

The following contains a "thinker" for the small honey producer who is in search of a home market. It is taken from report of the Vermont B.-K.'s Association. "Mrs. E. S. Brainerd, of Orwell, read an essay on "Marketing of Honey by small producers," explaining her own method, which had proved successful. It was, in brief, to deal direct with consumers, and to furnish the best, thus keeping the old and obtaining new customers. She now had more orders for honey than she could fill.—*Bee Hive*.

JOHN CLINE.—I will give a statement of my season's work in apiculture: I wintered 25 stands in a dry cellar come out very light on account of the previous dry summer. I increased to 40 stands, have taken off 500 pounds of comb honey for which I realised 20 cts. per pound, home market. The fore part of the season was very poor for bees but the fall was good. I have been keeping bees for fifty-five years and I never have had bees in any better condition on Nov. 20th, than I found them at that time when putting them in the cellar.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES.

JOHN CAREY.—This is our spring; it has been the worst season for flowers I have known. Usually the bees would be swarming at their best, and although I have 160 hives, no appearance of anything like a swarm, no honey coming in and cannot look at them for fear of robbing; in fact they have taken to it and have to keep a watch on the hives that are attached. We have had a very dry time, but rain came freely last week. Plenty of time yet for honey; a good three months before me in the new year. Last season had about 10 tons of extracted; obtained four pence per pound with cost of tins added.

Killarney, New South Wales, Dec. 6th 1888.

J. BULL.—Here is my report for the year: In the fall of 1887 I put 18 colonies in cellar; after feeding considerable sugar, and fearing they would not have enough to winter, I fed candy over top of frames. On taking them from cellar in spring I found four colonies dead, having starved, and the candy right over them left. Four other colonies were so weak that I doubled them up with others; in fact they all seemed weak, only one good colony among them; I sold one leaving nine spring count; increased to 13; took about 150 lbs. extracted and 30 lbs. comb honey; put them into cellar Oct. 29th with plenty of honey to winter without feeding. They appear to be doing well; very few dead bees on cellar floor. I pack loose chaff behind division board and over top of frames. Temperature 40 to 45.

BEES BREEDING.

ALVIN J. BALL.—The season past was very poor in this section. We got just enough to winter on—no increase—and my bees are wintering well so far. What month do the bees usually begin to breed, and will it set them breeding if I feed them in the cellar abundantly, or would it be better to watch until they are set out.

If your bees have food enough it is much better to wait until they are set

out in the spring before commencing to stimulate by feeding. We have not found good results from stimulating them in winter quarters. Bees sometimes breed when in winter quarters from the time they are put in until they die or are set out. This is the exception and not the rule, as they do not usually commence breeding until from two to four weeks previous to setting out, and that very slightly; many colonies not breeding until after being put on summer stands.

FEEDING—HOW MUCH AT A TIME.

About how much should be fed at a time?

We do not recommend stimulative feeding indoors. After a purifying flight, and the weather is warm enough to permit, feed them all they will consume and have a little to store. By this means they can be stimulated to breeding more rapidly.

FALL BREEDING—WHEN STOPPED.

About when do bees stop breeding in the fall? Sebee, Me., Feb. 25, 1889.

It depends entirely on season and locality. We have known them to stop in August and again to continue until October and November.

Circulars Received.

N. A. KNAPP, Rochester, Lorain Co., Ohio.—Four pages—pure Italian bees and queens and Poland china pigs.

A. D. COOK, Rock City, Dutchess Co., N. Y.—Garden seeds—special introduction box of seeds. Twenty kinds for 60 cts.

J. A. SIMMERS, Toronto, Ont.—Garden flower and field seeds and roots. A beautiful catalogue fully up with the times.

CONVENTION NOTICES.

WELLAND CO. BEE-KEEPERS ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the above association will be held in the town hall, Niagara Falls South, on Friday, March 8th, 1889. Morning session from 10.30 to 12 o'clock. Afternoon session from 2 o'clock to 4.30. At the last meeting of this society it was unanimously decided to invite bee-keepers of the surrounding counties to join us in re-forming the association into a district organization. We earnestly hope that you will be present and induce all your friends to do the same. Let us have a grand rally.—J. F. DUNN, Sec.-Treas.

NORFOLK BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the Norfolk Bee-keepers' Association will be held in Simcoe on March 13. Rev. W. F. Clarke is expected to be there to deliver an address. All interested are cordially invited to attend.