

box made of stuff from the saw, one-half inch thick, by four wide, with a burlap bottom tacked on all around, these are made to fit squarely and true on the top of the hive body, and filled with wheat chaff, a couple of small sticks being placed across the rear end for a bee passage, before the chaff box is put on. For out-door wintering in this way a deep cover is a necessity, for reasons I may give another time. I use two sizes of frames, the Langstroth and a frame one inch deeper, eight to the hive, and would sooner use a hive a foot deep than to use one with nine or ten frames. When I want to examine a colony, or put on surplus boxes in the spring, the packing is taken out as far down as the ledges that support the cover, and placed in the little building to the rear, to be used another fall and winter. The rest is left around the hives all the year. In winter, entrances are closed to two or three inches. Immediately in front of each hive is the number on the shed board made by a brass stencil plate. The board lying on the ground in front of each shed is turned up in front just high enough to keep the sun from shining to within an inch from the entrance. This gives the sun a chance to warm up the ends, and melt the ice that forms on the ends during the nights and on cold cloudy days. The hives being lower in the front, the water runs out the entrance. Any suitable day in the winter when it will thaw in the shade, these boards are lowered so that the bees can fly out; sometimes the south or front side of these sheds gets so warmed up that it is necessary to shade them to darkness to keep the bees from flying out and perishing.

I have been wintering in this manner all the years I have kept bees, and consider it perfect. I omitted to state that the covers are clamped on to prevent the leaves from raising

them. I generally packed up about freezing-up time. Two years ago I finished packing on the tenth of December at ten o'clock at night, and on looking at the thermometer when done, it was ten below zero. The bees wintered splendidly
Oshawa, Ont., Oct. 24, 1904.

GETTING BEES OFF THE COMBS WITHOUT BRUSHING OR WITHOUT ESCAPES.

I presume that nearly all bee-keepers know that if there is a time when bees are vicious and dead bent on stinging, it is late in the autumn when there is little or no honey coming in, and to attempt to take the combs from the hive and brush them at one time is a task that takes considerable nerve. To avoid this I have an assistant to use the smoker, go to a hive, give a few puffs at the entrance, pry off the upper story place it on the wheel barrow, remove the excluder and put on the cover, this has all been done so quick that the robbers have not discovered which hive you have been working on. Have an assistant keep a watch on the honey on the wheelbarrow and smoke away any robbers that may attempt to pilfer. When the barrow is loaded wheel it into the honey-house, and stack the hives up near a screen door having an escape. It would be better if the door had several escapes; let each body extend a little over the end of the one beneath it, so that the bees may escape without going clear up to the top. In this way you can pile them up six or seven high, and almost as close as the hives will stand. The bees will collect on the screen faster than they can escape, and when quite a number have collected on it, push the screen door partly ajar, and strike it on the inside with the hand, this will dislodge nearly every one. Be quick about it and close the door before many robbers can enter, for they are sure to be looking for a chance to enter.—Progressive Bee-Keeper.