

SELECTIONS.

A GOOD REPORT FOR SPRING.

J. H. DAVISON.—As a number of our bee-keepers in this section have taken out their bees, I write you to say that so far as I have heard all are in good order, the great trouble has been to keep them quiet in cellars. Bees in clamps are enjoying a flight every warm day, but I think they will stop at home for a while now as we had a thunder storm and it turned cold after and gave us rain, then hail, then snow and high winds from north west. To-day is cold with snow flurries. My own bees are still in cellar very quiet. One colony was slightly affected by dysentery, to this I gave a flight.

Mount Forest, April 10th, 1890.

TEN POUNDS PER COLONY FOR WINTER.

G. L. PEARSON.—My bees have come out very well. I put in the house 117 hives and took out 115 but found 5 queenless ones that I put in with other swarms. My bees never consumed so little honey in any season since I have had bees as they have this winter, on an average, I don't think more than ten pounds each, and I never had them to come out so clean and nice before, no dead bees in the hives worth speaking of or molded combs.

Clarksburg, Ont., May, 1890.

JAS. DONEY.—A few words for the C. B. J. I have been asked to send in my returns for 1889, but I must go back to '88. I then bought three colonies of bees, increased to seven, packed 5 in chaff 2 in saw-dust all wintered well except one which came out a little weak, sold one swarm at \$8 left 6, increased to 16 swarms in 1889, extracted about 500 lbs. of honey, sold 1 second swarm at \$4, sold 1 colony in Oct, 1889 for \$7, doubled 2 swarms in one, packed 13, can't say how they are at present. I use the Jones deep hive, as I think them good for wintering bees in. I must thank the C. B. J. for my knowledge in bee culture.

Camilla, Mar. 31st, '90.

H. S. GRANT.—I am pleased with the change the JOURNAL has undergone, but I am sorry to be so late with my account of last summer. I began two years ago with one colony in an old box hive. It increased to four and I transferred it the next spring. I took the four out safe and increased to fourteen, and took 125 lbs. of extracted and 25 of comb honey. The bees are still safe in the cellar. Some around here have their bees out but I think mine are safer in the cellar.

Moose-Creek, April 8th, 1890.

REPORT FROM THE CHARD APIARY.

W. J. BROWN.—Seeing that it is both beneficial and interesting to know how the bees came out this spring throughout the province, I drop you a few lines with regard to this yard. I winter my bees in the cellar under the dwelling-house. The thermometer stood from 55 to 60 degrees, until about the first of March, when I put in a second ventilator, which brought it down to about 50. Bees were terribly uneasy until the 7th of April, when I put them on their summer stands—fifty-nine, as that was the number I put in winter quarters. They were generally in a weak condition, and from spring dwindling, robbing, and doubling up, I now have but forty-one colonies. Some of these are very strong. I have been obliged to put on the third storey on some already. Up to this writing we have had the worst weather for the bees that has been known in this section; cold, wet and windy. The bees cannot work quarter time. Thousands left their homes never to return. There is a good flow of honey at present, but it is only by spells that they can go to work. The complaints from the western and central parts of the Province are much the same as from here, but, in my opinion, there is a great difference in your favor with regard to the climate, I find that the loss is still greater in many yards in this district than in mine. If we could get a few days in succession of favorable weather it would help to pull up for at least a part of the loss suffered. I only wish I was able to give as good a report as Friend Anguish, of the Mount Pleasant Vineyard Apiary, and I hope sincerely that all may have a prosperous season.

Chard, Ont., June 9, '90.

WIRING FRAMES.

A. F. DEY.—Is it necessary to wire frames having inside dimensions of $10\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ in.? What is the name of this frame?

Moose Creek, April 8, '90.

The authorities differ on this question of wiring frames. Our reply should be that it is *totally unnecessary* to wire frames of the dimensions you name, or in fact *any* frame having a sufficiently stiff top-bar to prevent sagging of the comb. Our experience is based on years of work in building combs and shipping bees. The frame for the S. W. Jones hive is $10\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ inches inside measure, and is thus very nearly the same size of frame as your own. Though we have shipped thousands of colonies to all parts of Canada and the United States we have never had combs break down, excepting in one or two instances. If there is any great virtue in wiring at all, it seems to us it is to prevent breakage in shipping, and in the face of our experience we cannot see that there is any necessity for the time and trouble taken.