

hives piled upside down to prevent the snow or rain from lodging in them. If the lids are left on they should be placed on a slant so that the water will run off. The combs should be carefully selected; those with honey in and those empty; the drone separated from the worker. One inch strips nailed on the ceiling of the bee-house crosswise, a three inch strip nailed on that, then a similar one at the proper distance will be found convenient for hanging frames with the edge resting on the two lower strips. Make sufficient to hang all your combs overhead where they will be out of the way. Combs may be hung one or two inches apart. In this way the moths do not injure them. You can hang the worker and drone comb in separate rows and the full combs of honey and the partially filled in another and by a little care in selecting and arranging you can walk in and take down any frame you wish without examination. Combs hung up in this way keep in much nicer shape and are much less liable to injury than if placed in hives or set around the room. Suppose you want to treat them or your bee-house to the fumes of brimstone, which is very good to destroy vermin, you have only to put some coals in your pot or kettle and the sulphur on it, close the doors and all moth eggs and larvæ will be destroyed.

Hives, lids, stands, in fact anything left about the yard during winter is liable to be injured and will repay picking up and putting under shelter if possible early in the fall. Every bee-house, cellar or repository should be made mouse proof and the necessary precautions taken to remove all moths and kill all mice before the bees are put in and should there be any opportunity or probability of others coming during the bees' confinement it would be better to make such arrangements as would enable you to destroy them before they did any damage to the colonies. It is not an uncommon thing for mice to destroy more value in bees in one winter than it would cost for fifty years to keep them killed off. Here is a recipe which we might term a mouse exterminator. We have frequently killed every one about the premises in a short time. Take equal quantities, in bulk, of granulated sugar, flour and arsenic. Mix it dry and thoroughly; no water should be

added as they eat it more rapidly when dry. It may be dropped in behind boards, any out of the way place or in their holes where nothing else can get at it. We sometimes place it on small sheets of paper putting about a quarter or half a teaspoonful on each. We then lay these about the bee hives, or in the bee-house and whenever we have done so we have never been troubled with mice. Unless there is plenty of food that they can get at they are sure to eat it and seem to eat it eagerly. In fact, where the bees are quiet you could put some on paper behind the division board in a hive or on top of the quilt if any signs of mice were evident at any time during the winter when examining them. Sometimes the arsenic is not pure or it may lose its strength. In such cases we have known it to fail but never when the arsenic was good. We prefer the lump. It has to be powdered by the druggist but only a third as much is necessary, *i.e.*; three spoonful of sugar and one of the arsenic.

HOW TO LIQUIFY HONEY.—THE HONEY SOCIAL.

This matter seems to have been pretty thoroughly gone over, yet we occasionally receive enquiries in regard to it. In shipping honey to us we prefer it granulated because tons of it can be put into the dry kiln and liquified in from six to twelve hours and that without overheating it which is a very important point. In a hurry, we can do it rapidly, or we can give it the bare heat necessary to take from one to six days, afterwards keeping it at any degree of temperature desired. By taking the screw tops off and leaving them open the honey can be evaporated and made much thicker. This plan of ripening will, no doubt, come into more general use when better known. Very thick, well evaporated honey pleases the customers, and we venture the statement that apiarists will never have too much of that to place on the market. Thin, watery honey will never give the satisfaction, and will not bring as high a price. Let bee-keepers vie with each other and try who can turn out the thickest, richest and finest honey. Then, very thick honey is less inclined to granulate, in fact some of it almost refuses to granulate, except at a very low temperature. Those who have no dry-kilns or