

white honey harvest is over, to fill out the hive with worker combs.

If bees are bent on superseding a queen, some drone comb will be even in a contracted brood nest; but this little can be removed and the openings filled up with worker comb as they are looked over the following spring.

I prefer starters of natural comb in the surplus apartments and for this purpose save all the suitable comb I can find, often cutting out partly built comb from the extracting supers.

Other papers read will be published in the Reporter as they come to hand.

The election of officers resulted in the return of the old staff, viz.: M. B. Holmes, Athens, president; F. L. Moore, Addison, vice-president; and F. W. Fulford, Brockville, sec'y-treas.

Resolutions were passed tendering the thanks of the Association to those who had contributed papers (more especially to Messrs. Pringle, Clare and Holtermann, who were unavoidably absent) and to the County Council for their kindness in granting the association the use of the Court house for its annual meeting.

It was decided that the next meeting of the association be held in Brockville during October, 1895.

## Outdoor Wintering.

(E. L. Bainard.)

Suggestions are asked for on the plan of wintering in packing cases as described by Mr. Ellis in the February BEE JOURNAL. I think lifting the frames from one hive to the other would be an objection. If there is no rim or cleats on the outside of the hive you use, why not make the packing case about 2½ inches longer and wider, and put in the whole hive, except the bottom board. A hole in the bottom would answer for an entrance. I think the small air space around the hive will keep the hive both warmer and dryer. If a house is frost and moisture-proof with double walls and windows and an air space between, why can't bees be protected in the same manner?

On top of the honey board or propolis cloth I use a section super filled with an inch of the top with chaff. On this is put a flat cover, and on the cover more chaff. This I find keeps the hive and packing dry, the packing case covers fit tight.

Mr. Ellis mentions that he packs one hive in a case. Why not put more together—say four, two facing one way and two the opposite direction with the backs together, setting them out of the clamps for summer in the same position.

## Yellow Bees.

—G. W. Demaree.

What is the matter with the yellow bees? For a number of years past it has been a common thing to see it asserted in the Bee Journal that color has nothing to do with the working quality of honey bees. Many of your readers cannot fail to remember how persistently these writers insisted that color had nothing good or bad about it in connection with bees. How is it that all is so changed now, and color does have a prodigious effect on bees, and bees are "no good" because they are yellow? and especially if they sport too many yellow bands. It is a fact that a bee may sport two or three yellow band and escape reprobation, but if she sports five bands she brings down upon her reputation a commonly disapproval that amounts to prohibition.

For about nineteen years I have handled the light colored or yellow bees, and during this time I have handled nearly all the known varieties of bees, and I repeat what I have often reported through the bee periodicals, that the light-colored varieties of bees have proven themselves to be the best all purpose bees that I have experimented with. I have tested their working and staying qualities both in field work and in feeding back honey to have sections finished up at the close of the honey season, side by side with the darker varieties, so-called pure and hybrids, and they have never failed to sustain their reputation as good strong workers in my yard. Of course I am not to be understood as claiming that every colony of light-colored bees are superior to all colonies of the darker varieties, I speak of them as a rule.

I wish to say here that those persons who have claimed to have originated the five banded bees, talk nonsense. I can breed them up to this type by careful selection in two or three seasons, and have often done it. In 1883 I had 120 colonies of bees in my yard and about half of them were of this type of bees—banded to the tip. That season was an extra good one, and my yellow bees, at the close of the season, stood at the head with large odds in their favor. I speak of this to indicate that I do not judge the merits of these bees from a few "sample bees," as many persons have done, and then write *knowingly* about them. By crossing yellow Italian drones with Cyprian queens, this type of bees can be attained even in one season, and I believe that most