

ally a killing of drones at that time. Then I got some honey from buckwheat, aster, goldenrod and boneset until November. I do not get much in supers, as I make my increase mostly then. It goes into the brood chamber for winter stores. I have worked it this way for four years and keep my colonies intact till then if possible, and don't have any dark honey to sell."

He attributes out-door winter losses in some degree to sugar syrup.

In conclusion, the correspondent states that he came to the United States from England in 1871, but finds it a "semi-civilized nation." Whisper that to some of our friends over there and see what they will say.

MORLEY PETTIT.

Belmont, Ont.

Our Michigan friend's experience is certainly very interesting, but we must not whisper his opinion of the Americans. It is not very flattering, and, besides, coming from MICHIGAN! what would Editor Hutchinson say?—Ed.]

STINGLESS BEES.

M. D. Halleux alludes to these bees in *L'Abeille et sa Culture*. Recently an explorer in South America stated that he had discovered stingless bees in Venezuela about the same size as our honey-bee, and of a beautiful yellow color. A colony of such bees sent from Brazil to the editor of *The Bienen Vater* in Vienna only lived until January, notwithstanding that every effort was made to keep them in a similar temperature to the climate that they had been used to. M. Halleux says these bees are of the genus *Melipona*, and although they have no stings they can defend themselves in other ways. They attack fiercely and bite with their powerful mandibles. In Central America there are varieties that bite so cruelly and with such ferocity that they are quite as formidable as our most vicious colonies.—British Bee Journal,

TAKING BEES FROM THE CELLAR FOR A WINTER FLIGHT

Frank P. Adams.

The experiences of last spring will not soon be forgotten by bee-keepers in this locality, it was certainly a trying time to those of us who wintered in cellars, and I suppose doubly so to those who wintered their bees outside.

The long cold spring coming after the severe winter proved disastrous to many colonies which otherwise might have survived had the weather proved more favorable. It is just at this time, the early spring, when bees are first taken from the cellar and commence brood rearing, that so many stocks go to the wall. In some cases this is due to starvation, but in many instances it is due to exhausted vitality caused by undue exertion too early in the season. It might be of interest if I give my last year's experience in this connection, as it serves to emphasize the fact that bees should be kept quietly in the cellar until it is fairly certain that moderately warm weather has come to stay; or if they have become too restless in the cellar and this is impossible, then they should be set out on their summer stands on a warm bright day, and left there, after being packed as snugly as possible. And now for a bit of history: Wednesday, March 23rd, came out bright and warm, although the ground was still covered with ice and snow. The bees had wintered well but they were becoming restless, and I decided to set them out, as this was about the time that I had taken them from the cellar in former years. Before taking them up I spread a load of straw over the yard, adjusted the stands and by noon had the hives in place, one hundred and twenty-six colonies in all. They had a splendid flight