way I had already compared it with my favorite hive, in my estimation.

lost a good many sales. Then, in order to supply the demands of my customers, I made Langstroth hives. It is well that the reader should know that the Quinby hives are nearly five centimet e r s ligher and

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1' t ive, and, although we have kept a feed. atisfy the demands of customers, ainby hives.

A NEW ENGLAND APIARY.

The above illustration shows "Sunrside Apiary," owned by J. H. Lar-^{thee}, Larrabee's Point, Vt. About ^{the hundred} Bristol hives are shown. L showed good judgement in leating his apiary so that it would be artly shaded during the warmest Part of the season.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

Winter Bee-Feeding.

BY E. P. NEWMAN.

Pressed Blocks of Sugar in Place of Syrup. -An Experiment.

FEW words to the wise are sufficient. I shall endeavor in as few words as possible to explain a new and useful plan of winter bee-feeding, which I have discovered which had now taken the second place lately from observation and experi-The Langstroth ence, and have satisfactorily tested live was very extensively used in the with dry sugar. I approve and rec-United States, and those who wished ommend its use as a matter of econto purchase colonies of Italians want- omy, while any bee-keeper may plainly el them in Langstroth hives, and I see at once the important and useful



advant a g e s derived from such a convenient form of management, that dispenses with slow, tedious and troublesome appliances, as are ordinarily used with syrup feeders. Two swarms of my bees issued in the latter

m or three broader than the Langs- part of August, and were hived with while hives. The result of the com- the intention to make special experiparison was in favor of the Quinby mental investigation of the dry sugar By or before the middle of tain number of Langstroth's to December, I discovered that their stores were consumed and the bees "six apiaries are all furnished with rapidly dying from starvation; which I observed by the daily business of survivers - removing the dead ones from the hives. I procured at once my favorite sugar, the Extra C, which bees seem to consume most eagerly, and I think its saccharine purity exceeds all other sorts of sugar for spring or summer stimulous, as well as a winter substitute for natural stores. I pressed the sugar in solid,

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compact masses and laid it directly over the brood-nest on the combframes, and the dwindling of bees ceased at once. They are now in good condition, and doubtless if no other preventing providence, they will survive the winter if I diligently pursue this course of treatment. Thus nearly two months have elapsed of feeding those destitute bees, which is satisfactory evidence to me that this mode of feeding assures success if promptly attended to, and may apply to any form of hive much better than syrup feeders.

Harrell, Ind., Feb. 5, '89.

Dry sugar has been tried before, but perhaps not exactly as you are now experimenting. Extra C sugar usually contains considerable moisture, and pressing it into cskes, as described, would help to retain it. The heat arising from the bees would also help in dissolving it for their consumption. Please tell us this spring if they wintered successfully; how much sugar they consumed; the longest period of confinement, and your coldest weather. This is asking a good deal we know, but the object to be attained is a valuable one. Feeding of starving colonies during cold weather would become an easy task, compared with the fussy and unsatisfactory methods now used.—ED.

Written for the Bee-Hive. A Bee-Hive on Scales.

BY A. E. MANUM.

How it May be of Benefit to the Bee-Keeper.-Tables of Honey Yields.

OW many pounds of honey will a swarm of bees gather in one day, is a question that has often been asked. With your permis-

sion, Mr. Editor, I will endeavor to give the public my experience, through the columns of your practicle little BEE-HIVE. For fifteen years I have kept a swarm of bees on scales in each of my apiaries, during the summer.

Not only for the purpose of knowing how much honey a single colony can store in one day; but to assist in determining just what the bees are do ing, from day to day. I deem it very essential that I should know just how much honey is being gathered each day, not so much for the pleasure of having a record to refer to in the future; but to serve as a guide, by which to govern my operations during the honey-harvest.

