

market at a price sufficient to warrant the experiment. It would be necessary to place it on very shallow vessels, and subject it to a very low temperature that the color might not be changed. We fancy a room properly arranged with coils of steam pipes to raise the temperature to a desirable height, at the same time allow a current of air to pass through would soon reduce our ordinary honey to the consistency of jelly, it could then be placed in tumblers, or any kind of vessel, in fact paper bags could be manufactured of a size and shape suitable to hold it, and sold in 5c., 10c., 15c. and 20c. packages. It might even be sold by the pennyworth, which would increase its consumption. It may surprise some of our Canadian and American readers to know that there is a firm in England that manufactures 50,000 little tin boxes daily which are filled with milk and sold at a penny each, a pennyworth of milk being a very common quantity to purchase there. Why not sell honey in small quantities that it would eventually take the place of candy? Shall we stand with our arms folded and not take a lesson from others. We recollect while attending a convention a few years ago at Syracuse seeing some evaporated honey exhibited by our esteemed friend L. C. Root. It was far superior in texture and richness of flavor to ordinary honey. Mr. R. spoke of the great advantages of such honey and tried to urge upon us the necessity of putting it on the market. Friends consider this matter and let us hear from as many of you as can give us any light upon the subject.

#### HINTS AS TO PRESENT WORK.

Our own bees are still in winter quarters, and we shall not be in any great hurry to disturb them. The temperature stands pretty regularly at 0° and we think that so long as it continues we had better leave them just where they are. There are more bees lost and more colonies spring-dwindle because of being set on their summer stands before steady spring weather has set in, than from all other causes combined.

When the bees are set out be careful to see that the entrances of all hives are properly closed toward night, and on all cold, windy days. It is very necessary

to keep up the proper temperature in the hive. If the colony ever requires an equal temperature, it is just after they are set out in the spring and while brooding is going on rapidly.

Do not examine your bees to death.

On the first suitable day contract the brood-nests of all those which cannot fully fill their hives, and then let them get very strong before enlarging. Rather underdo than overdo this latter, and your bees will be in the better shape when you want them.

If you find any of your colonies so weak that they cannot nurse the brood hunt up the next weakest one, and "double-up." This is the most economical course to pursue. Do not try to coax them along of themselves. After awhile the "doubled" colony can be divided, and you will thus have two stronger colonies than if you try to carry both through the spring. Strength begets heat and courage.

If you find that the cotton quilt over the brood-nest is not sufficient to retain the heat in the hive, and you have no cushions of any kind, place several thicknesses of newspaper over the ordinary quilt and put on the hive-cover.

Should any of your colonies be short of stores be sure to supply the lack of food, either by giving them sealed stores in the heart of the cluster, or by cakes of sugar candy over the frames, unless the weather be warm enough to feed syrup and there is not much likelihood that it will be. Under all circumstances be sure to see that no heat escapes from the hive.

One of the first things to decide in the spring is whether you intend to work for comb or extracted honey. Upon your decision will the management of your colonies depend to some extent. In the next number, we will give instructions as to the mode of procedure in both cases.

If you have not already prepared all your hives, supers, sections, &c., do not lose any more time about it. Set to work and get everything in order. Do not leave your supply dealer in the dark as to your probable wants. He may not have what you need just when you need it and "delays are dangerous." When the bees begin to swarm they do not wait for hives and supers, nor does the