

A GOOD REPORT.

W. A. HILLSDON.—In the fall of 1888 I put up 10 colonies packed in chaff in large boxes, which came through in what I considered pretty good condition. The spring of 1889 opened out very promising, they commenced to get ready to swarm when the weather turned wet and cold and the bees killed off the drones. This lasted three weeks then white clover came out and they got to work again. I made 16 new colonies and took 200 pounds of comb and 200 pounds of extracted honey. The former I sold at 20c per pound and the latter at 15c, right at my own door, and I could have sold a great deal more. I am only a beginner, so leave you to judge whether I have done well or not.

North Oxford, Jan. 3, 1890.

A GOOD FALL FLOW.

JOHN REYNOLDS.—We have at this date 44 colonies in the cellar, all in good shape, at a temperature of 45°. I think they are wintering best of any season I ever knew. The summer of 1889 was far below the average in yield of honey. I did not get more than 11 pounds per colony surplus, and had it not been for one of the heaviest fall flows ever known in this section, they would have starved without they were fed.

Clinton, Me., Feb'y 19, 1890.

INCREASED FROM 5 TO 13 COLONIES.

JAMES ZUMSTEIN.—I began the season of 1889 with 5 colonies of Italians and Carniolians. Took 200 pounds of honey, and increased to 13 colonies, which are all in good condition.

Caister, March 15, 1890.

NO LOSSES IN WESTERN ONTARIO.

W. A. CHRYSLER.—I am well pleased with the change the JOURNAL has undergone, and also with the increased interest taken in it, and the comments on the articles by its editors, which have a stimulating and interesting effect upon the readers. Bees in this section seem to have wintered well, and so far I have not heard of a single loss. It has, however, been a very mild winter; there has not been ten days at one time but bees could fly and not get chilled. Out-door wintering is practiced by nearly every bee-keeper in this county, (Kent) and this year's experience will tend to strengthen the arguments in favor of out-door wintering.

Chatham, Ont., March 17, 1890.

VEGETABLES AND BEES IN SAME CELLAR.

J. BULL.—I commenced the season of 1889 with 11 colonies; increased to 27; took between 400 and 500 pounds of extracted, and 200 pounds of comb honey. They are now wintering in cellar, and are in the same compartment as are the vegetables, and though the cellar is opened daily to get what vegetables we use, the average temperature has been 40° to 45°, though it was down to 30°, one morning last week. There have been very few dead bees, all are in good condition with no signs of dysentery.

Uffington, Ont. March 12, 1890.

OUR OWN APIARY.

OUR bees are still in their winter quarters, and we intend leaving them there until there is something for them to gather. There is at least one report in the present issue of bees being set out, and we presume that by this time there are a good many others. We certainly advise caution in this respect. As we have not made any further examinations, we cannot say more than we did last issue, excepting that the temperature has been pretty steady at 45°.

PREPARING BEES FOR SHIPMENT.

A few words on our mode of putting up bees for shipment by freight, and the work necessary to put them in working shape on arrival—this latter is more intended for amateurs to whom we are constantly sending colonies, and who have perhaps never had anything to do with bees—may not be amiss. The ends of the frames are nailed down by using slender wire nails, 2½ inches long, and this is all the fastening we give them. We have found from experience that there is much less chance of breakage of the combs if the bottoms of the frames are not fastened down. A strip of green wire cloth is nailed over the entrance, and a rim or super, covered with wire cloth, is placed over the top, to give the bees sufficient space over the frames, and is fastened on with strips up the four corners. The cover is nailed to the back of the hive.

CARE ON ARRIVAL AT DESTINATION.

In order to remove the wire nails it is necessary to lay a stick across the frames, to get a leverage by which to draw the nails, and prevent the frames from lifting. A smoker may be used to advantage while the nails are being drawn. After this has been done the frames should be spaced close together, only allowing sufficient space for a bee to pass over them; should there be more combs in the hive than the bees will nicely cover, the bees should be brushed off gently, and the combs put away in a safe place for future use. Very often there are more frames in the hive than are needed, because when we sell a colony in a nine frame Combination hive