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Those who have never kept a hive a on scales, cannot estimate the advan tages to be derived by such a practice. a We not only have a record to refer to the in after years, but we are enabled to se judge very correctly every day what p the bees are doing, and also know, to s a certainty, when the honey-flow be in gins; when it is at its height, and th when it is drawing to a close. The to amount of honey that a colony will to gather in one day, I find to vary great It ly in different localities. I find that ad apiaries located only three miles a of part, vary in the amount of honey th stored in each. The condition of the ha weather has much to do with the * tw mount of honey that will be gathered R each day, as a few hours of unfavorable weather in the middle of the day. J will make quite a difference with our scale hive record. Hence the apiarist must take the condition of the weather into account, and be governed accordingly in making his calculations I have observed that in a season when the atmosphere is well charged with electricity and when electric shocks are frequent, honey will be much more abundant than when electric shocks are less frequent.

When the lightnings flash and threaten

our lives We may be sure the bees will fill their

By the use of scales we are enabled to ascertain the value of the different plants from which come our surplus I deem it very essential that we should know this, as I find there is a great variation in the amount of nectar se

creted by honey-plants in different localities. For instance: clover may vield abundantly near the home apiary, when three miles away, but little honey will be gathered from that source, although the bees in the outapiary may appear to be working lively; when, by consulting the scales, we discover that but very little is being stored there. When if we had no scales to indicate to us the scarcity of honey in that vicinity, we would be at aloss to know why the sections are not being filled as fast at this out-apiary as at home. It is but very little trouble to prepare a scale hive, simply set the scales level both ways and place the hive on them, and prevent swarming if possible; and every morning, early, balance the scales and record the gain, or loss, for the past twentyfour hours. I use common cheap platform scales, that cost but \$3.50 each. It will be seen that there are many advantages to be derived by the use of scales in the apiary. I would not think of running an apiary without having a colony on scales, and if I had twenty apiaries, I would have twenty

Record for 1875. Record for 1885. DATE. LBS. LBS. DATE. June 17 51/4 June 15 1 18 4 16 2 19 5 Clover. 20 6 20 1 Clover. 22 3 28 1/2 29 0 July 10 5 30 9 11 12 Sumach. 12 1S 3 9 4 41/2 5 3 14 27 00 15 30 K 13 21 5 6 2 7 7 16 33 3 2 2 17 30 8 12 9 191/2 17 30 $10 \dots 18$ $11 \dots 20$ $19 \dots 90$ 18 31 12 20 19 28 13 201/2 20 18 Basswood. 14 17 21 8 22 1/2 17 11 Season closed. 20 4 leason closed.

sets of scales, one set for each apiary. I give the records of two seasons, to show the difference in the length of time bees have to gather a surplus, here in Vermont.

It will be seen that in 1875 there were 31 days in which there was a surplus, while in 1885 there was but 18 days in which there was any gain, though in 1885 my surplus was all gathered in 12 days, the balance being stored in the brood-combs.

Bristol, Vt., Feb. 8, '89.

The scale hive would show when to give surplus cases.—ED.

Written for the Bee-Hive

Marketing Honey.

BY CHAS. H. SMITH.

More Practical Hints on this Important Subject.—How Commission Men Help (?) the Apiarist. (Concluded.)

S before advised, be on hand when the class to which you wish to sell, have money. This sounds SED simple enough, but in working over a large area you will find it to take time and attention, to become thoroughly acquainted as to where each family works and at what time they receive their wages. I find none more free with their dollars than the railroad men. As a rule they receive large pay and they live well; a dollar's worth of honey is but a small item with them. But I believe the largest sales that we ever made, by one or two days' peddling, were right in the heart of the town. It was nearly spring and the country roads were in bad shape, so that business men were not overcrowded with a rush from the suburbs. The best peddler that I have "struck" the town about eight o'clock in the morning, and he said he visited every store, shop, office, bank, and up-stair tenements as he went along, skipping none, and his sales proved it. Many an office where he left five or six pounds, distributed

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among as many clerks. In one life insurance office he sold twenty pounds, after laughingly asserting that they nor their patrons would need any insurance, if they would only use honey freely. And again; he groped his way up four flights of rickety stairs, leading to the homes of several poor, unclean tenants. Here he found plenty of stickiness, but it was n't honey.

