from where the brood nest is, in the spring, the queen will not lay in it till the bees become strong in numbers. In this way drones are not produced in hives thus fixed till late in the season, and if left in this position, none will be reared late, as these outside combs are first to be filled with honey, thus doing away with any more drones, as the bees are not as anxious for drones at this season of the year, hence will not take honey out of drone cells to rear them. In this way, about twice decapitating the drones during one season is all that is needed with any colony. But I think I hear some one say, "it is easy enough to talk about having only one or two square inches of drone comb in a hive, but quite another thing to keep the drone comb down to this; for almost every year holes get in some of the combs by way of mice, moldy pollen, etc., which the bees fill with drone comb when they 'patch up.' How is this to be avoided?" To remedy this matter my usual plans have been, either to fill these holes with old worker comb or foundation where the frames were wired. The best time to do this is when the fruit trees are in bloom, for at this season there is little honey in the hive, hence all patches of drone comb are readily discovered. Take all but the desired combs, which have drone cells in them, out of the hive, and substitute perfect worker combs for them. Now take these combs to the shop, and, after cutting out the drone-cells, fit a piece of worker comb into the hole made by removing the drone; or if the comb has a hole in it, fill it with worker comb, thus getting the start of the bees. To best do this I have several sizes of old fruit cans, without either top our bottom, one end of which has its edge filed sharp so that it will easily cut a hole through the comb by twirling a little while pressing down. By using the one which will just take out the drone-cells, a good job is done; while by using the same to cut out the "patch" of worker comb the same will fit in exactly. These worker "patches" are always taken out of imperfect combs, which materially lessens the number to be patched. For wired frames, cut away the cells around one side of the hole, so that the septum will be laid bare about the edge of it, and press a piece of foundation on this bared edge, having the foundation so warm that it will adhere to the comb while doing it. Now, this is the best way I used to know, and the only way, where the apiarist is short of combs; but there is a point about it that I do not like. All around the edge of this "patch" there will be cells of all shapes and sizes, which the bees persuade themselves into thinking are for drones, when any are large enough to rear drones in, so that we often have as many drones reared around a large patch as would be reared in one square inch of drone comb. To remedy this I have studied quite a little, and when I came to have a surplus of combs, so I did not need all I had in early spring, I thought out the following, which has proved as near a success as anything I know of. All the imperfect combs were taken from the bees as before; but instead of being "patched" they are hung away in dry airy place till the bees became strong enough so I could form nuclei. Now, all nuclei or very weak colonies desire only worker bees, so they will build cells only of the worker size as may be, they being always ready to build comb whenever there are bees enough, and there is honey coming in from the fields, or they are fed. After cutting out the drone comb and fixing the combs as I desired, they were set into the nuclei to be patched, and let me tell you, the patches thus put in were very pleasing to the eyes, without scarcely a cell but what was of the uniform worker shape. I have written thus early in the season so that all the readers of this can have plenty of time to look over their combs which they have stored away, or which they may take away from the bees in early spring and have them fixed so that they will be perfect worker combs throughout.

Borodino, N. Y.

Personal.

Mr. A. Lang, Ponsonby, Ont,, paid the office of the C. B. J. a visit lately. Mr. Lang has been away during the winter and the bees mourned his absence. He now mourns the absence of bees.

Mr. Jas. Armstrong, Cheapside, when in Brantford lately, reported his bees as having wintered well.

Congratulations are in order. Miss S. E. Pettit, a daughter of S. T. Pettit, Belmont, has graduated in medicine at the Cleveland, Ohio, Medical College, taking not only first rank in the graduating class, but taking a higher per centage of marks than any graduate has ever taken at the college before.

[How is this Brother York? Canadians ahead on more than honey.—ED.]

Mr. S. T. Pettit is hard at work pushing legislation in connection with adulterated honey. He. J. K. Darling and R. F. Holtermann were at Ottawa in March.

Mr. Pettit has since made another trip to Ottawa on this important business.