

All my bees have wintered well, the largest out yard and home yard losses were the same, viz.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. the other out yards  $2\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. The latter were packed on summer stands, while home yards cellared and put out on April 5 and 6th averaging strong. I am drawing to outdoor wintering.

F. J. MILLER.

Middlesex Co., April 20th.

Bees have wintered remarkably well around here. My own 120 colonies all came out alive except one.

SAMUEL WOOD,

Simcoe Co., April 25th.

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### Bumble-Bees for Australia.

The San Francisco Weekly Bulletin reported that in January, 1899, the New South Wales department of agriculture had a short time before received a consignment of bumblebees by steamer from New Zealand. They were liberated in the Botanic gardens and in the Linnean Society's grounds at Elizabeth.

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### Points in Bees.

Editor Root, in Gleanings in Bee-Culture, some time ago gives his idea of five points in the order of their importance, upon which Dr. Miller comments as follows:

"Your classification of points for bees, Mr. Editor, is good: 1. Ability to get honey; 2. Good wintering ability; 3. Disinclination to swarm; 4. Good temper; 5. Good color. Possibly some other points ought to come in and shove color lower down, as whiteness of surplus combs. I rather think I'd want 2 and 3 to change places, making non-swarming come next after honey-getting."

### Spring Management of Bees.

By Morley Pettit.

Much has been said and written on this subject and possibly some bees have been too much managed for their own good or their owner's profit. If bees are well wintered, a few simple rules, with a great deal of sense and experience, are the best stock-in-trade for spring management. Cellar-wintered bees are removed and placed on summer stands early in April. As the motion of carrying out and the change from absolute darkness to daylight thoroughly arouses them, it is necessary that the day chosen be sunny and warm enough for bees to fly (not below 50 degrees F. in the shade). The apiarist should have plenty of help, and keep the cellar as dark and cool as possible during the operation, to avoid greatly disturbing the bees before they can be carried out. Practically sting-proof gloves may be made of cotton which has been used as a hive-cloth long enough to be thoroughly coated with propolis on one side. It is a good plan, where the hives are set in rows in the apiary, to carry out one row, then darken the cellar while the covers and entrance blocks are adjusted; then take out another row, and so on. Set covers on loosely to allow the cushions to air and dry, and close the entrance to about three inches. Mark, "to be fed," any hives which seem rather light.

The most convenient method of feeding in spring is to make syrup of granulated sugar dissolved in water in the proportion of 4 lbs. sugar to 1 quart of water. Fill empty combs with this and hang them in a warm room to drip. They should be quite warm when taken to the hive. After the bees have ceased flying in the evening, go to each hive needing stores and turn back the cloth far