

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SYRIAN AND HOLY LAND BEES.

J. W. GARBER.—Will you tell me in C. B. J. if the Syrian and Holy Land races of bees are the same. I see Frank Benton makes a distinction, while S. M. Locke & Co., speak as though they were the same.

Rockwell, Iowa, U. S.

There is, as Mr. Benton says, a slight difference; the bees vary slightly from Lebanon all the way around the coast to Egypt. We found those from Jerusalem and Bethlehem more like the Egyptian bees than those of Lebanon. If there are any bees crosser than the Egyptian we would not care to handle them. Those from Mount Lebanon are our favorites, after trying those of Palestine and Syria.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

THE TEMPERATURE OF LAST WINTER IN ONTARIO AND MICHIGAN.

IT is stated by leading bee-keepers that the cold of last winter was so severe in the south-west part of the State of Michigan that many colonies of bees were literally frozen to death without any disease whatever. The loss of bees in Ontario was very heavy, particularly amongst bee-keepers who keep only a small number of stocks, but I have not heard of any case in which the bees were frozen to death without any sign of disease. A farmer, residing twenty miles north of Lindsay, left about a dozen stocks in box hives, on the summer stands, without any packing and lost none. I lost six out of 77, wintered on their summer stands. On examination I found the sugar syrup fed too late in the fall still unsealed in the combs, while what little honey there had been beneath the top bars was consumed. These circumstances with some evidence of dysentery, were I thought sufficient to account for the loss. If the bees were frozen to death in South-western Michigan, but did not perish from that cause in Ontario, the query naturally arises, what was the difference in the temperature in these two places. In order to obtain accurate information on this point I asked the Chief Signal Officer of the War Department at Washington, and the Superintendent of the Meteorological Service at Toronto to furnish me with extracts from their records, and through their courtesy I am enabled to place before our bee-keeping friends the subjoined tables which show at a glance, the absolutely lowest temperature in each month, the mean monthly temperature at each Station, and the difference from the average mean monthly temperature since the station was opened. An inspection of the tables shows that instead of the cold being greater in

south-western Michigan than it was in Ontario it was less severe by several degrees. There is no Signal Service Station in Michigan further south than Detroit and Grand Haven. The mean temperature at these stations was from 8 to 10° higher than it was at either Lindsay or Barrie, while during the lowest dips the cold was not as severe by from 18 to 20°. Since there were many cases in Ontario in which bees were wintered safely on their summer stands, in a temperature averaging 10° lower than it was in South-western Michigan may we not infer that the loss of bees at the latter place should be attributed to some other cause than being simply frozen to death.

Statement showing the absolutely lowest temperature, at Stations in Michigan and Ontario for December, 1884, January, February and March, 1885.

NOTE.—In this table the figures preceded by the minus sign indicate that the temperature was so many degrees below zero.

NAME OF STATION.	DEC. 1884	JANY 1885	FEB. 1885	MAR 1885	Avg for Win'r
	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.
Alpena, Mich	-10.0	-18.6	-23.0	-15.7	-16.8
Detroit, "	-6.1	-7.0	-11.6	-2.0	-6.7
Escanaba "	-14.1	-26.1	-25.0	-24.1	-22.3
Grand Haven	-12.0	-0.5	-7.2	-4.9	-6.2
Mackinaw Cy	-5.0	-24.2	-33.4	-21.3	-21.0
Marquette,	-15.9	Office burnt		-15.2	-15.6
Port Huron,	-10.8	-15.0	-25.0	-13.9	-16.2
Windsor, Ont	-8.8	-15.0	-20.6	-3.9	-12.1
Stratford "	-7.0	-21.8	-25.3	-21.2	-18.8
Simcoe, "	-12.5	-11.5	-22.0	-15.0	-15.0
London, "	-9.1	-11.3	-22.9	-15.0	-14.6
Woodstock "	-16.5	-15.8	-25.0	-24.7	-20.5
Toronto "	-13.3	-16.1	-14.9	-8.4	-13.2
Barrie, "	-27.6	-29.1	-28.1	-13.8	-24.6
Lindsay, "	-28.0	-26.0	-27.4	-18.2	-24.9
Ottawa, "	-28.3	-21.4	-26.9	-20.6	-24.3
Pembroke, "	-33.9	-25.4	-28.2	-28.7	-29.0
Deseronto, "	-20.8	-24.3	-22.2	-18.1	-21.4
Cornwall, "	-26.8	-22.0	-29.0	-26.1	-26.0

Statement showing the Mean temperature for Dec., 1884, and Jany., Feb. and March, 1885, at Stations in Michigan and Ontario.

	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.	Deg.
Alpena, Mich	23.2	12.4	7.7	18.1	14.1
Detroit, "	30.5	23.0	16.6	26.2	24.1
Escanaba "	19.7	6.9	5.8	14.0	11.6
Grand Haven	28.4	20.7	15.0	23.4	21.9
Mackinaw Cy	25.1	12.4	7.7	12.0	14.3
Marquette	20.4	Office burnt		12.0	16.2
Port Huron	25.9	16.3	10.6	18.6	17.8
Windsor, Ont	25.8	16.9	11.4	23.2	19.3
Stratford "	23.3	14.6	7.4	14.7	15.0
Simcoe, "	26.6	18.0	10.1	19.1	18.4
London, "	25.3	16.7	9.4	17.8	17.3
Woodstock, "	24.5	16.6	14.0	16.9	18.0
Toronto, "	25.9	18.0	11.1	18.4	18.3
Barrie "	21.2	12.8	5.6	14.1	13.3
Lindsay "	20.1	13.5	5.6	14.1	13.3
Ottawa "	16.3	12.0	4.4	12.2	11.2
Pembroke "	14.4	9.5	5.0	10.8	9.9
Deseronto "	23.8	17.2	7.6	16.6	16.1
Cornwall "	18.0	14.4	5.4	13.7	12.9