

perished with foul brood, so that from 1856 to 1862 a hive of bees was a rarity. After this the disease seemed to abate, so that in 1868 bees were quite common again.

As 1868 was a splendid honey season, bee-talk was rife in this locality, which again brought to life old ambitions which had been crushed out by the former loss by disease among the bees, so that the spring of 1869 found Mr. D. with two colonies of bees of his own, as the starting point to his present apiary. Wishing to know for himself all the minutiae of this (to him) interesting pursuit, he procured nearly all the bee-books of that day and subscribed for the bee-papers. As his ambition led him toward the practical side of bee-keeping, Quinby's *Mysteries of Bee-Keeping Explained* was his favorite, the pages of which were as familiar to him as a nursery rhyme. His intense desire to learn and investigate the bees in every particular has been such that he has dreamed of them at night, and thought of them in his working hours to an almost absorbing extent, and to-day he is still a student, believing that there are many unexplored regions, and much room for the deepest thought, even on the practical part of this pursuit.

In the first few years of his apicultural study, Elisha Gallup, then living in Iowa, gave him by letter much practical instruction, which, together with Gallup's articles in the different papers of that time, so grew into his life that he went by the name of "Gallup" among bee-keepers about him for several years; and to day he is often heard to say that there never has to his mind been a greater man in the realm of bee-keeping than E. Gallup. Gallup in his private letters laid great stress on good queens, claiming that around the queen centered all that there was in bee-keeping, which has caused the subject of this sketch to study along the line of queen rearing to a much larger extent than any other part of this interesting pursuit, and it is believed by him that much of his success as a honey-producer has come from this, and his ever-anxious care to get the hive filled with brood at such a time that there would be multitudes of field bees at the opening of the honey harvest. In 1870 Mr. D. wrote his first article for publication, at the request of W. G. Church, editor of the *Apiculturist and Home Circle*, published at Mexico, Missouri. Although a poor penman and scholar, he received many encouraging words from Mr. Church regarding his articles, which gave him confidence, so that to-day there are few who write more largely about the "little busy bee" than he. The rest of his bee-keeping life is familiar to all the

readers of the C.B.J. and other bee-papers, for Mr. D. has never done "anything in a corner," but, on the contrary, has given all of his success and reverses, together with the most of his plans and methods, to the public as freely as they would to his family, always realizing that it was largely through the philanthropy of others that he has attained the success which he has achieved

Wired Frames Again.

A REPLY TO MR. HOLTERMANN.

It is to be hoped that the "friendly laugh" that Messrs. Holtermann and Gemmill had, was over a pun on my name, rather than over the idea of any one in this age advocating and using wired frames. There are no "lives" lost, however, for although I have "turned up," I have not yet turned over. Possibly these gentlemen may think it folly to do so, but I am of the opinion that the majority of leading bee-keepers advocate and use wired frames. Of course Mr. Holtermann takes Gleanings. Wonder he does not "laugh" at the editor for bothering his head about batteries with which to imbue foundation in wired frames by electricity. The editor seems to have a "level head" though, and so takes valuable space to consider this plan. Mr. Holtermann is correct when he sees no use in discussing this subject further, not, however, (I would say) because so few approve of wired frames, but because so many do.

G. A. DEADMAN.

Brussels, Ont.

Preservation of Combs for Future Use

IN my opinion the best way to preserve empty or combs partly emptied, when not in use, is as follows: Fill a good hive with them, and put on a top storey, fill it also, and stack them up as high as you may wish, have them closed tightly so that no water or millers can get in, put them in a dry place, and in this manner they will keep as long as you may wish to keep them. I have tried a great many ways, and find this the most simple and easiest, and I think the best. Providing there are no moth eggs in the combs when put away, there will be no trouble with them.

W. E. WELLS.

Phillipston, Ont., June 2nd, '92.

Mr. A. Doolittle, of Severn Bridge, writes us "I have had very bad luck with my bees during the last winter. Have lost my entire stock which consisted of 14 colonies."