A queer place to sell a luxury like honey, don't you think so? Well, our peddler did his best, and made four sales here, and as one woman handed out twenty-five cents—mostly in pennies—for a pound card of honey, she said, "The honey made her think of when she was a girl and lived at home, for they kept bees then and she loved to watch them work." Mr. G—gave her an extra card, for, as he said to me afterward, he could n't, some way, have the heart to charge her any profit.

Now for our third and last class: They are the wealthy families—houses where there are servants for all the work; servants to open doors for honey-peddlers to walk right in, and servants to slam the door softly in another honey-peddler's face. Does it sound as though there was much money there for you? But we will see. One man, after traveling all day among these same fine places, returned at night disgusted. He said he had received his "fill" of selling honey!

"Why?" I asked. "Because they were arrogant, uppish, or at least the hired girls were, for they wouldn't even call the mistress to the door, that I might sell her some honey."

When I inquired as to just how he tried to be pursuasive, he said he *did n't* try *that* ? He generally went to a side or backdoor and rapped or rang the bell. When the girl opened the door he inquired if the lady of the house was in (I believe all of the fancy peddlers ask this), sometimes she was and oftener she was not. Some, he said, asked, "What if she is ?"

When he asked to see the mistress, the servant said she had n't time to call her, and, closing the door gently, returned to her work. Here is the method another, and more experienced man used: As soon as his summons was answered, he very politely asked if they would not like to purchase some choice honey (showing a box.) If answered negatively, he did not turn away at once, but tried again. "Don't you think it looks very nice!"

"O, yes; it looks well," she replied. "Well, now would you do me a great favor by just taking this box in and showing it to the folks ?" (Don't say your boss, your lady, or your mistress, for you must bear in mind that nowadays the servant is the lady of the house.) "It won't take you but a minute and I shall be very grateful." Off she goes with the box of honey, that is, unless — well, unless you look like a tramp; in which case who could blame her if she did n't help you, by leaving the room alone. And now she may return, but without the honey, having instead a purse of change, from which to pay you for the honey, as it was wanted.

Often they will ask you to call a round again, as they may want more in a few days, and you perhaps will be lucky enough to make some arrangement, whereby you can supply them a stated quantity monthly—all through the kindness of the servant, remember.

All customers are not alike; each must be known, that we may sell to them successfully, and this knowledge will not come by one or two trips a mong them; but by months of experience. That there is profit in selling honey in this way, cannot be denied.

I generally have a fair crop of honey, but the use I have for commission men, is to purchase honey of them; and they serve me well in this way, for I can buy a barrel of number one honey, branded J. T., for 10 cents ⁸ pound; when J. T. asked me $11\frac{1}{2}$ cfs. 81

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per pound for the same lot, only a week or so before he sold to the commission man. Should we not say-Long live the commission man?

Pittsfield, Mass.



For the Month Ending Feb. 15, 1889.

THE Feb. number of the Review is not at hand. We are sorry, however, and are lead to remark the deplorable irregularity of the monthly bee-periodicals, almost without exception.

The Canadian Honey-Producer has this to remark concerning the virgin queen excitement. "Such queens are difficult to introduce to a colony, and much loss will be occasioned by this method. Of course we would prefer selling queens in this virgin condition, it lessons the cost more than reduction in price, but the results will not generally prove satisfactory."

At the meeting of the Ont. Bee-Keepers' Association, Mr. S. Corneil gave an unusually interesting discourse upon Hive Ventilation, illustrated by experiments with smoke in a heated hive. Reader, take a pail of warm water and place in the hive you use, blow smoke into it and close the top, watch the escape of the smoke and you will have an idea of hive ventilation while in the cellar. Exert your ingenuity and try other experiments of a like nature, and you will be surprised how little you formerly understood of hive ventilation.

