

cool or damp place. You might put it in a warm place.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I presume it has absorbed water, which fills cells to the cap. There is no way to remedy this except to extract and let the bees fill again. I presume it would pay better to sell it for less money—to sell it at a reduced price.

WM. MCEVOY, WOODBURN, ONT.—Friend, you have kept that honey in too cold a place, and that is the cause of its watery appearance. Comb honey should be kept in a warm room, the warmer the better, for a long time after it is taken from the bees.

DR. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—You can't do anything to cure it. You may prevent it by keeping it where honey will dry out. Dark capping probably comes from leaving too long on hives. If it looked watery before taking off the hive, you must change your bees.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO', MASS.—There are various causes for the above, and I don't know of any remedy therefor. It may be caused by taking off too soon from the hive, or by keeping in a cool, damp place. Probably the honey was not well ripened before being taken from hive. I should extract it and allow it to ripen.

A. PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—You have probably had it in a cool, damp place, and that is the cause. You cannot "bring it back to its proper state." So far as it can be remedied or brought back a warm, dry place will do it. Always keep comb honey in a warm, dry place at all seasons of the year.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—It will never be brought to the state of good nice honey for the simple reason that it never was good. I would cut out all such section honey and pack the combs in small tin buckets say 8 lbs. to the bucket, then fill the corners with a good bright article of thick, clear honey—extracted. The 8 lb. packages should contain about 5 lb of comb and 3 lb. of clear honey. I have sold all my poorly filled sections and those that were out of shape, in this way. They sold readily in the city marked for \$1.20 a package, or 15c. per lb. My nice sections crated, 24 sections to the crate, brought 16c. each. You can make your order figures and see that the sections that were not in shape to crate were as profitable as the nice ones were.

THE EDITOR.—It is caused by moisture going through the cappings, causing the honey to swell and fill all the air space usually left between honey and capping, which makes the capping look white. Set your combs in a warm dry room, which causes the moisture to dry out again, and the honey will be improved both in appearance and quality. Thin comb honey may be refined and thickened in a warm dry room.

\*\*\* Clubs of five, at one time, to any address for \$3.25; ten at one time \$6.00; 20 at one time \$11.00; 50 at one time \$25.00. This is an excellent opportunity for associations.

## Do Bees Select their Future Homes in Advance.

ON Sunday, July 20th, while watching for an expected swarm it issued and instead of clustering bolted for the woods and I thought was lost, but my neighbor coming from church told me that he saw it and thought it was going to cluster. We went down and found it on a hollow tree, and not much chance to get it out, so I asked permission of the owner of the tree to bore a hole in the tree and smoke them out and so get them. I smoked them and drove out a great many of the bees and stopped up the holes with moss, hoping they would go back in the evening, but they persisted in staying and did so for two-and-a-half days, although I went down and drove them out by smoking all I could. The second and third day, when the bees returned to the old hive, the hole in the tree was about an inch in diameter but the tree quite hollow. Does not this instance look as if the bees had chosen the tree for a home. The tree was on the outside of the woods facing south. I never saw the queen, I suppose that she remained in the tree, I gave her plenty of time to come out; after driving the bees out I fastened a piece of mosquito netting over the hole to prevent the ingress of the bees, and to cage her if she came out. I was skeptical about scouting bees, but this instance seems confirmatory of their doing so.

WILLIAM HOLT.

Fairville, St. John, N. B., Aug. 23, '90.

## Buttermilk for Bee Stings.

ON the matter of bee stings as brought up in the JOURNAL, and the use of ammonia for them. I think if you would try buttermilk you would find a safer and better remedy. It is the only thing I have used for some time and I never found anything more effectual. I have seen it used by a person who became very sick from being stung, with almost magical effect. Try it, it won't cost you much, and will certainly do you no harm. If sick, drink freely; to ease the pain apply freely externally.

My bees are doing very well, I began with 12 colonies, have only increased to 20, lost two over that, have taken about 1000 lbs of honey to date, mostly extracted, the basswood flow being very fine and lasting longer than usual.

The JOURNAL has been of good service to me, quite a number of valuable pointers having been culled from its welcome pages. Wishing you success in the future, I remain

Yours etc.,

JAMES ELLIOT,

Milton Grove, Ont., July 27, 1890.