

greater interest than money in the bank; while if all were put on top of a few hives they would not be of nearly so much value. If you have more partly filled sections than enough to make one tier through the center of each section-case, then I should place in the middle tier as before, then a tier on each side of this of the new sections, then more of the partly filled sections, and so on, alternating till the section-case is filled. In this way the bees will be at work throughout the whole case, almost before you know it.—G. M. Doolittle, in *Gleanings*.

#### North American Convention.

As previously stated, the meeting of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association will take place at Albany, N.Y., Dec. 8th to 11th. Our President has been working hard, and has secured reduced railroad rates from Chicago and the Mississippi River, and from the South. The meeting promises to be the grandest in the history of the association, and we hope the West will send a good delegation. Besides personal members' attendance, we expect every local and State association to send one delegate, or more. This will be a good occasion for Western bee-men to become acquainted with the noted bee-keepers of the East, nearly all of whom will attend this meeting. Bee-keepers desiring to attend will please send their names to either the President, Mr. P. H. Elwood, of Starkville, N.Y., or to the undersigned, as we intend to publish a full list of those that are expected to be present.

C. P. DADANT, Sec.

Hamilton Ills.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### Outside Wintering.

SOME weeks ago you made the request that I would let the readers of the C. B. Journal know my method of outside wintering. The want of time and absence from home has prevented me from acceding to your request until now. I feel a little diffidence in writing upon the subject, for I have really nothing new to offer, and have met with very varying success. Several times in my past experience I have succeeded in wintering without any or with a very trivial loss, and I then was vain enough to think I had discovered the art of successful wintering; and as I read or heard of the losses others had sustained, I felt a deep sympathy for them for I had been there myself, and was seized with a strong desire to try and dispel their ignorance and show them just how

to do it. The following season, however, took all this conceit out of me, and showed me by the mortality that prevailed that I knew nothing or very little about wintering. Several times I have been nearly cleaned out, but instead of being discouraged I set to work with new avidity, determining that I would master the wintering problem. I cannot say that I have succeeded in doing this yet and so feel more like occupying the position of a learner, sitting at the feet of some of these masters in agriculture who say they can winter bees with the same certainty and success as any other stock around the farm yard, rather than assuming the roll of teacher. However, I will briefly give you my method, and your readers can take it, as they doubtless will do, for what it is worth.

First, I made sure that every colony has a young, vigorous queen, and I try to keep them laying as late as possible by contracting the entrance and putting a cushion on top so that they may go into winter quarters with abundance of young bees. I next make sure they have enough of supplies to carry them through the most prolonged and severe winter and to do this I weigh them all some time in the month of September, marking on each hive the weight of the colony. I then set to work and feed them syrup, using the best granulated sugar, making the syrup of the consistency of honey, or two pounds of sugar to one of water. In doing so I simply tip up the front of the hive and pour the syrup behind, if the hive will hold in; if not, I use one of the Simplicity feeders. I feed until these in the large "Jones" hives weigh seventy-five pounds; those in the large combination, seventy pounds, and those in the small combination sixty-five pounds. Later on I exchange the oilcloth quilts for some made of thin, cheap cotton. For a number of years I have put about half of my colonies in the cellar and left the other half outside. I do this because some winters are more favorable for inside wintering and others for outside. By dividing them as I have mentioned I hit the season with half of my stock, and am not likely to be entirely cleaned out. I protect those I put in the cellar from mice. I put them on shelves suspended from the sleepers. Before I did this I was very much troubled with mice, and lost heavily from this cause. I take off the covers, leaving the cushions on top to absorb the moisture.

Those I am going to winter outside, I like to get packed in the clamp as early as possible, and before cold weather has set in. My clamp stands about six inches from the ground, so as to prevent moisture. There are about six