

1887

house cellar with two air pipes, so adjusted as to give them more or less air, as was required. On the 20th of April I placed them on their summer stands and found that six had died for want of stores; the remaining twenty are doing fairly well and have been getting some honey from willow for the past week. Expect to see the young bees flying in a few days.
Burleigh, May 14th, 1887.

FIRST SWARM ON THE 18TH MAY.

J. W. GIBSON.—My bees are swarming. First swarm on the 18th and another on the 19th, being ten days earlier than last year. Things are looking as though I might have another swarm to-morrow.
Strathroy, 21st May, 1887.

WORTH THREE TIMES THE PRICE.

EDMOND ARNOLD.—I like the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL very much, and enclose you the renewal of my subscription; would not be without it for thrice the price. My bees came through the winter on their summer stands in splendid condition. At the present time they are strong in bees and ready for the harvest.
Lewisville, Ont. May 18th, 1887.

AROUSING INCREASE—22 COLONIES FROM 2 IN ONE SEASON.

JOHN ALEXANDER.—I began bee-keeping with two colonies, on the 10th of May, 1886, and in the fall I placed twenty-two colonies in winter quarters. I sold 800 pounds of extracted honey. On the 1st of April this year I took out 15 colonies alive, and I have to-day thirty hives all of which colonies are in good shape with mated queens; I had drones flying on the 12th inst. My success has stimulated a few of my neighbors into trying the bee business, and I think I can dispose of quite a lot of supplies.
Turnerville, May 18th, 1887.

Do you really mean to tell us that you had twenty-two colonies in the fall from the two colonies which you had on the 10th of May, when you started bee-keeping? This is about the biggest increase we have ever heard of. Of course your increase was by division, as we hardly think it likely that natural increase would be so excessive. We should like to know how many frames each of your colonies had when they were placed in winter quarters and how many frames your thirty colonies have to-day. You seem to have divided each of the 15 already this season, from what you say. No wonder your neighbors have taken the bee fever. We hope they may be as successful as you have been, and that your success may continue, but we would suggest, in a friendly way that you do not increase too largely, because your bees will be in a poor shape for wintering, and besides, there is no object in having a large increase if you are to lose one-third of them every winter. It would

be better to have them in comfortable shape in the fall and have more bees in the spring.

A SATISFACTORY SHOWING.

A. BOOMER.—In 1884 I bought a colony of Italian bees in a chaff hive, paid \$15, left it outside well packed with chaff but they starved before spring. In 1885 I bought two more tried outdoor wintering, one in the chaff hive came through alright the other starved as before. Last year in May I bought one more, these cast three swarms each and gave us nearly 100 pounds surplus honey. I bought two more Italian colonies and subscribed for the C. B. J. when I soon discovered that hitherto I knew really nothing of bee-culture. After reading carefully the evidence of your correspondents as to the best mode of wintering, I soon decided on the cellar mode. Five of my ten colonies were third swarms and not very strong; towards spring I fed these a little, on April 6th I set out three of the strongest and found them in fine condition; on April 15th I set out three more found them all O. K. also, then on the 26th I concluded to set out the balance but found the wind was too cold as hundreds of the first one set out fell to the ground and perished. I decided to leave the rest where they were till the weather got warmer, on April 30th it was alright and I set out the balance, finding them in fair condition, and now at the time of writing (May 20th) they are all much heavier than when put into winter quarters. I attribute my success to the information derived from your paper, and would not pretend to keep bees without it or some equally good journal. The colonies set out April 6th being strong in bees and supplies, have done better than those set out later. I conclude that good healthy colonies with good supplies may be set out much earlier than weak ones. I had no such difficulties as you report when taking their first flight, no mixing up that I could discover took place and I begin to think I can handle bees as well as some others. Nearly all my neighbors who keep bees lost more or less in both ways of wintering. The month of May so far has been very propitious, and I expect the swarming season will in consequence be earlier than usual.

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BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

Perhaps it would be as well to say that the price for Heddon brood frames on page 6 of our circular does not include punching them for wiring. The price when punched is \$1.50 per thousand.