

ated from it, that the capped cells were not more than three quarters full, and those cappings that had not burst off, seemed to allow the moisture to evaporate through them, and we had in the hive a division board, crowding the frames up to a space suitable to the size of the colony. When the weather was cold, we sometimes set a few warm bricks behind this division board, and also a few on top of the frames, which appeared to absorb the moisture very rapidly. Brick that has been dried in an oven, or brick kiln, will take up a very large amount of water, without appearing to be wet, and it is an easy matter, where a person has only a few colonies, to evaporate and absorb several pounds of water from the combs in a very short time.

Now if a person has several hundred colonies of bees, we do not expect that they are going to fuss with hot bricks, or some other way equally troublesome, in fact, where a person has plenty of bees, it is perhaps better not to do too much fussing, but double your bees, so that they will be very strong, and they will do all this work themselves. Where you are determined to practice, experiment, and increase your colonies to the fullest extent, you must give them such artificial assistance, as will enable them to do the work that should be done by the bees.

There are a great many little things, that perhaps do not pay in beekeeping; just while you are experimenting with one colony, or more, as the case may be, but it gives you experience, and the experimenting posts, and enables you to judge much, as to the merits or demerits of such plan, or suggestion of some other party. But there are some who only have a colony or two, and are very anxious to do the best they can to prepare them for winter, to winter them successfully, and to build them up in the spring. We do not advise artificial means in large apiaries, but we merely mention some facts, in order to post those who wish to adopt such means to secure better results. Where time is no object, and a person is anxious to gain experience, a little fussing in the right direction is no doubt, time well spent, but all who cannot put their bees in winter quarters, with well ripened stores, may as well count on failure be-

fore, as after the wintering season is over. Ten colonies well wintered are worth more than thirty in a poor dwindled condition, that takes them all summer to build up. Now, in mentioning winter quarters, we do not mean that they have to be placed indoors. Out door packing can be resorted to, with good results, sometimes better than indoor, unless you have an extra good place to put them. We shall, perhaps, have more to say on this subject in another issue, as now is the time to commence wintering your bees. Do not wait till you hear the sleigh-bells jingling, and the ground is covered with snow. Bees properly wintered early in the fall, or rather prepared for winter, are likely to come through far better, than those so prepared late in Autumn.

Perhaps we might give the same advice here, that we gave to three gentlemen, who came a long way to get us to tell them just how to winter their bees. We told them to go on and start wintering their bees now. But they said, "it does not freeze till about November or December." Yes, that is very true, but after it starts to freeze, the time has passed for preparing for winter. Bees may be prepared in Aug. or Sept., for out-door wintering, and need not be disturbed until the following May, if desired. One gentleman remarked, that as they had so much snow in his neighborhood, it would never do to leave his hives, for fear they would smother. We told him if he would shovel ten or fifteen feet of snow on top of every hive, if they smothered we would give him another colony in the Spring for every one that smothered.

OUR sweet corn has just been covered with bees, and they appear to get honey as well as pollen from it. Early in the morning they keep working and sucking about the tassels, but later in the day they appear to pay no attention to it. We could see slight drops of dew or nectar about the tassels, and is it not possible that the dew lighting on it may be sweetened, or does it secrete on the tiny stalks around the pollen? We have only a very small place perhaps fifty by hundred feet, but it does seem to yield an immense amount of pollen. Our Hercules club leaves all other plants in the shade now.