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D. ANGUISH.

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SPRING REPORTS

I have twenty hives of bees. I wintered them in the cellar, and they are all alive yet. My hives are large—twenty-one inches square inside. I have one swarm in a section of a cedar tree, which I cut down and carried home. It is five feet long, and is full of comb and bees from top to bottom. I left it out all winter, standing on a piece of plank, with a piece of inch board on the top end. It has been there for six years, and they seem to stand the winter well. There is about two inches of half-decayed material all round inside, that acts as an absorbent—a hint to bee-keepers—and besides there is the bark on the outside—a bad conductor of cold. They did not have a flight since some time in November until 12th of March.

PETER CAMERON.

Purple Valley, Ont.

At this date no reliable report can be given as to how the bees have wintered, but some bee-keepers in this district have lost a good many colonies, and expect to lose more before we get settled weather. My loss is about 10 per cent., with a few light. Nearly all that I have lost had honey only for winter stores. Some colonies cleaned out over 40 pounds, and were all dead. Others that were fed with sugar came out nice and clean, and will have enough and to spare. The season is late and nothing done on the land around here.

JAS. STORER.

Lindsay, April 11, 1908.

Colonies all living yet.

W. BEUGLAS.

Bees have wintered well here, and although the spring has been very cold and backward, so that the bees could fly only on four days, they are seemingly all in excellent condition, excepting one that

was badly affected with dysentery, but with proper attention I think it will pull through. It was a strong colony last fall, and was not fed any syrup. The honey in the hive may have been the cause, but I am not sure, as the entrance of all colonies were buried in several feet of snow for over a month, and they may have somewhat smothered. I didn't need to shovel any snow to keep the hives covered; it got there itself. Two days before March 12th, when bees had their first flight, one could merely see the tops of the packing cases. Holes were dug about three feet square into the snow in front of all the hives, and straw scattered into them, and there were surprisingly few bees lost. I cannot speak too highly in favor of storm doors for hive entrances as a protection from snow in the winter and from cold winds in the spring and fall. All entrances were clean and dry when dug out. I keep the storm doors closed all the time, except when the weather is fit for bees to fly, then close them again at night. I have a stick with a shingle nail driven into it near the end, and can either open or close the doors as fast as I have a mind to walk past the hives—a grand thing for fat and lazy men that don't want to stoop.

D. MEUSER.

Elmwood, Ont.

P.S.—Some time ago I read an article in a religious paper, stating that some spoke in tongues at a certain gathering at Mt. Joy, Ont. Methinks it must have been Mr. J. L. Byer merely reciting his first lessons in French and German (page 49, C.B.J.).

D.M.

Bees have come out of winter quarters this spring very good, both from cellar and summer stands. They are now gathering pollen from the alders.

I have found what I think is an improvement in melting up combs by crushing up the combs or cells when cold and