

to see the bees. He is a bee man, and says he will adopt my plan of wintering.

After my letter appeared in your journal last winter I received a letter from a perfect stranger, at Little Britton, giving me lots of good hints on bee-keeping. I could not make out his signature, but I replied thanking him, and writing his name as nearly like his as I could. I have not heard from him since and do not know if he received it. I saw a couple of letters from the Manitoulin. I live on the north shore across from there. There is no sweet clover here, but I sowed some buckwheat and gave a neighbor some seed if he would sow it, thinking the bees would get the pay for the seed for me. I went over to the field when it was white with blossoms and to my surprise I could not find a honey bee on the field, but there were countless numbers of wasps and flies on it. I kept a watch on my patch and I could sometimes see three or four or more. My wife sowed a bed, about a yard square, of mignonette. The bees were on that from morning till night, a bee for every stem, until the frost killed it. I think one acre would employ my whole apiary. Wasps and flies did not seem to bother with it.

[Very glad, indeed, to hear from you again Mr. Lee. You seem to have had very good success. You carried out our instructions a little too explicit in leaving the weak colony on top of the other one all summer till fall. You should have left it on for only two or three weeks till it became quite strong, and then put it on a stand of its own. Your description of the super—"chuck full"—shows that the bees were crowded for room. Had you lifted the top hive off and put a super on each, with a queen in each hive, you would, perhaps have had two supers instead of one. You certainly would have had one more hive of bees at all events to go into winter quarters in good shape. Apart from this you seem to have done well. We cannot account for your buck-

wheat not yielding honey. It must have been because of the condition of the weather. If it is cold and windy when buckwheat is in flow, the bees cannot do much.—Ed.]

## EUROPEAN FOUL BROOD.

Indexed

### Dr. Miller's Experience.

From Gleanings in Bee Culture.

When I began treating foul-broody colonies last summer I piled the brood of four colonies over an excluder on a fifth colony, this fifth colony being equally foul-broody. At the end of three weeks the combs over the excluder would be emptied of brood and ready to melt up. But the combs in the lower storey would be as bad as ever. Then a new set of piles would have to be made; and, no matter how many times this would be repeated, there would always be left the foul-broody lower stories. Then it occurred to me, "If there is anything in the Alexander, and if bees queenless three weeks will clean out their frames, why will they not clean out the frames in these upper stories? It's worth trying, any way."

So when the piles had put in their three weeks, this is the way I did: I took the whole pile off its stand. On the stand I put the second storey—that is, the storey that had been immediately above the excluder. Into this I brushed the colony—that is, the bees and queen that had been in the lower storey. In most cases this was an entire success, the colonies being and continuing entirely healthy.

So here was what may possibly be an important "discovery,"—with apologies to A. I. Root for the use of the word. The discovery is that, at least in some cases and under some conditions, a diseased colony with a queen may clean out combs over an excluder so that they will be entirely healthy. But if any credit is due for this discovery, the chief credit

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ongs to our good Alexander; for whatever would have those possible.

Possibly some do not Alexander plan for the can foul brood (black) but a few words colony strong; make it remain queenless it a vigorous young. That's all: the

### Alexander Plan American Foul

desire to record her giving us this plan Alexander has given and lasting value. failures with the Alexander have been reported with it there will be failures. It is just where failures occur's teaching were. Were the failure brood, or with Alexander never insisted succeed with Alexander I believe he thought

very much doubt that, succeed with American European foul brood down in the cell in not so very difficult it out entirely. In the dead larva dries all like so much glue. At least that is and it.

The Colonies Should I other cause of failure failing to note or Mr. Alexander's the colony strong. Aged lot of bees should do very vigorous out their cells, especially.