cured by using the metal, and that we would certainly get more swarms from the colonies without the zinc.

Ye editor brings up the rear with the opinion that the top story would yield double as much with the zinc as without it, (which is very good) and that if you extracted from both storeys there would be little difference, (which is not so good), and that those with the metal would swarm the most, (which is worse and worse.)

How eight or nine of the bee-doctors above have reached the conclusion that a colony of bees, with twice as much housework, (brood-rearing), to do as another colony, can gather as much surplus honey in a given time as that other colony, is perhaps known to themselves, but I give it up.

When the queen has free access to the top storey she "spreads herself" as a mother, correspondingly, and keeps the workers busy nursing that ought to be in the fields gathering; and instead of extra stores of surplus honey, we have extra brooding and brood, and pretty soon an extra swarming fever to get rid of the surplus population. On the contrary, when the queen is confined to proper quarters by means of the perforated metal, the bulk of the working force of bees is where it ought to be, in the fields "making hay while the sun shines," and by attending closely to the extracting, first the inside frames nearly capped, and then the outside, every available bee may be kept rushing at work —the right kind of work—the honey will roll in, and with plenty of room and ventilation there will be but little swarming bother.

I have tested this matter to my own satisfaction, and my position, as already stated, is this: With the queen-excluding zinc, properly used, I can get about 50 per cent. more honey while it very materially diminishes the swarming.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, Oct. 8, 1888.

P.S.—After all gentlemen, "I may be wrong," but I don't believe it.—A.P.

Friend Pringle "may be right" but we don't believe it altogether. He does not question that with the zinc the yield would be doubled, but he doubts our opinion on the small difference if working for extracted. If we leave the honey in both stories until thoroughly sealed there would be a loss, but we extract when partially sealed thus giving the bees room, and taking it from both upper and lower the crop averages about the same. Without the zinc there is certainly more brood to feed, but in the end if the season continues the worker force is larger, they take the field and store in both stories indiscriminately. Without the metal, and extracting as we do, giving plenty of room prevents the swarming, with the metal they are crowded more and will swarm.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

MODES OF WINTER PACKING.

AS this is the season for packing bees for winter repose, and as nearly everyone has his way of doing so, as well as the particular kind of material preferred for such work, I have concluded to give the way practised by myself, with very gratifying success. I am not, however, the originator of the plan, as Mr. J. B. Young of this place, was the first to use it, so far as I am aware.

Economy combined with convenience are considerations which should not be overlooked, and these, I think, we have in the following method:

First, secure from any music store or dealer in organs, some empty boxes from which the organs have been taken. These can be purchased, as a rule, for $1 each, which is cheaper than the lumber alone can be had for at any planing mill or lumber yard, to say nothing of their being planed, tongued and grooved in such a manner as to make a very substantial packing case, capable of keeping out water.

I next cut them in two halves, from front to rear, giving sufficient slope so that when the roof is put on the water will be shed readily Each box will now contain three hives, or six to each original box purchased, and all sufficiently deep to hold a two-storey Langstroth hive, or a single storey hive and one or two supers for sections, as the case may require, and the hives need not, therefore, be removed in spring until the first week of June or just before swarming commences. The roofs are made of the same material or some broad boards cleated together and fastened by hinges to the front top of the case, or box, so that you can stand behind and raise the lid at any time without jarring the bees in the least. Three entrances, or fly-holes, about nine inches long by two wide, all, of course, cut in front, four or five inches from the bottom to correspond with the position the hives occupy inside. I place them three or four inches apart, which gives plenty of room for easy manipulation, and at the same time allow about five inches of packing all around the outside of the hives. I prefer separate alighting boards in front of each outside entrance, of say, three or