

fit and little loss—proportionally speaking. The principal trouble now seems to be the disposal of the crop at a fairly remunerative price. Bee-keeping is now down to a business level while it formerly was a special pursuit, with extra advantages, of course there will be lots of bee-keepers disgusted, just as there were lots of store-keepers disgusted with that line, when they found that "sitting on a nail keg" in their store was not going to give them a living. Since bee-keeping has taken a legitimate stand amongst other branches in the commerce of the country, neither writers nor supply dealers have to any extent painted it in "colors" others than of which it was deserving. There are, even at the present price of honey, large profits in successful years, while in poorer years, the profits are not so large. It must be admitted that during the past four years there has not been much above an average yield, but "depression" is the cry in almost every department of the commerce of the country and bee-keepers cannot always expect unexceptional favors. The little couplet which is often used with reference to poets, is applicable as well to bee-keepers.

"Every man cannot be a poet
No more than a sheep can be a goat."

Now, as to the future honey-market, there is little doubt but that the present trip of the commissioners of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association will be a successful one, and that a market will be opened up in Great Britain for our surplus crop; as it was with butter and cheese, so it will be with honey. Note the article in this number of the JOURNAL, from the *Canadian Gazette*, relative to the position which Canadian honey is likely to occupy in the English market. See also the editorial remarks as received from Mr. Jones, wherein he says that they will have no difficulty in disposing of the total consignment which was taken over. If you will refer to the notes on page 650 you will observe that Mr. Pettitt has said that our future market was likely to be in *extracted* honey, and therefore we need not borrow trouble about shipping our comb honey. It will pay better to raise "extracted" and will be more secure from leakage &c., in transit. No more comb honey need be raised than will

supply the home demand. If there is, there will be some means of shipping it found whereby safe transportation can be assured.

Should the price of honey go still lower "ways and means" of production will arise which will meet the emergency and still leave a profit to the able producer. On the whole we think that the outlook is *not unfavorable* but on the contrary rather cheering; this, however, should not be used to excite new embarkations in the business. Let it rest on its merits, and as "H. B." would like to have it, "let those who join the occupation bear alone the responsibility."

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

WINTERING.

A GREAT deal has been written about wintering bees, but, as yet, the problem has not been solved although we are getting nearer to it. Many bee-keepers winter their bees successfully, while others suffer heavy losses with the same methods and performances. This is a mystery which we cannot understand. Some of our experienced bee-keepers lay it to the different localities, and others to the winter stores, etc. This may be true in some cases, but my experience has taught me that successful wintering depends as much on the summer's performance and management as does the preparing in the fall, and the temperature in winter depositories.

In this latitude, good cellars or extra made depositories are best and safest to winter bees. I have tried a good many ways to winter my bees on the summer stand, but as a rule they have wintered poorly with many losses. I have also wintered them (from 80 to 125 colonies) in a double-walled bee house for four winters, which I found far better than out-doors, but at spells from 25° to 40° below zero, it did not keep warm enough, though when I had built it, I was almost sure that any zero weather would not have any effect to the inside of the building, as I was very particular to have it frost proof, nevertheless when the thermometer reached the above points in the open air, it would lower the temperature inside, from 42° to 22° above zero, 42° was the point I desired to have it and at which it kept most of the time. I could easily get the temperature lower in cold weather, but could not raise it without artificial heat. This artificial heat in a bee depository (wherever it may be) is a dangerous thing, even if it does not set the building a-fire, (as it did mine) it will