

had cleansed their own combs, and was rid of foul brood, I thought, why can I not use the combs I had saved after fumigating frequently, and effectually with sulphur, and spraying with carbolic acid? I then gave the nicest of these combs containing no honey, to several colonies, without any bad results whatever.

Whether there is anything in it or not, I will not pretend to say, but I put a small camphor poke on top of the frames of each colony, and fed a little sulphuric acid through the summer, with an occasional spraying with a weak solution of carbolic acid, the bees at the entrances of the hives. After getting through safely so far I was foolish enough to risk still further, by giving to a very late, small second swarm, six frames (the last I had), some of which contained some of the old honey; I sprayed them all with carbolic acid, but did not uncapped the honey, neither did I use any camphor nor give them any attention whatever. Sometime afterward, when I examined them, in taking out the second frame, oh, the infernal foul brood! How I regretted using combs with the honey in; being taught when a boy not to "cry over spilt milk," I concluded to do the best I could under the circumstances. I immediately took away the queen, and I suppose for sometime I troubled them with more sulphuric and carbolic acid than was agreeable to them. I afterward gave them a queen, but being late, and the weather cold, they reared no brood. I do not fear but what they will come out all right.

I put them into the cellar the last of November, without one drop of honey in their combs—they are living on sugar candy, and doing first-rate. However they may come out I cannot believe that either the queen or bees ever become affected, but if kept two days in empty boxes, then put into perfectly clean or new boxes, there will be no return of foul brood, unless they get access to foul-broody honey.

The afterpart of the summer here was anything but agreeable or profitable to bee-keepers. There was no buckwheat honey; fall flowers would have produced abundantly, but the weather was so wet and cold, that the bees could not harvest it. The winter had been open, wet and warm—favorable for out-door wintering. My bees (over 30 colonies in all) are resting very contentedly in the cellar, without giving me any concern whatever. I have them right under the kitchen, where we keep potatoes. Some of the family go in with a light every day and neither that nor the noise from above annoys them in the least.

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SAMUEL BARNHART.

From the Bee Hive.

A BEE HIVE ON SCALES.

HOW IT MAY BE OF BENEFIT TO THE BEE-KEEPER.—TABLES OF HONEY YIELDS.

HOW many pounds of honey will a swarm of bees gather in one day, is a question that has often been asked. With your permission, Mr. Editor, I will endeavor to give the public my experience, through the columns of your practical little *Bee Hive*. For fifteen years I have kept a swarm of bees on scales in each of my apiaries, during the summer. Not only for the purpose of knowing how much honey a single colony can store in one day; but to assist in determining just what the bees are doing, from day to day. I deem it very essential that I should know just how much honey is being gathered each day, not so much for the pleasure of having a record to refer to in the future, but to serve as a guide by which to govern my operations during the honey harvest.

Those who have never kept a hive on scales cannot estimate the advantages to be derived by such a practice. We not only have a record to refer to in after years, but we are enabled to judge very correctly every day what the bees are doing, and also know to a certainty when the honey flow begins, when it is at its height and when it is drawing to a close. The amount of honey that a colony will gather in one day I find to vary greatly in different localities. I find that apiaries located only three miles apart, vary in the amount of honey stored in each. The condition of the weather has much to do with the amount of honey that will be gathered each day, as a few hours of unfavorable weather in the middle of the day will make quite a difference with our scale hive record. Hence the apiarist must take the condition of the weather into account, and be governed accordingly in making his calculations. I have observed that in a season when the atmosphere is well charged with electricity and when electric shocks are frequent, honey will be much more abundant than when electric shocks are less frequent.

When the lightnings flash and threaten our lives, We may be sure the bees will fill their hives.

By the use of scales we are enabled to ascertain the value of the different plants from which come our surplus. I deem it very essential that we should know this, as I find there is a great variation in the amount of nectar secreted by honey-plants in different localities. For instance: clover may yield abundantly near the