In an article by Oliver Foster, of lowa, in the Jan. Review, I find this. "Making the brood-frames shallow and spacing them at a fixed distance apart, is a move in the right direction; but, in my judgment, the Langstroth method of hanging the frames in the hive, has never been improved."

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Dr. Tinker speaks as follows in Feb.

C. H.- P.: "It is astonishing what loss of vitality and waste of stores is occasioned by the cold nights and days of spring, to unprotected colonies. It is a common cause of feeble colonies and spring dwindling. I have estimated the difference between packed and unpacked colonies in spring, to be at least ten pounds of honey, but the waste of stores is nothing in comparison to the relative loss of vitality of the bees." In our opinion, the Doctor is very nearly sound on that subject.

Dr. Tinker's new (?) methods of managing bees are not, perhaps, as new as the Doctor would have us believe. Over a year ago we referred, in this department, to a method explained in an article by E. A. Morgan, in the Am. Api. This method is, in all its principles, like the Doctor's. "Honor to whom honor is due."

In the Jan. 10th British B. J. is one of a series of articles by Mr. Blow upon "American Bee-Keepers," which contains a picture of "Dr. Miller finding and caging the queen," and one of the familiar Peet cage, which is described as "Dr. Miller's cage." Mr. Blow also attempts to solve the political problem, but like most foreigners, cannot understand it.

"Any skillful bee-keeper could today well afford to pay \$10,000 for a healthy and prolific queen, which would produce worker-bees able to work freely on the large heads of the first crop of the red clover."-Mrs. Harrison in Prairie Farmer. Yes, this is so; especially true if the said bee-keeper should happen to have business ability to make the most of it. But the queen must produce workers which will work on the red as freely as now upon the white, and capable of transmitting the trait as a fixed quality to her descendants.

Now is the time to prepare for the

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coming campaign and to plan the season's work. Sections should be put together and foundation put in them, and put it crates. Be sure you get enough of them, too. All hives can be made and put together and frames prepared with foundation, ready for use. And don't forget to write a letter for the BEE-HIVE. We would all like to hear from you.

"Never, in my experience of five years in Cuba, did I find that I had my bees too warm. We always had them snugly tucked up under enamel cloths and in tight hives." The above is another argument from A. W. Osburn of the value of spring protection. Mr. Osburn is an experienced man, with hundreds of colonies for years.

Apis Americana.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

How to Get Large Queens.

BY P. D. MILLER.

An Easy and Practical Plan. – How the Lazy Man Raised Queens.

IRST select the largest and best queen in your apiary to breed Now take some empty from. brood-combs, not more than one or two years old, and insert them in her colony, to be filled with eggs. Do this when honey is coming in freely. In four days you will find in these combs just hatching eggs. Prepare your cell-building colony as follows: Take the strongest colony you have, hunt up the queen and take her away, together with the frame of brood you find her on. Put this in an empty hive with another frame of just hatching brood; this will make a nice nucleus. Next brush off all the bees from the remaining combs, that contain any brood; these can always be placed in some weak colonies to good advantage. Now take your frames of just hatching eggs and place in center of your cell-building colony, with two empty or (if no honey is coming in)

full combs of honey on each side; fill up the balance of hive with dummies. and cover all up as snug and warm as you can. Leave for about three days. then look your combs over carefully and destroy all small cells, even if you have to reduce the number to one-half dozen or less. Never allow more than about fifteen of the best ones, for on this depends, to a greater extent than any thing you can do, the size of your queens. Not long since I met a gentleman who breeds queens in large numbers, and he told me he could make money rearing untested queens at fifty cents apiece. Of course I was very much interested in this, as I had been raising some myself, and could never make much profit at it. I inquired as to the method he used.

