

anything to use about the apiary that gave him such satisfaction."

It might be well to mention that the machine is to fold and close one piece sections. The price is \$2.00.

WINTERING SURPLUS QUEENS.

IN LAST fall we mentioned that we intended trying to winter queens in very small nuclei. Our foreman decided to change the programme a little just before we went into winter quarters and constructed a hive that would hold the nuclei.

There were three entrances on each side and two in each end making ten in all.

The different compartments of the hive were partitioned off with wire cloth in such a manner as to prevent the bees from mixing and yet allow the heat to pass from one nucleus to another.

The entrances we partitioned off by strips of tin projecting out about six inches and nearly that height, thus preventing them from mingling together at their entrances except when they took wing and flew around.

Each one of the ten nuclei had two frames of comb about fifteen inches long and three and three-quarter inches wide.

Each of these combs was filled two-thirds full of honey and was the usual thickness of worker comb.

It was supposed that they had ample stores and there was no thought of their starving.

This 15th day of April we have set them out and examined them, finding every one dead. Eight of the ten had starved to death apparently for want of stores, as there was no food in any of the combs, and they had evidently been dead some time. The other two had probably killed their queens, as we could find no queen in either.

They had a little honey left and very few bees in either compartment. After they were put in the bees either flew out and went into the other compartment before they were set into winter quarters, or perhaps went back to their old stand although they may have come out in the bee house. However there was only about a spoonful of bees in each place. The other eight had plenty of bees and they seemed to have bred

during the winter. Our impression is that board boxes, say one inch through, making hives the same size as these compartments would have been better, as each nuclei would then have had its own heat and only that and would not have bred or consumed their stores so rapidly as was the case with these.

Although this experiment is an entire failure we are quite sanguine that we can winter queens yet, but ten nuclei crowded together would necessarily make a great deal of heat and we think keep up the excitement. We found a great many hanging to the wire cloth as if they had been trying to get through from one compartment to the other. There seemed to be nearly as many on the wire cloth as on the combs, but we think if there had been honey enough that about half of them would have lived.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A MEDLEY FROM MCKNIGHT.

I KNOW there is a strong disinclination on the part of those who conduct a journal devoted to the interests of a particular industry to publish anything that does not relate exclusively to such industry. But the greater part of what appears in such papers month after month and year after year is necessarily stale and without much interest to old subscribers. Bee journals are no exception to the rule. If we glance through the best of them for five or six years back we find the same topics treated in much the same way from the start to the finish. In the last year's numbers may be read an epitome of the contents of those of former years. From the nature of things this can hardly be avoided. It is therefore a relief to me, and possibly to others as well, when some one, even though he be an Ishmaelite, squeezes in a fresh subject or a new idea, though it be faded, as is generally the case, to be kicked about for a while, killed off, and soon laid in the grave to rest. Of late we have had several such breaks in the monotony of bee literature, among them "The conformation of the bee's sting," "hibernation," and "the priority of location," which have added variety to the usual bill of fare, but the grave is yawning to receive them and something fresh is "devoutly to be wished." It is especially gratifying in this time of bareness to find some bold spirit like Dr. Mason shake off the manacles with which perverse editors would tie the hands of their correspond-