

there is not much risk to run in wintering bees.

By all means give us the results of your various experiments and all particulars connected with your wonderful success in wintering. We might here state that Friend Enigh is just as successful in producing honey, especially comb-honey, as he is in wintering. He has exhibited some of the finest it has ever been our pleasure to see.

W. A. CHRYSLER, CHATHAM, ONT.—I am very much pleased with the JOURNAL and consider it deserves to be well patronised by every bee-keeper. My report for this season is anything but encouraging. I have lost thirteen out of seventeen colonies. Principal cause, dysentery. But I am not discouraged. Three-quarters of the bee-keepers in this section, if not more, have similar experiences. I am as yet a beginner and with more and better instructions on wintering from our more experienced apiarists (which we undoubtedly will receive through the JOURNAL) we may feel confident of success.

G. GUYER, PORT ELGIN, ONT.—I am very much pleased with the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, and am also pleased to hear the publishers say that they will "fix up" correspondence in right shape for the JOURNAL, as I do not feel qualified myself to do so. The JOURNAL will be a great help to Canadian bee-keepers. I was taking the *World* myself and spoke to several about subscribing for it and the reply was "I take an American newspaper and cannot take both." Now I think we have just what we need and good American writers to help it on. The great trouble here is for small bee-keepers to bring their bees through the long winter season. We are on the lake shore and the weather is very changeable. Heavy losses are reported. I have much reason to be thankful as I have never lost any since I commenced and this is my third winter. In the fall of 1882, I put in one hive, took out one; in the fall of 1883 I put in five, took out five; in fall of 1884 I put in nine hives and they are alright yet. Two colonies seem somewhat weak, but brood rearing has commenced. The other seven are in extra good condition. I have experimented considerably on hives during

my short experience and decidedly prefer double walled hives built of cedar and packed with dry cedar sawdust and that as dry as it can be.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

### FEEDING DARK HONEY.

P. T. MCCALLUM, STRANGE, ONT.—Do you buy dark honey for feeding bees? How much per pound is it worth? How much per pound do you pay for beeswax?

You will see price of wax quoted in former issue of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. Dark honey for feeding bees would not be worth as much as sugar syrup, and there would be more danger of robbing during brood rearing as when fresh honey is being placed in the hives the bees get the scent of it from outside and it is apt to incite robbing which at this season is to be guarded against with great care.

### WHY DID THE BEES DIE? TAN BARK FOR BEE YARD.

T. M. CRAIG, SHEFFORD MOUNTAIN, QUE.—Last November I put away seventy colonies in a small cellar under the kitchen, packing them in tiers two deep; temperature has ranged from 48° to about 30° in the coldest weather. They kept very quiet until about two weeks ago, when on going down to take a peep at them I found four stocks making considerable noise, and showing signs of dysentery as they were running about the outside and spotting their hives and quilts; did not trouble them at the time; looked to them a few days after and found they were dead. Examined two of them to-day, they seem to have been very strong in bees,—in fact it seems as though there were more than there was last fall.—found eggs and brood in all stages. The combs were dry but some of them a little mouldy. A good part of the bees had fallen to the bottom, some were clustered around the queen on the centre combs and a good many had gone into the cells head first and stayed there. They did not starve as there must have been ten pounds of honey in the outside combs though the centre ones were all cleaned out. Now, what caused their death? Could anything have been done for them when they were first noticed to be uneasy? How would from four to six inches of tan-bark with a slight dressing of sawdust on top, do for a bee-yard? Mine is in grass which I wish to keep down.

No doubt your bees died from dysen-