

cushion over frames. I winter on summer stands, I have never tried any other way. The balance are in chaff hive with four inch packing between inner and outer shell. About half of these are in Langstroth and the other in 10 x 14 inch frames, 10 deep, 14 long and at present writing the 10 x 14 are quite a bit the strongest, both in honey and bees. Last Spring I began with thirty-two colonies and we sold very nearly \$200 worth of honey and increased to sixty-two colonies, besides running five acres of market garden, nearly all done by wife and I, and son, ten years old.

J. B. WHITON, ITHACA, GRATIOT CO., MICH.—13—11.—Place a board each side of the hives, the front one notched with a cleat nailed around the notch to keep the entrance open, pack the whole space between the hives and around with shavings from the planer. Take off the cover put in a bushel of shavings, nail over a thin piece of sheeting, take the covering from the hive and put on a Hill's device, put the cover on top, pack the shavings four or five inches around the cover with a shingled roof over the whole. One weak swarm on which I left the summer covering with no shavings in the cover was all mouldy and died. One of my last ones eat up all of their stores and died. I never had bees come through so dry and free from mould before. The packing outside was dry, in the covers it was damp from their breath. Bees were strong and raising brood. To prevent spring dwindling I remove the shavings from the cover, put the burlap on the hives, leave the packing around the hives until they are strong and the danger of cold storms all over. They can work just as well with the packing around as to have it removed.

JESSE MEKEL, POPLAR RIDGE, CAYUGA CO., N. Y.—Wintered six colonies in chaff hives, Gallup frames. All came out in good condition. Commenced stimulative feeding with honey and sugar-syrup April 14th, on top of brood frames. Wintered upon eight frames. May 10th I placed two additional frames of comb in each hive. May 18th placed upon each hive a full set of supers, twenty-four and twenty-seven, two pound sections, covering with blanket and cushion as in winter. May 26th three hybrids commenced storing in sections. May 30th the remaining colonies, one Black and two Italian, commenced in sections. June 4th wishing to change the section into new clamps and look through the brood chamber for queen cells. Found upon one hive twenty-two sections, from two-fifths to two-thirds completed, many half sealed, one section finished. From another took

six finished sections. From the third five, fourth two, fifth two, sixth one, and from two of the hives have formed three nuclei. There are now in all the hives but one, eleven brood frames and nearly all full of brood and honey. I thought this might be encouraging to such as do not believe in early section honey.

SIMON MIREAULT, ST. JACQUES.—Last season was a good one for me for swarming, but the yield of honey was very poor. Of six swarms I got in the Spring I increased to twenty, put only seventeen in winter quarters, having lost one and doubled up the others. I think I should like my Italians very much but for their cross qualities. I followed your instructions as well as I could in putting my bees in Winter quarters, and I can boast to have succeeded in this process so far as my knowledge does permit. At this writing I lost two colonies, which I consider a small percentage. Two colonies were much affected with dysentery since February, and the others were a little affected in the month of April, caused by protracted confinement. I gave them a flight in the end of April which set them all right. I wintered my bees in cellar. I consider my bees in good shape for the ensuing year.

GEO. FERGUSON, LAMBETH.—In the Fall of 1882 I bought a black swarm in box hive which wintered well. I had no previous experience whatever, all my instructions I received from Mr. Jones through the *Beeton World* and from Cook's Manual. In the Spring I transferred into one of your double-walled hives, and increased to three, getting two of your Italian queens for young swarms. From one of these young swarms I took sixty pounds of comb honey, the other being late made no surplus. These three also wintered well in your double-walled hives, coming out strong in the Spring. The two Italian colonies swarmed on the 22nd of May. From these I got queens for my nuclei so that I had nine strong working colonies. The Black colony swarmed a few days after the Italians. In the Fall, (last Fall) I had twelve colonies, but as one had been queenless for some time I united it with another, leaving eleven. I examined them a few days ago, (April 11th), and found but three living, and only one of them was strong, and that was a black colony that I kept working on sections, and did not extract from and consequently had a good supply of well-ripened and sealed white clover honey. I attribute the failure to the white clover honey on which they wintered. As it was sealed I thought I would risk it, but on the first arrival of cold weather they had the dysentery. So much learned in the school of experience.