

7.—Is the plan of embedding wires in foundation by a current of electricity a practical one? If so, please give the method.

7.—Have not tested it.

8.—What has happened to the Alpaugh plan of controlling or preventing increase? Is it like the companions of the last rose of summer?

SNOWED IN.

8.—Mr. Alpaugh, its author, should rise and explain.

### The Festive Bumble-Bee.

#### A LITTLE PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

When a gentle kind of stirring 'neath a tuft of grass I see,  
And I hear the gentle buzzing of a lonely bumble bee,  
Then I know that I shall catch it, and my flesh in fancy itches  
As I feel its little stinger through the seat of my old breeches.  
Every tingle of a shingle has an echo as it hits;  
But a thousand burning fancies from a bee-sting always flit;  
While a thousand bees and hornets 'neath my coat-tail seemed to swarm,  
For there's nothing like a bumble-bee to make a fellow warm.  
Away across the meadow I thought the thing had passed,  
But soon beneath my coat-tail I felt it sticking fast:  
And there it kept a buzzing, and merrily did sing,  
And all the time kept working with its dainty little sting.  
There was an intermission, and I thought "Now here's my chance!"  
And so I struck at Mr. Bee, but only hit my pants.  
For that cross bee soon showed me that it could swiftly fly—  
For it came around so quickly and stung me in the eye!  
It never stopped a moment, but quickly flew aloft,  
My eye it swelled to blindness, my other end got soft.  
Oh, loving, tender mercy! cast your pitying glances down,  
For I'm the worst used fellow in all this Hawkeye town.  
I've had of fun and sporting all I ever care to see,  
And I never more will monkey with a festive honey bee.  
J. E. FULTZ in *Gleanings*.

### Experts and Foul Brood.

I do not think we shall get rid of this pest so long as the beekeepers who are called "experts," move about from one bee garden to another, with foul brood in the district, unless proper precautions are taken to thoroughly disinfect the clothing, etc., and so far as I can see, it is next to impossible to take such adequate measures as will sufficiently meet the case. That is, the expert who has visited an infected bee garden and handled foul brood combs, has, in all probability, nay, almost to a certainty, had the spores of the disease so blown amongst his clothing that nothing short of burning it will be sufficient to destroy them, and he becomes a positive source of danger to every hive he approaches, whilst he continues to wear his infected suit. I know it is a serious thing to say or think, that in districts where foul brood exists, the good done by the expert in teaching proper methods of beekeeping is more than counter-balanced by the harm he does in spreading this deadly bee disease. An enthusiastic beekeeper passes his examinations and gets his certificates; he is truly "expert" in bee manipulation, etc., then in the interests of his association he begins paying official visits to the gardens of all its members, showing them the wrong ways and the right ways of sensible, modern beekeeping. True, he had to pass an examination on foul brood, and say, amongst other things, what steps he would take for its eradication; then, save the mark! he does not feel very sorry when the opportunity offers itself of familiarizing himself with actual cases. He is like the young doctor, who secretly rejoices in a difficult case which gives him practice. Indeed, the similarity does not cease there, for when the medical man finds an outbreak of some infectious disease in his district, in dealing with it he cannot help his clothing acting as a vehicle for its spread. He may, like the bee expert, wash his hands with carbolic water, but he, to carry out the simile still further, has much more to do with the spread of zymotic diseases than is generally supposed. What are we to do, then? Because the expert and the doctor are innocently the means of some disease-spreading? Are we to shun their visits? Certainly, if we are free from disease and we know they come fresh from foul cases. It is not much use feeding this or that medicated syrup, or using vapour or camphor, or naphthol, if we are permitting the continued visits of men who come fresh from the source of danger. Preventive measures are always excellent, but