

onies last fall, I thought they were well prepared and in good condition for winter. They are all dead. I use chaff hives.

Sam'l Fish, Milan, O., reports: I set my bees out of the bee-house about the 20th of April, and thought they were in very fair condition at that time, but they have dwindled very badly since and are in a very unpromising condition at present, many of them being so weak that they are about worthless. I think they were kept in the bee-house too late. My prospects for honey this season are not very good.

E. Walker, Berlin, reports: I had 35 colonies last fall; they are most all dead. I thought I knew how to winter my bees, but I think I have learned something about it I did not know before.

The reports of several others showed about the same success in wintering each having a theory to account for the fatal results, but each disagreeing with the others as to the cause of the trouble.

The reports show the winter losses to be very heavy.

The discussion turned upon the reports already received, and most of the time during the afternoon was spent endeavoring to solve the *wintering problem*.

A discussion ensued in regard to the proper time of setting bees out in the spring that had been wintered in doors, and it was generally concluded to be a matter of vital importance, at least in some seasons, whether they are set out early on the first warm day, or left in late in the season.

Mr. Fish—What shall I do with my little, weak colonies? Is it policy to unite them now?

Mr Newman—No, I would not unite them now, but would build them up by crowding them upon as little room as the brood can be made to occupy by using division boards, and unite them into strong colonies at the beginning of the honey season; thus keeping all the queens to lay eggs during this time, instead of but one in each of the united colonies. There is no advantage in uniting now to have the brood better protected, as the very small amount of bees now in the hive would be apportionately the same in the united colony, unless one of the colonies to be united

is queenless, in which case it is always best to unite.

Secretary agreed with Mr. Newman.

A quite lengthy discussion then ensued upon the use of division boards in building up light colonies early in season. Several considered them indispensable, while a few did not attach much importance to their use.

President White made a few remarks upon the necessity of making a thorough preparation of all colonies in the fall, in order to be able to winter with any certainty.

Mr. Todd also made some suggestions upon the same subject. Said he was certain that it paid well to give the bees every attention they needed.

The attendance at the meeting was small. Quite a number of the absent members are reported as having lost all their bees.

This, together with the very inclement weather, was quite a sufficient apology for the small attendance, notwithstanding which the lack of numbers did not seem to detract from the enthusiasm evinced by the few that were there.

After tendering a vote of thanks to the Sheriff for the use of the Grad Jury room. The Association adjourned to meet at the call of the Secretary.

H. A. BOARDMAN, Secy.

DAN WHITE, Pres.

#### LISTOWEL BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association met in convention at the Queen's hotel, Listowel, on the 29th inst. The president, Mr. Robert Forest, in the chair. The meeting was called to order at 2 p. m., and the minutes of former meeting were read and confirmed. There was a large number of the members present, though many of our prominent beekeepers were absent. The following members reported their losses the past winter:

	FALL.	SPRING.
<sup>1</sup> Robt. Forest	7	1
<sup>2</sup> Wm. Climie	26	24
<sup>3</sup> Chas. Mitchell	65	53
M. Vankleek	9	6
Philip Lorch	1	1
Seth Doan	14	10
Robert Bell	5	1
J. L. Turnbull	1	1
W. Campbell	3	1