

that I have laid up that much each year, as some are bound to have it, only that I have received that as a salary, if I may so put it.

That bee-keeping will compare favorably with any other pursuit in life, I firmly believe, and the trouble why so many fail in it is that they do not properly attend to it. Men will give their horses and cattle the best of care, but when it comes to the bees, they let them take care of themselves, with the exception of hiving swarms and putting on and taking off boxes. What would they expect from their cows if treated in that way? The keeping of cows means milking twice a day for at least 210 days out of the year, and feeding them three times a day for 180 days, saying nothing about cleaning stables and other work necessary to carry on a dairy. When men are willing to thus care for bees, they will find they give as much profit as can be obtained from cows, or any other branch of rural industry. Bee-keeping means work, energetic work, a place for everything and everything in its place and to know how to do things just at the right time and in the right place, if we would make it profitable. We also want the best bees, the best hives and all modern appliances, just as our enterprising dairymen would have the best breed of cows and the best utensils to care for the milk. Also a man must have a liking for the business.

No man will ever make bee-keeping profitable who prefers to lounge about a country tavern or store instead of working in his apiary. In fact, a person will not succeed in any business unless he has enough love for his calling in life so he will be diligent and faithful thereto. "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings," was what king Solomon told his son, and the saying is as true to-day as it ever was. If a person is not willing to spend the time on his bees which they require, he had better keep out of the business, for sooner or later he will turn from it in disgust if it is undertaken with the idea that "bees work for nothing and board themselves."

Farm and Home.

SYRUP FOR WINTER STORES.

THE beekeeper often finds that in removing the surplus honey in the sections above the bees he has left the colony short of stores; or in case of late swarms very often they are found to be short, not having stored sufficient to carry them through the winter. The question arises, How can we prepare these colonies for winter, and do it safely and so cheaply that it will pay the bee-keeper?

I have used sugar syrup more or less for win-

ter stores for the last ten years, and consider it superior to anything except the best quality of white clover honey gathered early and thoroughly ripened. It is fully equal to this when properly made. I would use nothing but granulated sugar. To 10 lbs. add $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of rain water or soft water. Place this in the vessel in which it is to be boiled, and to prevent scorching (which will not answer in the least degree) use a boiler, setting a dish in the bottom. Pour in water enough to two-thirds cover the dish containing the sugar. Now dissolve one teaspoonful of cream tartar in half a cup of water and add this to the syrup with two pounds of extracted honey. Stir it until the acid and honey are thoroughly mixed through the syrup, being sure that the sugar is all dissolved. Bring it to a boil and skim off all that may rise to the top. Remove the boiler of syrup from the fire and when it is cool enough not to burn the bees it is ready to feed. It will not granulate and is far superior for winter stores to the average honey gathered by the bees.

The syrup may be fed in any feeder to suit the fancy of the bee-keeper. To a good sized colony that had no stores when the frost killed the flowers, I would feed 25 lbs.; if they had partly enough, as is commonly the case, make an estimate, always letting the estimate be in favor of the bees. Feed enough to make 40 lbs. of sealed stores. I use a small feeder for stimulating. I first cut a hole through the quilt or honeyboard or if it be a box hive, through the top of the hive and place the feeder there. For winter feeding I use a feeder holding 25 lbs. and it covers the whole hive.

To simply remove the honey boxes or quilts and set on the feeder is well; then pour in enough to put them in good condition for winter.

This they will take down in 48 hours or less time.

Should the bee-keeper be so careless as to neglect the feeding until the weather is so cold that the bees will not take the feed down from the feeder the next best thing is as follows: Take the frames from the side of the hive not covered with bees and lay some sticks across a large tin pan and laying the comb on the sticks. Then hold a skimmer 18 inches above the comb and pour the syrup through it, letting it fall in fine streams on the comb. The force of the syrup will drive the air from the cells and fill the cells nicely. When one side is filled, turn the comb and fill the other in the same way. The suction will hold the syrup in, and four or five pounds of it can easily be put into a comb. When filled return it to the hive.

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