"Well," said he, "when I want cells I just remove the queen from one of my colonies, and in a week or ten days I have from 40 to 50 cells; these I cut out and insert in my nuclei, which contain two small combs and about a pint of bees. In a week or two they are ready to ship and take less than one-half day's work."

This will show why so many queens are worthless, or nearly so. Having your cells ready to put in nuclei, make your nuclei strong—not less than four combs and two pounds of bees. In troduce your cells in these, and you will surely be satisfied, for they will be as good as the best, and won't be small ones, either. Just try it and be convinced.

Grapeville, Penn., Feb. 7, '89.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

Bee-Hunting.

BY WILLIAM E. GOULD.

CHAPTER 11.

N the last ten articles I have aimed to give to the readers of the BEE HIVE, methods of bee-hunting that I have found of practical value.

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There is one method which is quite ingenious, and with some hunters quite successful, of which I have said nothing, for the reason that I have never hunted in that way. As I know that some of the older bee-hunters have practiced it with good results, I will attempt to describe it.

Let us suppose that we have hunted bees the last summer and that there is one swarm that has baffled us. We know in what particular clump of trees they are, but do not know which tree they are in. Now if we keep bees at home, we know that once or twice during the winter, we have a day or two of warm weather, during which bees take a flight, often staining the snow for yards around the hive with their excrement, or at least leaving several dead bees upon the snow. And we also know that in the spring, just before the last snow has disappeared, if the weather is mild, the bees partially clean out the hive. Now if the hive is in the top of a tall tree, the dead bees will be scattered over the snow in under the tree. If we wish to find the swarm before spoken of we can, on the warm days, search through the woods spoken of, looking carefully for dead bees on the snow. Then by searching the top of the tree we may find the entrance. One thing to our advantage is that the leaves are all off, which gives us a better view.

My father-in-law, of whom I have before spoken, often hunts in this way with good success. I am of the opinion that it would not pay to hunt on the snow, unless we knew the whereabouts of a wild swarm. But if one is hunting other game, he may well keep a sharp lookout for signs of bees. It would not pay to cut the tree until the next summer if honey is the only object, but if we care only for the bees, I would prefer to cut them as early in the spring as the weather would permit.

> Fremont, Mich. (Concluded next month.)

Bee Buzzings.

BY W. H. LAWS.

Gathering Pollen.-Good Winter.-Sheds.-Profit per Hive.-Box-Hive Bee-Keepers.

HE BEE-HIVE is appreciated; hence I remit, and please contin-My bees, over one hundred ue. colonies in L. hives, have wintered finely and commenced bringing in pollen, from elm, the 14th. Owing to the open winter bees have flown every day, and have consumed an unusual amount of stores. Many blacks in boxhives, owned by neighbors, will perish for want of stores. I am preparing sheds, 60 feet long by 41 feet wide, and high enough for me to stand erect under the comb, to protect my hives from the sun. My bees paid me over six dollars to the hive, spring count, last season, from honey alone; so I am certain I could not afford to raise warranted queens for one dollar each, Success to the BEE-HIVE.

Lavaca, Ark., Feb. 17, '89.

Box-hive bee-keepers have to learn many hard lessons, don't they, friend L.?-ED.

Our Question Box.

BEE DIARRHEA.

I have lost three colonies of bees this winter with diarrhea, and more have got it. Is there any thing that will stop it? C. D. Barber.

This is caused by either poor honey or long confinement. Here in Connecticut bees have had so frequent flights as to prevent their having it; in fact, they have hardly soiled the snow when they flew. If your honey is poor—either thin, watery or gathered late in the fall-you had best give the effected colonies combs of early gathered honey, removing all that they now have. Do this the first warm day. The combs of honey will need to be placed in a warm room several hours before you give them to the bees. Nothing but a good fly will save colonies that are badly effected.



All subscriptions will be stopped when the time paid for expires (see notice of same stamped on wrapper) unless renewed before.

