

hatch out, but in a few days she was always missing, and the old queen serenely maintained supremacy. With an excluder between, and an entrance for each queen, the case might be different.

You want to get rid of the trace of Italian blood. I wish I could swap for it the trace of Black blood in some of my colonies, and have as pure Italians as some I had "years ago, when I used to get honey". But I'm afraid that, if you had the same pure Blacks back, you'd find that they wouldn't give you a crop without a good season. We've had bad seasons lately. It is quite true that Italians have not secured crops; but I have no distinct recollection of reading about the Blacks storing better crops than the Italians.

C. C. MILLER.

Marengo, Ill., Mar. 17.

How My Bees Have Wintered

My Bees were getting very restless in the cellar although the Temperature was comparatively low (forty-eight degrees) some were spotting their hives and a good many dropping on the floor, and I thought possibly it would do no harm to set them out so that they could clean out their hives and prepare for pollen when it would come. (For some years we have not set them out till pollen appeared) on Saturday morning it was cloudy and cool after rain with prospect of clearing up so after dinner we decided to put them out (Temperature about fifty degrees) the sun came out and they commenced flying freely when suddenly it became overcast again, and cooler causing the Bees to drop in great numbers, at night it began to freeze and snow, then we wished they were all in the cellar again. I closed them up tight and covered all we could and put some of the lightest in the cellar. Yesterday was cold and they did not stir much to-day they have had a good flight and I hope the worst is over. They have very little Brood so that there will be less danger of it being chilled. What a grand thing the double walled hive is at such times as these, mine are nearly all in single walled hives for convenience of handling. Now some might ask why did you set them out on such a cool day, well for some years we have set them out before day-light when it was likely to be fine and it has happened to be very warm day which would cause a tremendous uproar, some would swarm out which often caused the loss of Queens. Some hives would be depopulated, others overcrowded which would give extra work, dividing them up again we have avoided that but lost quite a number

by the change in temperature. April 26th fine day bees flew well seemingly very little the worse, for the cold snap, first pollen carried in to-day from two sources every colony flying same number as put away in the fall sixty-five. The most active colonies in the fall at robbing have shown most sign of dysentery and appear the weakest now and have eaten nearly all their stores. I have some united and fed about the 1st of November for experiment they seem as good as any but I will watch them a little later on. How is it no one has prophesied a good honey season yet. In this locality if the frost has not hurt the clover too much, I think the prospects are fair but I can tell better about next exhibition time, we have had several poor seasons which has caused a number to give up bee keeping but when the change comes they will be just as ready to start again.

R. H. SMITH.

Bracebridge.

April 25, 1892.

Setting bees out when cold and chilly causes immense loss as the bees fly out and light down on the ground and as soon as the clouds hide the sun they become chilled and unless the sun comes out warmer they are sure to perish. We recollect one year of losing one-third of all the bees in one of our apiaries by that means. They would just light on the ground collect in little clusters and tremble a little while then become stiff and die. We always prefer setting bees out earlier in the day so that when those lighting on the ground become chilled they are sure to have sun enough at mid-day to revive them so they can get back to the hives. One reason that your robber bees have not wintered as well as those that remain more quiet in the fall is because they were not clustered so quickly or closely when they went into winter quarters. Neither was their honey as well sealed. It always makes bees restless to rob. The quieter bees can be put in winter quarters and the quieter they are for weeks, before putting in, the better they are likely to winter.

Report From Lancaster.

John W. Calder, Lancaster writes:— My bees have wintered well and I will send you in report shortly on Wintering bees. Wishing you success with your C. B. J.

Lancaster. April 30, 1892.