

and poke it under the inside partition of the ordinary Miller feeder, as we make and use it. That you may understand a little better, I herewith show a cross-section of the feeder in question. The cloth was crammed



med in under the boards B, right where the arrows are coming out into the larger compartment; and it was crammed in tight enough so as to make the syrup percolate through it in order to get into those narrow passage ways under A on either side. Well, what was the result? "All that my fancy painted it," in the language of Dr. Miller, where the cloth stuffing was properly put in tight enough, some of the water escaped before it had incorporated very much sugar; but in all other cases the bees used up all the sugar syrup.

I forgot to tell you that we put into the feeders equal parts of sugar and water, and of course, the syrup, as the bees got it, was thinner than they ordinarily get it—more like the nectar from the field.

As Mr. Boardman says in another column this syrup will never granulate, because bees ripen it; and right here I ought to credit Mr. Boardman with the idea of making the syrup of sugar and water, half and half. The fact that Dr. Miller was leaning the same way, only shows that great minds sometimes run in the same channel.

Without percolation, the water would not have time to take up the sugar sufficiently before the bees have it taken down into the brood nest. Well, when there is not enough water to take up the sugar, the latter simply dries, because the bees will take away the former in very short order. The cloth seems to prevent the water from escaping before it has had time enough to take up all the sugar; now, then, by putting in an excessive amount of water—that is, perhaps twice as much as is necessary for actual saturation, the sugar is more apt to dissolve, and; when dissolved, to percolate slowly through the cloth.

I had intended to prepare some illustrations; but the matter seems to be so very important that it ought to be given to our readers at once for what is worth, and after all I think they will be able to catch on to the idea.

Perhaps the majority have not already in use the Miller feeder. Well, as Dr. Miller intimates above, you can secure the results by the use of a tumbler, a piece of cloth and a saucer. But suppose you desire to feed faster, you have plenty of upper stories that you can put on the hives. The same

plan, perhaps, can be secured by using a gallon crock inverted over a piece of flannel, the whole set on a plate or large tin pan.

Later.—Since writing the foregoing we tried three one gallon crock feeders, inverted over several thicknesses of cheese-cloth on plates. So far as I can judge, the experiment seems to be a success; but instead of using flannel we used on one plate four thicknesses of cheese-cloth, on another six and on another eight. The last mentioned seems to give the best results. In each crock was, of course, put an equal quantity of sugar and water by measure; and in 48 hours, when they were examined, the syrup was all taken out of two of them, and in the third a little yet remained. In what is regularly the bottom of the crocks was a slight residue of sugar still clinging. The water had probably settled away from it. This would make no trouble, because the crocks can be used on other colonies, or the same and if more feed is required, putting in more sugar and water as before. The slight residue of sugar still in the crock would make no trouble with a fresh supply. I hope others will try this experiment and report results. In the meantime we shall continue the experiments of a larger scale.

This plan of feeding by percolator feeders is a little slower—That is, it takes the bees about twice as long to get the same amount of feed as by the old plan, when syrup is given to them; but this is rather an advantage; the syrup, being thinner in the first place, is taken down more slowly, and will be ripened better.—Ed. Gleanings.]

Correction.

Re article page 400, 401 and 402, December issue. Instead of "unreasonable" in the 11th line from the end, it should be "reasonable" which entirely reverses the meaning.

G. A. DEADMAN.

Brussels, Ont., Dec. 26th, 1894.

I must say I think your paper is one of the leading "Bee Journals," and right "up to date." The best paper for all Canadian Bee-keepers.

GEO. J. VANDEBORD.

Weston, Ont., Jan. 8, 1895.

When I began reading the C. B. J., which is now more than a year ago, I was much pleased with the practical common sense which it contained, and so with each succeeding issue it is becoming more and more useful to the bee-keeper.

M. C. BEAUPRE, Forestville.