

his own way, but all, I believe, reaching the same conclusion—that the answer is to be found in a dry and ventilated cellar.

See to the ventilation whatever else you may neglect. Let the cellar have ventilation; and let each hive have ventilation, and if your cellar is dark and quiet and not too cold, say ten or fifteen degrees above freezing, your bees will winter all right.

To show the necessity of having the hives ventilated, as well as the cellar, I may say we use two kinds of covers on our hives, one perfectly flat and the other having a slight rise towards the middle, like a low roof. This latter cover has a ventilation hole in either end, while the other admits no ventilation whatever. Now on taking a look the other day, I found the hives with the ventilated covers perfectly dry, while the others were damp.

When to put bees into, and when to remove them from winter quarters, are points where one must use judgment, and be governed by circumstances. I find that we have left them out as late as the first week in January, and on one occasion removed them from the cellar on the first day of April. Last spring I took them out on April 13th. The snow was then about all gone, and the weather warm and apparently settled. Ten days later they were taking in pollen. I returned them to the cellar on the ninth of November, three days after the first heavy snow fall.

Now, April 1st, and even April 13th, may seem too early to take bees out, particularly in view of the fact that there was no bloom till ten days later, and certainly if the bees are dry and healthy there is nothing to be gained by taking them out before the willows begin to bloom. On the other hand if the hives are damp and foul smelling a few days more or less of confinement may mean life or death to your stock.

Here I would note that a circumstance favorable to keeping them late in winter quarters is the depth to which the