

or they may have had a surplus of pollen in the spring and therefore did not consume as much. If the stores are all right we have no doubt but that they will winter successfully. By the way, the binders which we have had ordered for such a long time have at last arrived and we find that we can supply them post paid at 55 cents. With one of these you can file away each week's JOURNAL as it reaches you and thus obviate the risk of its being lost or destroyed.

#### EXTRACTED HONEY, AND HOW TO PROCURE THE BEST RESULTS.

E. LUNAN. — Please answer me in C. B. J. which is the best method to get the largest quantity of extracted honey, the horizontal or the tiering up plan.

Buttonville, Ont., Nov. 17, 1885.

The question you ask is a disputed one. Some bee-keepers claim that the tiering up system is the best plan, while others equally successful give preference to the horizontal plan. Probably becoming accustomed to each particular system is as much the reason of the preference as anything else. Some years ago a Mr. Harvey, of Salmonville, 16 miles from Beeton, extracted 615 lbs. honey and increased to four colonies from one, spring count, during one season on the horizontal plan and with deep frames. Mr. Chas. Mitchell, of Molesworth, took 612 lbs. from one colony. We have not heard that the above results have been equalled by the tiering up plan.

#### QUEENLESS COLONIES—CLOVER—ROBBING ETC.

L. MARSH—I was pleased with the sample copies of your CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL which you so kindly sent me. Last winter my bees all died, having shared the fate in common with nearly all bees in this locality. Last June I purchased six colonies in fair condition, being in quality about equal to the so called Italians. While bringing them home I had the misfortune to lose a queen, which I afterwards found to be a very serious one. However, I took a few frames of hatching brood from the other hives which greatly assisted

in keeping up the strength of the colony, which in due time, replaced their loss. I also lost one queen during her bridal tour. I did not, until some considerable time after, discover the loss. I then supplied them with a frame of eggs and one of hatching brood, ten days after. I destroyed all queen cells but two, a further examination, fifteen days after, found them still queenless and fearfully cross. The season being far advanced I doubled this unfortunate colony with the next weakest. I met with poor success in getting my bees to work in the sections. I therefore, confined myself to the extractor and took 420 pounds of extracted honey while clover bloomed as usual. I did not, however, see one bee at work on white clover this year, the raspberry having seemingly won their preference. I increased partly by natural and partly by artificial swarming to fifteen colonies. I am now going into winter quarters with fourteen colonies—1 on 4, 3 on 5, 5 on 6, 5 on 7 frames 9x17 and 10x13½ inches using division boards and filling up space. Four colonies suffered considerably from robbers notwithstanding my many attempts to guard against this unprincipled method of stealing. I now find them short of stores. I am of the opinion the best way to guard against this rascality is to keep only strong colonies. I used coal oil, closed entrance for three or four days at a time—used wet grass in front of entrance but seemed to obtain only temporary relief from these sources. (1.) Are the mammoth mignonette, the bokhara and the mammoth sweet clovers one and the same plant? if not please say the difference between them. (2.) About how many square inches ought the brood chamber of a two storey hive to contain in Canada? Does a hive made with bevel edge to receive brood chamber, cap, etc., contain any advantage over the common method employed in making the ordinary two-storey hive? Please say the meaning of "R. J. Candy" and how made? How shall I make candy for my four colonies and when and how ought it to be given? bees to be wintered in cellar. What per cent of loss did you suffer in wintering your bees last winter. I purpose giving in a future number of your JOURNAL a few remarks on the *Santfon* as a honey plant, also my experience in testing this plant as regards its adaptability to our Canadian climate.

Halloway, Ont., Oct. 19, '85.

If the colonies are strong there is little danger of robbing or difficulty in its prevention. When a colony has been once entered by robbers it seems to become disheartened and does not appear to make the same effort to repel