

of your vast Republic, principalities or powers, things that be or things to come, heights or depths, or any other creature, can fairly interpret my meaning as in any way aiding or abetting that idea, I am willing to go do down on my toes and humbly beg your pardon. Now, turn up your knuckles; crack, bang, whack. My sympathy for the culprit, I can assure you, is not very pronounced. Nor indeed could it be when I find you doing the very opposite to what poor "deluded Hasty" gave you credit for only last month, that is, "careful reading." So out with that hand again; crack, bang, whack. Now, Mr. Boiler, (Oh, how I am longing to learn your identity), if you, (after having digested this, and applied some soothing poultice to your knuckles) feel sufficiently penitent, I am willing to cut the controversy in half, if you will agree to give me full half. Will holler 'nuff, shake hands and be good friends again on this matter. Bye-bye.

The Wintering Problem.

—S. B. SMITH.

A week ago I was laid flat on my back with the grip, and felt like finding fault with nearly everything, and the grip in particular. To-day, feeling somewhat in a fault-finding mood still, my thoughts have turned to the light frame L hive, for wintering bees in outside, with an outside case, and must say in my opinion there should be something better, and will try to explain in as few words as possible the reasons why. First, to give the bees the necessary ventilation, it is necessary to have an opening all the way across the front. The combs being placed with their end to the opening, brings a direct current of cold air from the entrance over the entire surface of all the combs before it has any chance of becoming warmed or broken in its direct course from the cold entrance to the warmer air around the cluster. Again, it brings the honey from which the bees are to feed below where they naturally cluster and between them and the cold current from the entrance, from which they keep as far as possible, and when they do venture, become chilled and seldom reach the cluster again, hence the pile of dead bees we find at or near the entrance, which are not carried there

by their brother bees after death, but drop where death overtakes them. May we not be able to trace some of our brood trouble to this same cause? Would it not be better to have a deeper hive, say for two sets of about seven inch frames, one above the other, with a good space between, and especially the top ones, well stored with honey. They are then above where the bees naturally cluster, also the heat from the cluster keeping the honey warm and easy to be obtained, instead of between them and the cold, which becomes hard to get at. Also, the combs should be sides to the entrance, instead of ends, which would assist in breaking the direct current of air from the entrance. In nature, where the bees are left to build the combs, we find them quite different. There we find them built in braces and and circles, thereby doing away with all possibility of a current of air from the entrance passing over the entire surface with nothing to break it, and in the bee tree as well as any of their own built homes, we find the honey is stored as high and as much above the bees as possible, and they never do any of their work by guess or without a reason. The meeting of the cold and warm air must cause the same to condense, and the moisture thereby created, also by the dead bees, is a serious consideration which should be avoided.

S. B. SMITH.

Listowel, April 6, 1898.

Winter Report.

Islington, April 27, 1897.

Editor Bee Journal.

DEAR SIR—Bees wintered well here. I put twenty-six in the cellar and lost one. Forty I put in clamps packed with sawdust. They were all alive but one on the first of April, but I lost four since. The cause seemed to be a scarcity of bees, as they were unable to go to the honey in the other parts of the hives when it was exhausted where they were located. If the bees are numerous so as to keep up the heat, I think this class of starvation seldom occurs, as in that case they can pass from comb to comb comfortably. My bees gathered pollen on March 30th, and on April 2nd, on opening a hive, I found a little new honey. I believe it