

opinion yet, when convinced that I am wrong, for I am open to conviction. Then from the 28th October to the 8th November, after a fine warm, dry day, I carry them from their summer stands and set them on benches, about fifteen inches high, in the cellar under the dwelling-house. I remove the board cover, but leave on the cloth. The hives are set close together on the benches; then I lay on top of the hives two one inch scantlings; then set another tier of hives on top, and same for three or four tiers, as the case requires. In this way I can put eighty hives in a ten by fifteen cellar six feet six inches deep. For ventilation I use an ordinary stove-pipe, attached with T and elbow to a stove in the parlor, and running down through the floor to the middle of the bee-cellar, and within about fifteen inches of the cellar floor, which is only mother earth, the same material of which the walls are composed. Then I have a five inch board pipe running from near the bottom of the cellar and out to the open air, beyond the wall of the house. The floor of the dwelling-house is not air tight; consequently there are air passages there too. Now, by this means I can easily keep the temperature at from forty-five to fifty degrees, which is not, I think, a bad temperature for a bee-cellar. In wintering this way, the result was always good.

Of course, if I were living in western or southwestern Ontario, where the climate is so much milder than here, I would never winter in cellars, but on the summer stands with packing between the hive and cases made for that purpose. But with a temperature often reaching forty degrees below zero, as we have it here, give me the cellar in preference.

Yours truly, W. J. BROWN.

Chard, Ont., July 25th, 1892.

The Aster.

THE aster has now commenced to bloom, and in low grounds where the land is wet, some localities are just a sea of flowers. We notice the bees working on it very freely, and if the weather should remain warm and favorable for a few weeks, a considerable amount of honey may be gathered from this source. Late bonaset, is yet yielding quite freely. Snapdragon in some localities gives a considerable amount of honey. In one apiary which we visited recently the bees were gathering rapidly, yet our friend did not know from what source the honey came, and asked us if we could tell him, as the bees seemed to be filling up their hives very fast from some quarter. We said:—"Certainly. Do you not

see on the thorax of the bee that white, floury appearance, or light-colored pollen, sticking to the bee?" He said, "yes; but where is that from?" "Snapdragon, of course," we replied. The little tuft of pollen hangs on the top side of the flower, and, when the bee enters, the hair on the thorax rubs this off, and some of the particles of pollen are sure to fall down to the bottom of the flower to fertilize it. In passing from one flower to another, bees distribute the pollen in this way, and it assists more or less in preventing the inbreeding of plants. It is very interesting to watch them gathering from this source. It is just another illustration of the wise provision of nature.

THUNDER SHOWERS.

The frequent thunder showers in warm weather will assist very much in the secretion of honey in fall flowers. It is seldom we have a fall so favorable as this has been thus far; and in many localities, should the frost keep off, there will be a considerable surplus stored.

PREPARE FOR WINTER.

We hope our friends will be very careful and see that all their colonies have plenty of stores for winter. From now until the time when the bees are put in winter quarters, they should not be disturbed any more than is absolutely necessary in order to ascertain their condition. Plenty of stores is one of the causes of successful wintering. Year after year we have cautioned our friends, and every spring we hear the same tale—so many dead from starvation. Every colony should be weighed to see that it has plenty; and if not, the necessary amount should be fed it to bring it up to the required weight. As this may be a late fall, it is well to give them from five to ten pounds extra, as the bees will consume more honey if the fall is an open one than when winter sets in early. All who intend to pack their bees out doors, should lose no time in doing it. Pack them while the ground is dry, and the weather is dry; and make no mistake in having your packing dry.

HOLD YOUR MONEY.

We would not advise any one to rush off his honey too rapidly while there is plenty of fruit on the market. Apples are likely to be quite scarce in the latter part of the winter and spring, and many other kinds of fruit are only half a crop, especially plums. There is consequently no danger but all the honey will find a market at fair prices before the next crop comes in.

REPAIR YOUR HIVES AND FEED.

All hives with leaky covers should be repaired. No rain should be allowed to get into the hive.