

should have left one cell in each of the hives. We would not advise you to try to winter your colonies on any less than 30 pounds; if the temperature and everything is not kept just right they are liable to consume just twice as much food, as they will under proper circumstances. The quantities spoken of in the JOURNAL were simply special cases where the bees lay very dormant and were wintered under prime conditions, no account, however, was taken of the honey which the bees required after they were let out in the spring and the consumption of stores is very large the first few days after they are placed in summer stands; not one of these beekeepers would think of putting their colonies away for winter with the 7 or 8 or 10 pounds of stores which they actually consume, because honey would have been scattered around amongst the comb in a way the bees could not have got at it and the cluster would have become broken. You understand that if there is lots of honey in the hive and it is sealed, there is liable to be sufficient in the close proximity of the brood nest to enable the bees to remain closely packed together. The deduction therefore which is to be drawn from this statement is that the greater the quantity of stores in the hive the less will be the consumption, if there are lots of stores the probability is they will be of a better quality than if there is barely enough to keep the bees from starving and this is a point that does not usually receive sufficient consideration.

SELECTIONS.

DUMOUCHEL'S SWARMING CART.

A. DUMOUCHEL:—I must thank you very much for the good illustration of my bee cart and for the insertion of the article which accompanied it, also for your observations. I see that I must wait until next season till swarming comes again before I can have a chance to convince you of the possibility of inducing swarms to alight under a platform on wheels in preference to trees. There is no doubt whatever with reference to the fact in my mind. After mailing my last article I was reading not a little with reference to automatic swarming and the idea struck me that in following the instinct of the bees by making a hole three inches in diameter on the north-east corner of the platform, the bees when they alight will naturally and eagerly move into the hive above.

This experiment I will continue next season when, if it is satisfactory, my invention will deserve the title of the "Canadian Automatic Bee Cart," when the swarm may be hived without machinery or necessary change of the hive.

St. Benoit, Que., Aug. 25, 1890

We shall be only too glad if your device will prove practical, think what a pleasure it will be if all that is required in swarming time is to place the hive prepared for the new swarm on the hand cart when the bees will enter at will, moving the bees of course to the place where we desire to have the new hive stand. It reads very nicely if it will only work out as well. What a great convenience it will be to lady beekeepers, and there is no doubt but beekeepers generally will owe you a debt of gratitude if not something more substantial if your invention works out in practice with all of us as well as it does with you. We should of course be glad to have full particulars of your operations next spring. We think that the biggest trouble will be to have the swarms cluster on the under side of the platform; if you can always have them do this we are of the opinion that it may be possible to have them pass up quite readily through an auger hole into the hive above.

J. F. DEXN:—The season in this county has been good. Clover yielded well. Linden, light, buckwheat, and fall flowers astonish me, they are yielding more than for several years. I am aiming to get most of it in the brood chamber. Swarming has been more prevalent than for many seasons. No trouble to make sales of honey this year at good prices, although some beekeepers in this section are foolish enough to rush their honey in and sell it for 12½ cts per lb. (fair quality in sections) Fruit in this locality, in fact throughout the Niagara district, is a very light crop, which helps the sale of honey. Am getting new customers almost every day, and selling lots of honey right at the door. Clover has seeded heavily.

Ridgway, Sept. 5th.

GEO MORRIS:—Bees have done middling well this summer, and we are expecting some surplus yet, as the buckwheat is just coming in, and the prospects for a good fall seem good.

Stony Point, August 18th 1890.

Please send us the names of your neighbors who keep bees, that we may forward copies of the BEE JOURNAL to them. A postal card and a few minutes time will do it.

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