

CELLAR WINTERING.

JNO. MACPHERSON, MOUNTSBERG.—Would you please give me your opinion on the following: In my cellar, which is all under my house, there is a recess $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet high by $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet long and $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad. A soft water cistern forms one side of this recess. The cellar at certain times of the year has water rising up in it and is sunk fully $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in the ground, and with ordinary precautions is frost proof. The cistern is open at the top in the cellar. 1. Would it be prudent then to board off this recess as a winter repository for bees? 2. If so how would you proceed? With a little expense, stove pipes, with elbows attached, could be run up through cellar ceiling to connect with kitchen stove pipe above. If it would be suitable, about how many colonies should such a receptacle contain? 3. In wintering in clamps is it necessary to move them from their summer stands a little every day till they get to the clamp, or leave them till cold weather sets in.

Merely set up boards in any way to prevent the light from coming in, leaving a space to carry in the bees; there might be about one row of bees set on each side of the six feet, leaving a little passage in the centre. They may be tiered up about three or four tiers high, and it would then hold about 50 or 60 colonies. A pipe may be run up to connect with stove pipe above, and go within two inches of bottom of cellar. If you pack them before cold weather sets in they should be moved a little every day until you get them in position, but if left until cold weather sets in they may be lifted and set in clamp. It is better, however to pack them earlier.

A CASE OF FERTILE WORKERS.

J. H. DICKSON, GLENEDEN.—I have in one of my nuclei (Holy Land) a fertile worker. When I divided them I put a queen-cell in with them instead of a queen. Two days after I looked at them and they had destroyed the cell and I put another one in and they destroyed that. I cannot find the queen though I have looked twice, changed them to another hive twice, and there is something filling the hive with eggs and they are building queen-cells, some having about a dozen eggs in each cell, and in many worker cells there is as many as four eggs. Please tell me what to do. I have not had any experience in that line. Would it best to divide it up and put a card of

this one into each of the other hives?

Yours is evidently a case of fertile workers; the brood in the combs will probably all turn out to be small drones. You may take all their combs from them, immerse them in cold water for one hour, which will kill brood and eggs. If any are capped over, the cappings may be shaved off, the combs put in the extractor, and the brood thrown out, or it may be partially shaken out and a comb put in each strong colony; they will be cleaned up ready for brood in a short time. The bees may be doubled up with another colony, or while in this combless state they may have a queen introduced to them, feeding them liberally with diluted honey, shaking them thoroughly in the box; repeat the operation after the queen has been introduced and after twenty-four hours give them comb.

THAT SMELL OF TOBACCO.

In reading the correction of Mrs. Chaddock, in the C. B. J., page 358, we were surprised to hear that our foundation recalls to her the smell of tobacco.

Of course we don't use essence of tobacco in our manufacture of comb foundation; besides, as none of the men in our employ chew tobacco, being mostly French or German, and as the use of tobacco is forbidden in our shops, the smell of our foundation does not come from the weed. It is the pungent smell of pure beeswax that the truly good nose of Mrs. Chaddock mistook for the scent of tobacco. The scent is generally accepted as agreeable, for nearly every one of the bee-keepers who visit our shops, while entering in the dipping or in the moulding room, exclaims: "I like the smell of beeswax!"

As for the comb made on foundation being free from moth, we don't believe it. Moths prefer old comb to new, because they find in them a nitrogenous matter which is indispensable to the development of the worms. Then a comb newly built on foundation will be free of moths, while the comb beside, if old, will be covered with them. Such is our explanation of the idea that comb made on foundation, is never troubled by moths.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

Hamilton, Ill.