

somewhat different breed from these mentioned by the correspondent here. We have tried this very thing and our robbers have always been "cute" enough to crawl over and go in at the end. Stick to the "wet hay" process, as described on page 16, volume, VI of the JOURNAL.

#### CLIPPING QUEEN'S WINGS.

A writer in the Guide has the following paragraph amongst others, on the advantage of clipping the wings of the queen:

"There is one advantage in clipping queen's wings which is never mentioned and yet my experience leads me to believe it is true. Before I began the practice I kept several favorite queens till they laid so many unimpregnated eggs and scared so many drones that I pinched their heads off. But I have never had a single clipped wing queen go far beyond her best day without the bees superceding her on their own option; and queens reared to supercede their mothers are as a rule, the best queens we get. I have ceased to trouble myself about superannuated queens, but simply clip the wings of laying queens and leave the bees to do the rest, as with all my reading and study I find there are many things the bees will do better for themselves than I can do it for them and one thing is the replacing of queens that have partially out-lived their usefulness.

#### CELLULOID FOUNDATION.

A correspondent from New Zealand wants to know whether sheets of vulcanite or celluloid could not be used as a base for combs, with the object of preventing orme comb, and taking the place of the Aspinwall wooden combs.

#### FERTILE WORKERS.

A novel way of getting rid of fertile workers is described by Z. T. Hawk, in the Apiculturist. He did not adopt the orthodox plan of carrying the bees and combs a hundred yards, and then shaking them off the combs. Time was too precious for fooling that way. He picked up the colony, and placed it on the top of its next neighbor. The latter was a good, powerful colony, working at a good rate in the sections. He removed the section-case and honey-board, and placed the queenless colony directly on the brood-chamber of the colony that had a queen. He then placed the section-case above this double brood-chamber, and work went on as though nothing had happened. In two or three days he gave the double colony another case of sections. When the

work was well begun in this second case, he separated the brood-chambers in the evening, and gave one case of sections to each. At the time of dividing, he made sure that the queen had occupied all available cells in the brood-chamber that had before been queenless. The queenless hive then raised a queen. He does not think that the bees lost five minutes of time from harvest; in fact, he thinks there was a gain of energy resulting from the greater number of bees in the double colony. The result was more honey from the two than he would have got had they remained together.

#### HONEY DEW FOR WINTERING.

In the A. B. J. of April 26, Ira Barber gives his experience with honey-dew as winter stores for bees:

"According to promise, I will give the condition of the bees, after living on "bug-juice" for five months, for quite a number of them had nothing to live on but that. All that had queens have wintered in fine condition. Four colonies out of the 140 were queenless, and failed to winter. Many of the hives are quite badly soiled on the outside, but no damage is done. The timber that the bugs and bees frequented in this locality was swamp-elm. The temperature that the bees were wintered in, was from 46 to 56 degrees."

#### HONEY AS EYE-WATER FOR HORSES.

The Breeders' Gazette gives the following recipe for sore eyes in horses. Why not for human beings as well?

"I would suggest that a few drops of pure honey be dropped into the horses eyes daily or twice daily. It can do no harm, and I have known some remarkable cures by using honey alone. Let one person hold the horse's head, and turn it a little to one side, while another opens one lid and drops in a few drops of honey. It may effect a cure. I think it worthy of a trial with any eye in horse or ox that is sore from any cause. If the honey is too thick to run freely, it can be warmed a little, which will thin it so that it will flow freely, but care should be taken not to heat it to more than blood heat. New honey will not require heating."

#### PAINTING HIVES.

James Heddon says in the Review:

I wish my hives painted white, or nearly so, to avoid the intense heat of the summer months; and the packing boxes a dark red. Let the reader place a dark red or black board and a white one in the sun, even a low winter sun, and some time after they have received the sunshine, let the hand be placed upon them and the difference in temperature noted."