

under my notice in this respect. It is in a 9-frame Quinby hive, which, up to a few weeks ago, had three supers, each of the same capacity as brood-chamber. They had very little honey, but **abundance** of bees. The nine framers are now solid, and during this cool weather there are at least a gallon of bees that cluster under the gable roof, on top of the quilt. As the weather grows colder expect they will be able to get "down stairs." Hope to be able to report later how they stand the winter.

Feeding Bees in the Winter.

While this subject was under discussion at Trenton, last winter, it was generally conceded that it should only be done on the principle of "any port in a storm. From a lengthy letter in September "Review" it would appear that some bee-keepers regard winter feeding as being quite practical. The writer, among other things, says: "I would rather feed my bees every week by pouring one-fourth lb. of honey or syrup, on the bulrap directly over the cluster, than go back to the old way of feeding thirty pounds in the fall, and have the bees all starve on a hive full of candied stores. If your bees don't fly, 10 lbs. is enough for winter, and if your spring bloom is continuous, you won't have to feed any in the spring. You can tell by watching closely for ejected brood." That "candied store" business is a hard one on your humble servant, who has often fed the 30 lbs. at once, but has never yet noticed the "candied stores," and funny to relate, has never yet lost a colony so fed. That 10 lb. item is quite alluring, but a little experience along that line has made me unwilling to yield to the temptation. No sir, sooner the 30 odd lbs. and be excused from "looking closely for ejected brood."

The Fruit, Flower and Honey Show.

We notice that during the progress

of the show that on one day apples will be given to the public, and on another day flowers. This brings the suggestion, why not give away honey on **another** day. There are some beautiful piles of comb honey at the National, and as it is only worth in the neighborhood of a paltry \$2.50 per doz., quite likely some of our public-spirited bee-keepers would deem it a privilege to hand out a section to each caller. The writer regrets that, owing to the fact that he has no comb honey this year, he will be debarred from taking part in the work. However, will not display any of the "dog in the manger" spirit, but will give all encouragement to other aspirants who are in a position to "fill the bill." York Co., Ont.

STINGLESS BEES OF BRAZIL.

From The Journal of the Royal Microscopical Society we gather that H. v. Thering (Zool. Jahrb. xix., 1904) communicates many interesting facts concerning the habits and structure of the stingless honey-bees of Brazil. A comparison of representatives of the genera *Melipona* and *Trigona* with *Apis mellifica* shows, in addition to the characters common to all Apidae, such as the existence of drones, queens and workers, swarming, collection of honey and pollen, and the use of wax for building, two important structural differences, viz., the rudimentary nature of the sting, and the formation of the wax-plates on the dorsal side of the abdomen. These differences have led the author to constitute the genera in question a separate family from the Apidae. These bees build their nests invariably in the stems or branches of trees; they choose trees that rot easiest; but some build in the earth, as deep as four metres, with a perpendicular, slanting, or spirally-twisted tube to the surface.—British Bee Journal.