enough to winter on, and not having the moveable comb hives, so that I could build them up from those that had plenty, and some to spare, I had to destroy them, which was a loss. Then again, other hives would refuse to swarm altogether, which, of course, was a loss of all increase from such hives. Then again, some colonies would swarm, and the young swarm would take a bee-line for the woods, and there was a loss again. Other hives would get infested with millers and worms, which would sooner or later destroy the colony. But after all the losses, I made a fair profit by selling honey, and occasionally a hive of bees. But since the introduction of the movable comb hive and Italian bees, I have made more than double the profit, for there has been no loss of young swarms going to the woods, or of colonies refusing to swarm, or being destroyed by millers, for I have practiced artificial swarming which does away with all loss in that direction. If millers get into a colony, I remove the cards and clean them out and save my stock. I also remove cards from full stocks that have them to spare, and strengthen the weak ones in room of destroying them as heretofore. Then again, the Italian bees defend themselves much better from the millers and are better workers, consequently they store more honey in boxes for their owners. I commenced the spring of 1867 with twelve Italian stocks, worth at that time about $200; last week I sold the increase of stock for $500, and during the two years I have realized $400 in honey, wax, and queens sold, allowing $200 for cost of hives and time tending to them (which will more than cover it), leaves $700, or $350 profit each year. Not a bad interest on $200 invested for two years. A word to parties intending to start an apiary. Get, if possible, a location where white clover is plenty, or better yet, induce your neighbours to sow *alsike clover*, which is one of the most profitable crops a farmer can grow either for seed or for hay, or both; and for bees it is ahead of anything I ever saw. Provide yourself with good movable comb hives and the Italian bees. An apiary started with such advantages, and with proper attention, I am satisfied will prove a profitable investment.

H. M. THOMAS.

Brooklin, Ont., May 24, 1869.

THE APIARY IN JUNE.

BY S. H. MITCHELL, APIARIAN, ST. MARY'S, ONTARIO.

As the spring has been later than usual, the swarming season will probably not begin before the middle of the month. If it is desirable to have the bees swarm early, they will swarm earlier if the surplus boxes are not put on until the bees have commenced to raise young queens; they should then be put on without delay, as plenty of room then will make no difference in the time of their swarming. If surplus honey is the great object, put the boxes on early in June; and if a small piece of white comb is attached to the top of the box, the bees will begin in them all the sooner. As fast as filled they should be replaced with empty ones. When boxes are left on for any length of time after they are filled, the combs become dark, and the honey will not bring as high a price in market. Stocks that remain weak through this month should be examined. They may have lost their queen, or she may have become barren; if queenless, introduce a laying queen; if barren, remove and supply another two days after. All hives should be ready to put the bees in at once when they swarm. The first swarm will seldom issue before eleven o'clock, and seldom later in the day than two; after swarms will come out from eight till four. The noise of horns, tin pans and bells does no good whatever, the bees will cluster just as well without the music. Should they attempt to leave, get before them, if possible, and throw water among them with a long handled dipper. This will seldom fail to stop them and cause them to cluster. The first swarms are accompanied with the old queen, and as she is already impregnated, they may be set quite close together if room is scarce; but all after swarms should be at least six feet apart, more would be better. In hiving bees make the entrance to the hive large, and use a tin pan if the cluster is large; put your pan under them and raise it slowly up, separating a part of the bees with the edge of the pan, letting them roll back into it, and pour them in front of the entrance; shake the remainder into the pan, and pour them out as fast as they will run in, they will come out of the pan very easy as they cannot get their toes into it to stick fast. I have found this method the most convenient of any, and there is no danger of killing the queen, or any of the bees. Second swarms should be united, putting two or three of them together, or they may (if in movable comb hives), be strengthened by giving them one or two frames of brood from strong stocks. The bees should be prevented from swarming the third time by cutting out all the queen cells but one, or if the swarm issues take away the queens and return it. Third swarms are frequently accompanied with two or three queens, and sometimes five or six. All the queens should be taken from it if they are to be returned.

THE USE OF ICE IN THE DAIRY.

The use of ice in cooling and preserving milk for cheese manufacture is practiced to a large extent. It is applied in various ways, sometimes by adding it in messes to the milk in the vats, or by placing it in large tin coolers which are