

tell us just how **you** did it, sometime in the coming season, so that other readers of the JOURNAL may profit by your successful experience.

OLD BEES THAT DO WINTER.

JACOB ALPAUGH.—I have just finished putting out my bees. They have come through in fine condition. I put out thirty-five colonies to-day which had been in the cellar just six months. They were put in Oct. 22nd last, and have come through strong and healthy. I lost only two colonies out of one hundred and fifty, and those have, from all appearance, been queenless since last swarming season. If the readers of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL will turn back to Vol. II., No. 36, page 709, they will learn about some old bees I have wintered. They came through with about half as many bees as when put in cellar. Who says old bees will not winter?

St. Thomas, Ont., April 21, 1887.

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BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

PRESENT ORDERS.

Just at the present moment we are out of tinned wire, excepting on half-pound spools; and of hive clamps, too. Both of these we are expecting every day, as our orders for them were booked long since. We are a little behind on Heddon Hives, made up, not expecting orders for so many "sample" hives. We are now busy on them again, and hope to be up with orders in three or four days. All orders which were being held until the weather was favorable for shipping foundation, will go forward right away, as our foundation mills are running steadily now.

WIDTHS OF SECTIONS, ETC.

We are often in a quandary as to the widths of sections our customers want, where they do not specify in the order, also whether they are to be single or double slotted. It will be well to have it understood, *what we will send*, when we have no definite instructions, and then if we are wrong, why, *we* won't be to blame. You see we want to "keep our own skirts clear," even if it

does throw the blame on the customer, because you wouldn't be half as vexed with yourself if a mistake were made, if you were guilty, as you would be if we were in the wrong. We decide, then, that the width will always be $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches, and the sections will be "double-slotted." We have decided on the width as $1\frac{1}{8}$, because that is the size most generally used now, at least our orders are for that width. We will send "double-slotted" because if you didn't care for them that way, the fact that you have them will be no hindrance, while if you received them "single-slotted" and wanted the "double-slotted" kind, the former would not meet your requirements at all.

HIVE LIDS.

For some time we have been using both flat and sloping covers for our hives. We have now thoroughly tested both and feel convinced that the flat roof is much superior to the other, as we now make it, and in future we intend to dispose of the sloping ones at less than cost and use the others almost exclusively in our own apiaries. The flat ones are more convenient for setting anything on in the yard; take up much less room when being packed; shed the water just as well, and keep the hive as dry. They are much less liable to be blown off by the wind, are more easily made, etc. Some of the lids are all in one piece, others in two or more pieces. We find the latter preferable, for it matters not how dry the material may be, after standing several years exposed to the sun, a very broad board is apt to crack, while a narrow one will not, and there is less inclination to warp. Some may say "the crack will leak where the two are joined together." So they will, ordinarily, but we make them by rabbetting each piece of the lid, with a very fine saw, and in these we slip strips of tin forming a tongue. Should the boards shrink at any time no water can get through as the tongue fits so tightly. Besides, when you are painting, (and all lids should be painted on both sides) the paint fills the cracks to the metal tongue most thoroughly. Should they at any time open slightly, one rub with a brush will completely close it. We shall send out whichever style of lids you prefer, so be sure to say when ordering. If no kind is specified, we will forward the "flat" lids.

OUR NEW PRICE LIST.

We promised some little time ago to review our new price list and note the changes, additions etc. First let us take the ADDITIONS TO OUR LIST.

We have added the new style of QUEEN EXCLUDING HONEY-BOARDS, as used on the