

LOST ONE OUT OF 225.

G. A. DEADMAN.—Removed over 225 colonies of bees from my cellar on the 21st of April, with the loss of but one colony. The weather has been very unfavorable and they have been confined to the hives most of the time. They have gathered no pollen yet.

Brussels, April 29, 1887.

F. MEHLENBACHER'S REPORT.

F. MEHLENBACHER.—Put my bees into winter quarters packed in clamps—thirty colonies—and this day, (April 30), all are in fine condition, with queens and brood. There are a few which are a trifle weak. I put away one small nucleus, on which I had counted nothing, but it came out successfully, and bids fair to become a good colony. On page 815, volume II of C. B. J., I described my new clamp, and you asked me to report in spring how the bees came out. You have my report in the above.

Fisherville, Ontario.

SAW-DUST BETTER THAN CHAFF.

WM. J. HONEYFORD.—During the last week in October of last year I put seventy-eight colonies on their summer stands in cases 6 inches larger all than the hives, 10 inches on the top and 6 below. For 40 of them I used wheat chaff and the balance dry hemlock sawdust. Up to this date I have lost seven colonies, 4 of which were drowned by the sudden rising of the water in the river one night during the past winter. In the morning I awoke to find about a foot of water all over my yard. Two others were lost by the queen dying, and the seventh was a case of spring dwindling, all the rest are in splendid condition, a good many having drone brood capped. The colonies packed in saw-dust seemed to winter somewhat better than the others.

Avening, Ont., May 9th, '87.

We are glad to have your experience as to the wintering qualities of bees packed in chaff and in the sawdust. It is more than likely if the sawdust had been from dried pine lumber that you would have noticed a good deal more difference in favor of sawdust packing.

SOMETHING MORE FROM FRIEND DUNN.

J. F. DUNN.—On page seventy-three, Volume III, C. B. J., I am made to say "clover as headed out below. The word "headed" should read *heaved* or as some call it "pulled." Although in the South-western part of Ontario we are hardly smart enough to have clover headed out in April. The losses among the bees in this county has been very great, many reporting heavily with their little few, in differing in the wintering qualities of the different races. By the way some time ago Mr. Osborn, Havana, Cuba, made a statement like this:—"The native bee of Cuba is a simon pure black no brown German about it." I think it was generally accepted that the black and brown bees were identical or rather that the German black as applied to bees was a mistake and that such should be called German brown. Perhaps after

all our large brown German bees are only a burnt-cork-imitation. Now, friend Osborn, if you have the simon-pure-original-black bees will you please give us a description of them through the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. Tell us how you like them and if they are good comb builders, tell us also how you like the Holy Lands in your colonies after the experience you will have had by this time.

Ridgeway, May, 1887

BEES GATHERING POLLEN ON THE 3RD, APRIL.

W. A. CHRYSLER.—I commenced the season of 1886 with seven small colonies; increased them to twenty-seven good strong ones. I took from them 500 lbs of extracted, and 50 lbs of comb honey (clover and basswood) and left with them on an average about 50 lbs per colony to winter on, of fall honey. In the fall I made a couple of clamps. Made double bottoms and set on them each 14 hives, two rows, back to back, and close together. I then made the sides two boards high, leaving about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch at the bottom on each side for entrances, and about a foot all around for packing. The lumber I used was some I had got for hives, and as only the boards on ends of clamp were sawn, it is little the worse for hive making, and is therefore a cheap way of wintering. They all wintered well, although a few were weak, and I lost two by robbing. I sold one, and have 24 to commence the season with.

Chatham, April 26th, 1887.

N. B.—My bees gathered pollen Sunday, 3rd inst. Isn't this earlier than common?

You have beaten the record thus far by one day, as we have one case where pollen was gathered on the 4th of April.

THE CHAPMAN HONEY PLANT.

ALLEN PRINGLE.—As many of the readers of the C. B. J. will be sowing the seed of the Chapman Honey Plant this season for the first time, will you kindly, in your next issue, tell us what you know of the plant and its cultivation, that is, when to sow it, how to sow it, what kind of land is best for it, what treatment it requires after sowing, etc., etc. Please give this information if possible in next issue, as intending sowers will want to prepare land.

Selby, Ont.

On every package of the seed that is sent out by Mr. Chapman or his agents, the following directions appear:—"In early spring drill in rows two feet apart, one inch deep about fifteen inches in the rows. As it bears transplanting well, may be sown much thicker in the rows; or it may be sown thinly broadcast, on land previously having had good culture. The plant is triennial. In favored localities may live four years, giving three seasons of bloom. It needs no cultivation after the first year." Prof. N. W. McLain, says on page 407, C. B. J. Vol. 2:—"The plant is hardy, easily propagated and appears to flourish in all kinds of soil."