

ches as in most of our hives there are always a few of the cells around the edge that will answer for that purpose, and when we find special colonies with valuable queens that we wish to breed from, we prefer to breed from them drones, from others queens, and we do not care to have any drone combs in these hives to allow drones to be bred from every queen in the yard. We do think it in the interest of the apiarist that drones should be as carefully or more carefully bred than queens because they exercise the greater influence on the colony or progeny. I would much prefer to have an ordinary queen crossed with a superior drone than to have a valuable queen crossed with a poor drone. Now friends if your colonies that have special valuable characteristics for honey gathering, non swarming, etc., should breed your drones from some colonies in large quantities then breed your queens from some other colonies having special valuable characteristics, and see how soon you will be able to noticed a marked difference in the value of your apiary.

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Quite a few of our friends say they are troubled with their bees robbing this spring, the ordinary preventives have not produced the desired effect in every instance; they wish to know what they had better do. Well, friends, just lay a few sticks or a little fine brush at the entrance, then pile on hay, straw, or grass, say a foot deep, this keeps it up from the entrance, and forms ventilation by which the bees can get sufficient air. Then take cold water and sprinkle on the grass, wetting it thoroughly. You may do this in front of the hives that are robbing as well as those being robbed. As they crawl out through this wet material their thorax, wings, etc. become dampened as well as their ardour and their disposition to rob seems to cease at once. Sometimes it will stop them all right to put it over the hive that is being robbed, and as the robbers come out and encounter the wet material in passing through, they don't care to return. Those who pass through it, lose all disposition to fight, and a pint of bees in a hive so arranged will guard their entrance against all intruders. Sometimes the robbers will attack the next hive when they find they are prevented from robbing the one just fixed.

We have occasion sometimes to protect several hives on each side of the one being robbed before the depredations are ceased; but by ascertaining the hive or hives that are doing the robbing, and protecting them as we have stated, the whole difficulty will be surmounted in a very short time.

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We are sorry to learn from the A. B. J. that the senior editor Mr. T. G. Newman has been obliged to take some holidays, as the following would indicate :

"The Editor health has been so much impaired by three annual attacks of La Grippe, that if some radical improvement is not made very soon, a collapse is imminent. His physician prescribes "a complete rest and change of air." Accordingly, he will leave the city next week for a month's rest. The drudgery of desk-work has brought on neuralgia and brain troubles. A vigorous constitution, and strong will-power have contributed in no small degree to his holding out so long against the insidious working of that dire disease and its result.

We know how to sympathise with him as we had La Grippe for three winters in succession ourselves, and have been quite unable to attend to the editorial department of the C. B. J. on that account. Mr. Somers proprietor and manager was also confined to his room so that the entire work of the last Journal devolved on some of the office hands, and articles appeared as editorial which were written by them. Mr. Somers has quite recovered, and with his increased staff will now be able to look after matters carefully.

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In going through the apiary we lifted off the lid, and noticed one of our strongest colonies was only occupying four combs, while some of the others, apparently not as strong in flying out at the entrance, were occupying eight. This, the assistant could not understand. And the explanation was quite easy. When I examined them I only found brood in three combs while with less bees I found brood in six combs in another hive near, it and eggs in the seventh. I thought it was a good opportunity to point out to him the advantage of having combs close together the difficulty was that this strong colony had the combs spread so far apart that the honey was capped about two inches thick. In order to carry on the brood rearing so many had clustered between one row of comb