

Well, friend Miller, while you are talking about thick top-bars, we have one before us which is both thick and thin. The top bar is  $\frac{3}{8}$  inches thick, cut out of one straight piece of wood. There are two pieces  $\frac{7}{8}$  in. square nailed on the proper distance from each end. These pieces are nailed in with the grain of the wood, running the same as the top bar and endways. Then there is another  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch piece nailed on cross-ways in the centre, and another piece  $\frac{7}{8}$  in. wide by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. thick by the length of the under side of the top-bar nailed on to that, which forms a top-bar over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch deep, solid at each end same as any top-bar, solid in the middle also, with a crack each side of the centre cross-piece  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep between the top and bottom bars. This our friend claims gives a bee passage under the top-bar and over the combs, and perhaps it may have something to do with preventing burr or brace combs. The bottom bar is split in two in the centre, one half is nailed on solid while the other half is tacked on lightly, so that it may be removed and the comb foundation put in, pressed down and then nailed on. This is a little more trouble to make than the ordinary top-bar, but it has the advantage of a bee space over the combs when the quilt is down or the cover fits tightly, preventing the escape of heat. The above frame was sent us by Mr. D. A. Bartels Fellows.

#### Replies to Queries.

The following answers to queries 297 to 300 by friend Pringle by some means went astray and did not reach us in time for insertion with the others. By turning up back numbers the reader will be able to connect these answers to the queries numbered.

QUERY No. 297.—Certainly it would increase the mortality if it resulted in starving the bees. My general practice has been for many years to crowd the frames up to one bee space and leave them that way till the next spring or not leave them according to circumstances. They will winter all right that way provided the other conditions are favorable. In such case there must be a passageway over the frames in winter. Then if the temperature of your repository is as high as  $40^{\circ}$  and there are plenty of stores the close proximity of the frames will do no harm. When bees, however, are wintered in a low temperature the frames should be well apart and well filled with honey in the tops.

QUERY No. 298.—No doubt partly owing to the mild winters of late, but each bee-keeper must decide which is best under his own circumstances. The bee-keepers of the Niagara peninsula of Ontario seem to be growing more in favor of outside wintering, while those of the East here are, I fancy, of about the same mind still. I have tried both ways, and can winter either outside or in; but on the whole, I am in favor of the in. However, they are better outside well prepared than inside poorly fixed.

QUERY No. 299.—I should think you would stand a better chance to get "the same quantity in each section" by using the 13.

QUERY No. 300.—Yes, I do think so. My sheets of section foundation are "gradually diminishing and growing beautifully less" from year to year. By using full sheets of section foundation you can get comb honey first rate in outward form and appearance, but not first rate in quality. As quality must come in a little ahead of every other consideration, whatever deteriorates it must ultimately go in producing a number one article.

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D. A. JONES, - - - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.  
F. H. MACPHERSON, - - - ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

BRETON, ONTARIO, AUGUST 1st, 1891.

Bee escapes, escape the attention of very few now.

Brood and section comb foundation is 5 cts. a lb lower, on account of the price of wax declining 5 cts. a lb.

Foul brood appears to be getting much scarcer in Canada. Thanks to Government support in exterminating it.

Why does not the Dominion Government add Apiculture to their Agriculture College and experimental Farm?

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