

of stores to carry it through all contingencies till the first of May, at last. Because I do not consider the bee at its best unless it can calmly, with smiling countenance, feel beyond the reach of possible contingency of lack of stores to foster its young during the coquetting of April winter; enabling it to keep at home and snap its fingers at the weather till May wakes the willows and maple.

DOUBTFUL

I don't believe it best to disturb the bees by feeding for stimulation, as it is termed, very much before May frogs peep and the swallows fly; nor then, if cold rain storms are on the docket and the wind is tempered from snow-clad hills. Cover the bees up warm in the fall—with chaff hives, if possible—and give them a thick covering of dry material above the bars and don't disturb them, only when absolutely necessary, till the swallows come. Thus, for the time of year, I believe, the bee will be at its best.

IGNORANCE IS BLISS.

Bees fed at any season means accelerated activity. A little honey clandestinely obtained sets the whole colony in an uproar. When bees are fed in the evening, if the air is frosty, numbers will sally out of the entrance to make believe they are bringing in stores from the fields. Nor do they forget the good luck when the morning comes. Numbers fly out and in unpropitious weather become chilled, and on the whole, I am of the opinion as a rule, feeding in April to stimulate to broodrearing, does not result in gain but often is the means of a positive loss, as the increase of young bees no more than balance the loss of the old ones which come to an untimely end by the exercise of an unwise ambition.

LET THE BEE BE.

Hence, I believe the bee is best left alone, to keep it at its best through the critical period of our changeable spring weather. But when May opens with warm nights as well as days, give all the feed they need, even if a little accumulates in the combs.

It is a bad sign to see immature brood carried out in the night and lying about the entrance. That is a pretty sure sign the stores are short. This condition of things should not be allowed to occur

but be sure and feed so that the contingency of long storms may be provided for in giving an abundance of feed at once.—*Lewiston Journal.*

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FOUNTAIN PUMP.

We will illustrate the new fountain pump next week. It is a good thing.

PRICES CURRENT.

By reference to 'prices current,' it will be seen that wax has dropped to 37½ cents per pound, as we are receiving rather more than will warrant continuing the price at 40 cents.

BEES.

We have sold out all the eight-dollar colonies we have and the lowest price now will be ten dollars, subject to the discount of 5 per cent. which we offered as a rebate to all sufferers who wish to replenish their apiaries with fresh colonies.

THE WESTERN FARMER.

The above journal comes out in a great deal nicer shape now than formerly, and its departments are well-conducted by practical men. Dr. J. W. Vance, Madison, Wis., edits the department headed, "Apiculture." Terms \$1.50 per year. Address, "Western Farmer Pub. Co.," Madison, Wis.

ENGLAND'S HONEY IMPORTS.

The *British Bee Journal* publishes a return from the English customs department whereby it is seen that the honey imported into the United Kingdom for the month of March, 1885, amounted to £5404—in dollars and cents \$26,317.48. Quite a considerable amount is it not?

THE POULTRY MONTHLY.

This journal, published by Ferris & Co., of Albany, N.Y., is invaluable to poultry fanciers. It is overflowing with practical information and is gotten up in a style which stamps the proprietor as a first-class printer. \$1.25 per annum.

SHIPPING BEESWAX.

It seems to us that a little advice about how to ship beeswax or anything else that you may