

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

## The Honey Flow.

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the late spring and the cold weather we have had during the past season, bees in this neighborhood are in excellent condition; up to the time of fruit bloom they did not appear to do much owing to the backward weather and consequent lack of honey, but there has been an unusually good flow from that source this year, and examination shows a number of hives to be filled with bees and honey, and preparation for swarming going on. Not wishing any increase, second and top stores with empty combs were adjusted, in order to give plenty of room for the storage of honey, and to prevent swarming. So far, the prospects for a good honey flow are bright. White clover is in splendid condition, and will yield a large quantity of honey if we can judge from the amount of blossoms to be seen. Basswood and clover are our main sources here, and it depends on the weather for their secretion of nectar.

THOS. PATTON.

Westover, June 20th, '92.

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## Report from St. Thomas.

**A**PRIL was very cold, dry and backward, but we have had the wettest May I have ever known. Bees had only about four days on apple bloom, during which time some of the colonies stored from 25 to 40 lbs. of honey. I have felt doubtful when I heard of bees storing honey in top stores at the time of apple bloom, but I do not wonder that they were successful. I did not get my cellar bees out until the last day of April. I know they were not in shape to store honey in top stores from apple bloom, but will be all right for the clover. I wintered out of doors this winter some 210 colonies, and wintered them perfectly. I have been experimenting with outdoor wintering, and I think I have struck something new and good; and will try and give it to your readers in another article before packing time comes again, that is, if they do not tell all about it before I get started. I have sold since last fall 170 colonies, which leaves me nearly 200. They are situated in three different apiaries, and I intend to manage them alone. Will let you know later how I succeed.

JACOB ALPAUGH.

St. Thomas, June 3rd, 1892.

We shall be pleased to hear from you in reference to the new system you speak of. We are pleased to note your success

in wintering; the wintering of bees out of doors will likely receive more attention in future than indoor wintering. Although many are able to pack and winter very successfully outdoors, yet there are many more little points which tend to make outdoor wintering much more successful that have not been brought out yet, and you being a very close observer and experimenter will no doubt bring out some of them. We hope you will give us the desired information as early as possible that our readers may fully understand it and prepare in time for the work.

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**S**IR,—For the purpose of getting some white honey, (basswood and clover), which is difficult to obtain in this district, I propose to hive my swarms in a hive arranged as follows: A single brood case of the Heddon reversible hive, with case of sections above, and queen-excluding honey board between, the sections and brood chamber being each supplied with full sheets of foundation.

The course commonly recommended, and as I understand it, is to hive swarms on a double case brood chamber, and take your surplus honey in sections, if you can get it, after you get both brood cases full. This is done, I understand, in order that there may be an abundance of safe wintering stores.

Now I desire to learn whether it will be possible to winter with any chance of success by confining the bees for the whole season to a single (or half) brood case, and putting them in winter quarters in that alone, feeding in the fall if necessary to give the bees all the honey they can store in it, and keeping it in a repository where the temperature is kept at the proper point. Or would it be better to double up the colonies in the fall, and winter them in double brood cases. Your answer on these points will greatly oblige

A SUBSCRIBER.

It depends on the size of your colony. A very large colony would scarcely winter as well in one brood chamber as in two; but if your colonies are of moderate size one brood chamber is sufficient. When feeding in the fall we would advise you as soon as you remove your sections and the honey flow ceases, to feed sugar syrup and honey mixed. If you have not extracted honey to mix in with the sugar syrup you might feed all sugar syrup, but by putting one