

"easy." As soon as possible again, reduce the colonies by taking out empty combs, and the problem is solved.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Romney, Feb. 6, 1890.

We think the method given by Mr. Alpaugh, in another column, is much ahead of the one you suggest, or do you speak from experience.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Killin' Surplus Bees.

MR. Geo. Wood writes a long piece advocatin killin bees when folks gets too many hives, then wants others to discuss and ventilate this new subject of his in the C. B. J. Well, George, I've cussed it and its now hanging out doors ventilati'n, and if it ever gets sose it don't smell, I'll see what can be done for you. Meanwhile, just for the present, so's to keep you from being run over with bees, I'de suggest a momentary relief which can be used now or any time in the future when your surplus bees seem dangerously multiplied, and the multiplication seems griveous or threatening. You say, George, that you want an "easy, cheep, quick and clean way" of destroyin your bees when you have too many. Easy, cheep, quick, and clean: humph! yes. Well, how would it do to get some help some night and pile the hives up in one huge pile and pour oil over um and set um a fire. That's "cheep," cos oil ain't no great account, it's only 6 cents a gallon here; and fire makes um "clean," and does it "quick." George, don't let your bees run over ye, and I'll study out sumthin fore long to help ye, if it ain't more than blow um up with dynamite. Here, I've been ploddin along, fool like, and keepin my bees from swarmin, cos I hid enuff hives, when I might have gained more by drownin or shootin them. I stand here to say, George, I no your right. It's all in gittin rid of your bees. That's whare the money lies. And as ye say it's the livest question that's cum up in the present generation, and people ma laf now, but it'll make other topticks look sick yet. you bet. Gettin red of the bees, thats the checker; and how to do it, would suit us better. Taint meny folks as can kill bees now-a-days, specially to find an "easy, cheep, quick, and clean; way" of doin it. Taint much hunney what was raised round here last year, and I could have been just like um, but I had to up and keep my bees from swarmin, and as a result got a big yield of come honey. George, tell me how I can get rid

of my honey in a "easy, cheep, quick, and clean way."

JOHN F. GATES.

Ovid, Erie Co., Feb. 7, 1890.

Uncle John never opens his mouth but he says something, and it's most generally good common sense too, but in this instance he forgets that the hives and comb may be of some use after the bees have been destroyed.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Surplus Bees—Swarming Etc.

A CORRESPONDENT in the C.B.J. says he fears he may be overstocked. I think that I would resort to brimstone, rather than press bees as a present on any one, thus creating a slipshod competition, with no thanks for it, besides losing valuable combs, hives, racks, honey-boards, sections, and perhaps throwing in an extra quilt to induce your friend to carry them off. But I am not a philanthropist. Ten years has not yet overstocked me, and I have bought a good many colonies.

The "catch-em-alive," as some one calls Mr. Alley's patent is out. I have used a similar invention in my apiary for the last two years. All the difference I see is that I used a 1½ inch tin pipe, eight inches long, with wire cone on one end, and reaching from a box covered on two sides, with perforated metal, to a similar box placed on the empty hive. But on opening the hive the result was not quite satisfactory. The queen certainly went into the empty hive. I found only a few bees with her. To remedy this I took the old hive off its stand, and put the new one in its place, because the returning swarm had gone into the old hive in some cases. It worked well. Three of the swarms thus hived came out next day, and rising high in the air were gone, despite my exertions with the spraying pump. And let me say just here, that the pump I got of you is a grand thing to bring down a swarm. I mean to try the "catch-em-alive" again this season, I had no idea any one but myself ever used this self-hiver, till I saw Mr. Alley's notice and diagrams. I wrote him at once telling him of my discovery and its results. I will try the perforated metal tube next time, it may do better.

I hope the Ontario Bee Keepers Association will make the C. B. J. its official organ, and I wish it every success.

I have 50 colonies, seemingly all doing well, in my cellar.

ROBT KENNEDY, SR.

Bethany, Ont., Feb. 16, 1890.

You seem to have misunderstood what was said with reference to giving the sur-