

of queens.

How can I ever describe my delight in handling again the movable frames! In the apiary of a neighbor, Rev. McGregor, I fully proved that with small strips of foundation for guides, I could use my comb-guides, or guide-frames, and secure from Italian bees the same perfect worker-combs that I used to get with these guides from the black bees, thus realizing a favorite idea of one of our greatest bee-keepers, Doolittle, viz., getting perfect worker combs with the least use of foundation.

While handling frame after frame of such combs, and feeling as much enthusiasm as I did in 1853, when I first saw that the bees would follow the triangular comb guide, I exclaimed to the Rev. McGregor, (apologizing for the seeming play upon his name), I must make those words of Rob Roy in Scott's novel, my own: "My foot is upon my native heath—and my name is McGregor!"

Unquestionably some persons are so sensitive to the bee-poison, and so dangerously affected by it, that under no circumstances ought they to keep bees. To such persons my experience can be of no service.

Oxford, Ohio.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

STRENGTHENING UP THEIR SWARMS.

Adolph Beausoleil, Tecumseh, Ont.—From the two Italian colonies I bought from you last Spring I have nine swarms. I would like to increase the strength of the three last colonies; they have laying queens. The first are strong colonies with brood. How should I proceed?

You may take one comb of brood from each of the strong colonies and give to each of the weak ones; feed all a little to keep them brooding, and especially the weak ones. When they get their combs well filled with brood, then feed sufficient for Winter.

WINTERING NUCLEI.

I have four queens in three-frame nuclei and how can I keep them alive over Winter so as to have early queens on hand to put in queenless hives next April and May? I thought of putting them in one hive with wire cloth division between

each and make fly holes at each side and each end, and pack in sawdust six inches all around and above.

It will take very careful packing and we think not less than 12 inches in order to pack them sufficiently warm for wintering. The three frames would require to be well-filled with honey, and plenty of bees to cover every frame, yet it is questionable whether they will winter safely or not. If placed in a good cellar, we think the chances would be better as they would not be affected by sudden charges or severe weather.

GOOD REPORTS.

C. McNally, Simcoe.—I started in the Spring with sixty colonies; have increased them to 200, and expect to increase 25 more. Have taken 6000 pounds of honey and expect to take 1000 pounds more, and the colonies now have too much honey for wintering. They now weigh from sixty to ninety pounds each. Did not get much honey from white clover; about 1500 lbs. from clover, the balance of the crop is basswood mixed with thistle. Lately they have gathered considerable from second crop red clover. The buckwheat is just coming in now and they are working on it in good style, the prospects are good for a heavy yield of buckwheat honey. Shall winter them in the cellar same as last year. Use Jones' hive.

Rev. J. Carswell, Arkona, Ont.—I have done splendidly this season; increased from seven to twenty, and got 1,260 lbs. of honey, and the hives are well filled again, but the flow seems over, so I will leave them what they have got.—Aug. 5th.

C. W. Bates, West Summer, Oxford Co., Me.—I have received the JOURNAL you so kindly sent, and like it very much. I inclose twenty-five cents for three months. A JOURNAL like this is far more instructive and beneficial in this section than one printed at the South. Have read several Journals and Magazines, both weeklies and monthlies, many of them are filled up with advertisements, and but little information can be had by reading them. I have kept bees for forty years, kept them for years in the old box or "gum hives." Have kept them for some years in the portable hives. This season I changed them into the Simplicity hive, using the Langstroth frame, or those very much like that. For spring honey, I think them the best I have had. I winter my bees in the cellar with good success.