

the combs wide. The queen will not be so likely to lay in them.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—There may be an advantage in the larger surface the thinner combs would give in the same cubical space. Would not honey ripen faster?

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—Combs ought to be the same thickness both in the supers and in the brood-chamber, because you could change them if desired to build up or feed in the fall, if your hives are light.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—Yes, if the queen is allowed access to them. In that case, I should prefer all worker combs. If, however, queen-excluding honey-boards, or dividers, are used, I should use them now I had them.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—Can't say from experience, as I don't think any of my store combs are more than one and one-half inches wide. One advantage in the wider combs would be, the queen would not be so apt to lay in them.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—My impression is that they would not, and for the reason that more honey in proportion, (and largely so) will be stored in the deeper cells, as it takes as much time etc., to cap the shallow cells, and but a trifle more time to fill the deeper ones. The rule is that honey is stored in deep cells, and under no circumstances is brood sealed up in cells more than seven-sixteenths deep.

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, O.—Yes, and I prefer them even thinner. For eighteen years I have worked for extracted honey, and the thick combs, full and sealed over, are too heavy to handle and are very liable to be injured in the extractor, unless they lay evenly against the sides of the comb basket. From what experience I have had with thick combs, it seems to me the bees do not evaporate the honey as rapidly as in thinner ones.

BY THE EDITOR.—We prefer one and one-half inches to two inches. Our reasons for the preference are these: the shallower the cells the more combs it takes to fill the space, thus giving more surface for evaporation, and the honey is ripened much sooner. We have examined honey sealed over in both the deep and the shallow frame and found the latter much the thicker and apparently richer. To test this matter let any person take sections from the same super with

two inch combs or more, then others with one and one-half, or less, and note the difference in the quality of honey.

## SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

### REMARKS ON WINTERING.

W. J. MARTIN.—If you were going to winter bees in a damp cellar, what temperature would you prefer it?

Not below 45° and not above 50°, when colonies are uniform in strength. For light, small colonies we would prefer the temperature from 50° to 60°, according to size.

What number of combs and distance apart do you consider best for an average colony?

Depends entirely on size of comb. Think from 5 to 6 square feet of comb, if kept the proper distance apart, is better than more.

When would you wish the queen to lay eggs from which to raise bees to winter best?

In time to have the bees hatched and from fifteen to thirty days old before going into winter quarters.

Would dry cedar sawdust packed behind the division board be a benefit?

Certainly.

Would you prefer the half-story on and filled with the same material?

Yes.

What kind of bee-quilt is the better, the old one, or a fresh one of open material?

Belgrave, Ont., Aug. 21st, 1886.

We prefer a fresh quilt and of open material that the moisture may pass off. But very strong colonies that can produce sufficient heat to drive moisture from the brood chamber would winter well with the old cloth which would be covered with propolis.

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In reference to the Bray Clamp that is advertised in our columns, we would say that having noted Mr. Bray's success and management of that particular style of clamp for the last four years we can assure our readers that it possesses merit. Notwithstanding the fact that we have a number of bee houses and cellars in