

ception they would court investigation as to purity of their products. On the other hand, if, perchance, we have some imposters, as Dr. Phillips' report would lead us to think, was the case, in justice to the bee-keepers and honest manufacturers, think an exposure of the guilty party or parties should be made public.

Wintering on Solid Sealed Stores.

In a recent issue of "American Bee Journal," Mr. Hasty thanks Mr. Dadant for his defence of "natural conditions in the fall in preference to having all combs completely solid with honey." This is, of course, a comment on Mr. Dadant's reply to an article of mine in A. B. J., in which I combatted his statement that "bees will not winter well on solid sealed combs of honey." If Mr. Hasty or Mr. Dadant will carefully read the article in question, don't think they will find that I advocated having all the combs in the hives with honey, indeed, such condition would necessitate a man having a bank behind him if he wanted to fit up three or four hundred colonies like that. Mr. Dadant made the unqualified statement that "bees will not winter well on solid sealed combs of honey," and as actual experience has proven to me that such a claim has no weight as far as Ontario is concerned, felt it unwise to let such a statement go unchallenged. I tried to make it clear that I would not meddle with colonies that were heavy in stores, but on the other hand I claimed and still claim, that if a colony is light, much better results will be obtained by first contracting and then feeding until the remaining combs are solid, or better still replace the light combs with solid combs of honey. As to the number of combs to leave, that will depend on the strength of the colony. Personally, have found that five Quinby combs solid with honey or sugar syrup will bring the strongest colony through

in splendid condition. As to "natural conditions" referred to by Mr. Hasty, by which I presume he means empty comb in centre of brood nest for bees to cluster on; would hazard the guess that two-thirds of winter losses in cold climates are caused by the aforesaid "natural" conditions.

Rapid Work in Extracting Honey.

In January 15th "Gleanings," Mr. Alexander describes how they take the honey from the hives in extracting time. He says: "One man stays in the extracting building and does all the extracting; another man stays with the hives we are working at, and opens all of them and takes out about half of the combs and puts all the empty combs back and closes up the hive, while the third man takes out what heavy combs he can and takes the full ones to the extracting building and brings the empty combs back. In this way we find no trouble in extracting from 30 to 32 hives per hour, or on an average a hive of nine combs in a little less than every two minutes." Counting 40 pounds to the super, that would mean in eight hours' work about 10,000 pounds in a day—not a bad day's work, without a doubt. Our sympathy is extended to the poor "duffer" who is all alone in the extracting house. While I don't pretend to be any swifter than the ordinary mortal, yet I have the conceit that I can alone literally bury with combs two ordinary helpers in the extracting house, if the combs are sealed as they should be. But we had forgotten; Mr. Alexander don't believe in such foolishness as allowing the bees to seal the combs. This will explain his "two-to-one" proposition in the matter of distributing his helpers in the apiary.

When we recollect how Editor Root warmly approves of the efforts of such men as White, Townsend and others in the matter of urging bee-keepers

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