

find the queens continuing to lay, but the bees in many instances refuse to even nurse or feed the eggs, leaving the colonies with only capped brood, whereas from one to three combs may be found with eggs in. This is an unusual occurrence with us and only where honey is very scarce and none been coming in for a long time. Feeding a little causes them to continue nursing brood. Now, we find it is bad policy to feed bees just a little when preparing them for winter. We have sometimes in experimenting fed a number of colonies say one pound a day for thirty days. At the end of that time they would not have much more than when we commenced feeding, whereas by feeding thirty pounds in two or three days they would have about twenty pounds. Slow feeding, except for stimulating and brood-rearing, is not advisable. We find the faster the bees will take the feed and place it in the combs the less of it is consumed. Large feeders so constructed that they will enable the bees to store enough food in from one to two days to carry them through the winter are the best kind to use. One such feeder enables an apiarist to feed from five to ten colonies. A large feeder will save the price of itself every season. Of course we are speaking now where bees are fed largely, but it would be in the same ratio if they only required a little. We are now constructing our feeders so that strong colonies can take down from twenty to thirty pounds in one or two days. Another point we find desirable is to have them robber proof. The other day in our Beeton apiary the bees began flying about the yard in a very excited manner and trying to rob many of the weaker colonies. This excitement was caused, we think, by the preserving of fruit by some people in the village. We suggested to the foreman of the yard to try if a little carbolic acid would have any effect on them and a slight sprinkling on each colony quieted them all down and stopped every effort to rob. In fact, there were very few bees flying in ten minutes. When there is a scarcity of honey we think there are times when it would be advisable to use a little carbolic acid water about the strength Friend A. I. Root uses for foul brood. Enough to quiet 100 colonies of bees

would only cost about five cents, at least so it appeared from this one experiment. We expect to test it further and see the result, but putting it on a few colonies would have the tendency to make them so quiet that others would be inclined to rob them. No harm can come of its use, especially when used in such a mild form. A cloth dipped in the water and hung over the front of the hive will usually prevent any robbers entering.

N. N. Pendleton, in St. Nicholas.

### THE SONG OF THE BEE.

Buzz, buzz, buzz!  
This is the song of the bee.  
His legs are of yellow,  
A jolly good fellow,  
And yet a good worker is he.

In the days that are sunny,  
He's getting his honey;  
In days that are cloudy,  
He's hoarding his wax  
On pinks and on lilies,  
And gay daffodillies,  
And columbine blossoms  
He levies a tax.

Buzz, buzz, buzz!  
The sweet-smelling clover  
He humming hangs over;  
The scent of the roses  
Makes fragrant his wings;  
He never gets lazy,  
From thistle and daisy  
And weeds of the meadow  
Some treasure he brings.

Buzz, buzz, buzz!  
From morning's first gray light  
Till fading of daylight,  
He's singing and toiling  
The summer day through,  
Oh! we may get weary,  
And think work is dreary;  
'Tis harder by far  
To have nothing to do.

Continued from last week.

## WINTERING AND PREPARATIONS THEREFOR.

Good Practical Articles by Practical Men.

JOSHUA BULL.

There are certain essential conditions which are always necessary to ensure successful wintering of bees, the most important features of which may be summed up in the following sentence, viz.: strong, healthy colonies, with abun-