

full, the end pieces are removed and the honey withdrawn. The hive we saw opened was only partly filled, which enabled us to see the economy of the interior to more advantage. The honey is not contained in the elegant hexagonal cells of our hives, but in wax bags, not quite so large as a hen's egg; then bags or bladders are hung round the sides of the hive, and appear about half full, the quantity being probably just as great as the strength of the wax will bear without tearing. Those nearest the bottom, being better supported, are more filled than the upper ones. In the centre or the lower part of the hive we observed an irregular shaped mass of comb furnished with cells, like those of our bees, all containing young ones in such an advanced state that when we broke the comb and let them out, they flew merrily away. During this examination of the hive the comb, and the honey were taken out, and the bees disturbed in every way, but they never stung us, though our faces and hands were covered with them. It is said, however that there is a bee in the country which does not sting; but the kind we saw seemed to have neither the inclination or power, for they certainly did not hurt us, and our friends said they were always *very muno* (very tame) and never stung any one. The honey gave out a rich aromatic perfume and tasted differently from ours, but possessed an agreeable flavor."

East Aurora, N. Y.

E. PENTON.

From your quotations and remarks, it is not improbable that the author of the book, written fifty years ago, was very little acquainted with bees and their habits. We quite agree with him that it would be rather a tedious duty for a bee to stand at the entrance and back out and in to allow bees to pass when gathering or working. We have counted from one to two hundred bees entering and as many leaving the hive per minute, so if he had to bob in and out of the hole five or six times a second, we think he would be glad to be relieved. There have been several descriptions published of the bees of Mexico and South America, but we believe the stingless bees have other habits which make them quite as objectionable, or more disagreeable to handle than even those with stings. If they were good bees to gather, that is just the kind we have been looking for. We could take the cells all out separately, and put them in an egg carrier or some-

thing similar and the bees could put honey up in 5c. packages for use.

## SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

GARRETT BLOUGH.—I write to let you know how my bees are getting along so far. I went into winter quarters with 18 swarms, and so far they are all right. I wintered nine swarms in my cellar, and so far they are capital. I carried part of them out yesterday to let them have a fly; it was such a fine day, and they were very proud to be at liberty, and the remainder I wintered outside in a clamp, packed with chaff all round and cushions on top, and they seem to be just as lively. I have no thermometer and I just went by guess and so far they are all right.

Paisley, April 5, 1888.

### LIFELESS BEES REVIVED BY HEAT.

THOS. C. HINDSON.—I am induced to send the subjoined by seeing a similar case mentioned in your issue of April 4th, p.p. 26 and 27. My mother kept a few hives of bees in the old country. One colony died in the winter from lack of stores so the old straw skep was brought into the house, the combs cut out and the bees thrown behind the fire. The fireplace was an open one such as are common in East Yorkshire. In a few minutes much to her surprise the bees began to climb up the chimney, having come to life again and we had to sweep them back into the fire.

Brookholm, Ont.

### A GOOD SHOWING.

SYLVESTER HOLDEN.—In the spring of 1887 I got ten colonies of bees and increased to twenty-six and took about 500 lbs. of comb honey. I have lost two colonies. Some of them are light. I am wintering in a cellar with a cement floor. There is an air pipe of six inches runs through the cellar and tile sixty feet underground. The outlet is a stovepipe running through the floor with a damper on the pipe to regulate. The size of the cellar is about twenty or thirty feet with a partition run through the long way. Some water came through one of the windows on to the floor and I threw some lime on it to dry it up.

Glenrop, Ont.

A little water on cellar bottom would not do much harm so late in spring as they will soon be out of winter quarters. 50 lbs. of comb honey last year spring count was very good considering the season and increase. With twenty-four colonies now you ought to make a splendid showing this season.

### INTRODUCING BY THE USE OF CHLOROFORM.

S. E. WILEY.—I have not much of an account to give you of my last season's work. My bees have wintered well in chaff hives out of doors. All have new queens. I fed about 30 lbs. of syrup last winter. During the season of 1887 I