

hives for the surplus cases. The theory is that in shaving and spacing the combs and reversing them, the bees will carry the honey from the brood frames and deposit it in the sections. I am inclined to think that this is generally true. Then if one cares for sameness in quality of his comb honey it is better to extract the mixed honey and secure the pure article from the clover bloom.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

THOMAS C. HINDSON.—In your last week's issue of C. B. J. my report of season's crop should have read "I took 400 lbs. of extracted honey from six hives," and not "from the new colony" as the report reads.

Brooklyn, Feb. 4th, 1889.

FED THEM ALL FOR WINTER.

ALLEN LOUGHEED.—My bees did not gather enough to winter on, and I had to feed them. They are all keeping very quiet. I have nine in cellar and three outside. My O. B. K. A. queen did very well.

Britannia, Feb. 7, 1889.

POLLEN GATHERING NO SIGN OF QUEENLESSNESS.

P. L. BLUM.—If bees carry in pollen in the spring or summer, is that a sure sign that they have a queen? If not, by what means can a novice ascertain without opening the hive that they have or have not a queen?

Bees will carry in pollen whether they have or have or have not a queen, but with one will gather it in greater quantity.

THE JUDAS TREE.

JOHN YODER.—A friend from Colorado has sent me a pound of Alfafa seed, when is the time to sow and is it a good honey plant in the country? A minister last night when preaching was trying to illustrate deceptiveness and he said there was a tree called the Judas, very lovely in appearance and very aromatic, attracting bees and other insects to it, but when said bees partook of the poison nectar they died suddenly and the ground around the tree was covered with them (dead bees). I told him after the meeting that there was no such tree, and if there were the bees would not be fools enough to go to it: Do you know of such a tree.

Springfield, Jan. 27th, 1889.

Chambers' Encyclopedia says:—Judas Tree (*cercis*), a genus of trees of the natural order *Leguminosae*, suborder *Casalpinae*. The common is a native of the south of Europe, and of the warmer temperate parts of Asia. It has orbicular, very obtuse leaves. The flowers, which are rose-colored, appear before the leaves. There is a legend that Judas

hanged himself on a tree of this kind. The American J. T. (*C. Canadensis*), is very similar, but has acuminate leaves. The flower-buds of both species are frequently pickled in vinegar." It is commonly known we believe as "Red-berry" in Canada, and is a species of laburnum and though we cannot speak of its nectar yielding properties the fact that its flower-buds are used for pickling gives emphatic denial to the statements made. Probably he had reference to the Upas tree, which is popularly supposed to be poisonous to all animal life, but in reality is not.

PETER BRENNAN.—I have twelve colonies of bees in a milk house. It freezes when the weather is cold in it, and we keep a stove in it and heat it up twice a week, and still they seem to mold a little around the entrance. Will it damage them any? If so, what will be my best step?

We would not attempt to winter colonies in such a place. Have never found anyone to succeed well in a repository where it froze every time the weather was cold. Then warming them up twice a week is not a good plan as it agitates them. Bees should always be kept in a repository which does not freeze, and the temperature kept as uniform as possible. I think you would succeed better if you would place them in a cellar, if you have one, if not I would prefer to raise the temperature to about 50 then pack them in chaff. If you had packed them in chaff outdoors, last fall, we think it would have been much better, but as you succeeded there last year we hope you may this, but now should keep the temperature as near 45 or 50 as possible, and by keeping them packed in chaff, the sudden changes of heat and cold will not effect them, their own heat would be retained.

Will it hurt the bees any to clean the dead bees out of each colony?

With a crooked wire you can remove the dead bees without destroying the others.

What honey plant would be best for me to use, and where can I get it?

There are a great many honey plants recommended. The Chapman honey plant and Bokara clover. All two of the best we have now.