"Spring management of bees." Yes, it does require a good deal of spring to manage them at times.

If you have colonies that are in danger of starving, it might be a good plan to experiment with one or two—not more—by giving them sugar as described in this number.

Several advertisements came to hand too late for this issue. All advs. must reach us by the 20th of the month preceding issue, and it is well to remember that—a week too early is better than all hour too late.

"When does my subscription expire?" When you find "your subscription expires with this number" stamped on the wrapper, it is notice that your subscription has run out and that the BEE-HIVE will be stopped unless renewed.

We notice in one of our exchanges that Mr. Weed now claims to have a machine that will make honey-comb. As honey can also be made(?) probably before long bees will be of no use; unless to cure rheumatism(?) Cyprians would be the bees for this business.

"The cut of T. G. Newman, so exquisitely printed by Gleanings, is horribly reproduced in C. H. P., and if Newman does n't sue Holterman for pictorial libel, he must be of a very forgiving nature. Poor Newman is made to look as though he had his 'pictur' took' with dust blowing in his eyes."—C. B. J.

Oh, fy! It's a blizzard-of ink.

"A club agent down East has taken club subscriptions for papers, gathered in several hundreds of dollars, and then 'lit out' with the money."—A. B. Jour.

Probably Mr. Newman intended no harm by above statement; but as there are numerous "club agents down East," it would have been much better had he given the absconder's name or town, than to cast reflections on the honesty of *all* eastern club agents, by withholding address or locality.

In the April number we propose to discuss the cause of bee diarrhea, and the best methods for prevention. It is not our plan to make the BEE-HIVE a "special topic" paper; but knowing the great loss in bees every spring, from this cause, it may be of some practical advantage to see what preventatives, if any, are most useful in suppressing its ravages among our little laborers. We invite any of our readers to "free their minds" on this subject. Write briefly, giving only plans that you have found helpful.

W. D. Soper says in Rays of Light: "The best way to dampen sections is before they are taken out of the crate. Jar them all to one end of crate, so the V-gooves come directly over one another, then pour a small stream from the teakettle on the V-grooves, and it will run down through the whole crate and wet the whole five hundred at once. If the sections are packed light the water will not spread." Any less number than a full crate could be piled up, and sufficient weight added to prevent the water from penetrating between the sides.

We acknowledge from the revisers—Messrs. Dadant & Son, Hamilton, Ills.—a copy of "Langstroth on the Hive and Honey-Bee." The outward covering and contents are a credit to the publishers, and they may justly be proud of the noble work they have added to apicultural literature. The book has 521 nicely printed and illustrated pages. The price is \$2.00—and it is needless to say that it is worth every cent of fit to the beekeeper that intends to keep abreast of his pursuit. A review of the book will be given soon as we can find room. We club this book with the BEE-HIVE for only \$1.75, including postage.

A correspondent in Gleanings, in speaking of paint for hives, says :

"I have used lead oil, but I find a paint made by Martinez & Longman, of New York, wears best. Some of my hives have been painted five years with that paint, and are still in good condition."

This is the kind of paint used by us. It gives a smooth, glossy finish, and besides wearing well is more economical than lead and off. We know that many bee-keepers think no kind of paint equal to lead and oil paint; but let them give it a trial, side by side, with Martinez & Longman's paint, and no other argument will be needed. Lead and oil paint answers very well forome or two seasons, but so soon as the oil dries out or is absorbed into the wood, then off comes the lead. The next time you paint hives give above paint a trial, and you will save enough money to pay for the BEE-HIVE ten years—supposing you only paint ten hives.

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Now that the rush of the summer work is some what over, we desire to call attention to some matters looking forward to profitable work for the fall months, and through the winter. Write to B. F. Johnson & Co., 1009 Main St., Richmond Va., and they will show you how to do a grand work, which can be made a *permanent thing*.



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One Colony, \$8; two, \$15; three, \$22

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