

We think they would be less likely to swarm under that management. A little Syrian or Cyprian blood (especially Syrian) mixed with Italian, if properly done will add to their usefulness. We have been experimenting for years and now find some of our crosses between Italian and Syrian, Cyprian and Carniolan to produce some very valuable gatherers; one colony that we had last season with about one third Syrian impressed us so favorably that we would not have taken \$100 for it, had that sum been offered. We shall be glad to hear from you, after you test the plans you mention, giving the results of your experiments. Suppose you try some of them with only three or four combs and see the result. In referring to your previous letter we find you are quite correct—that you did mention prime or first swarms—which fact we did not observe at the time. We cheerfully accept your correction.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

NOTES FROM WILL'S APIARY.

WIRING FRAMES.

I WIRE all frames and would not use a frame without; every frame in the yard is wired. When I began bee-keeping a neighbor near by began also, but only keeps a few colonies. I wired, he made fun of me. I kept on wiring. I frequently handled his for him and often I would set the first frame at one side of the hive, sometimes leaning too much (for the comb), the first words I would hear would be, "Hello, there, that comb is tumbling out," "yes," says I, "you must watch me, I am not accustomed to handling your frames." He got tired of handling his own without wire, and he wires all now. In wiring my frames (Langstroth) I prefer six verticals, but many only have four. I pierce my top and bottom bars with a sharp-pointed common bradawl; this job I usually do evenings sitting beside the stove. Two of the wires should be near the end bars, say one inch from it; after the frames are wired and ready for the foundation I cut a board just the size of the inside of the frame, lay the sheet of foundation on the board then lay the frame on, take a button hook (this is not original with me) grooved by a small file and run over the wire; afterwards I take a tin with melted wax in it and with a very small paint brush I draw wax over the wire, and by this method every comb is "thar." Some may say this is a good deal of work. Admitted, but the wiring can be

done when we are not pushed, and a person can rush things in the height of the honey season. I almost forgot to say that No. 24 wire suits me best. I have tried Nos. 30 and 36. I shall continue to wire every frame in the future.

WILL ELLIS.

St. Davids, Ont., Dec. 11th, 1885.

We have been wiring some frames and we like them very much, although we seldom have combs break down without the wire, yet it strengthens them for rough handling, and for shipping long distances. We would not care to use heavier than No. 30 wire; many prefer No. 36, but the majority have now settled down to No. 30, as brood is hatched in the cells over wire that size without difficulty. Larger wire running through the septum would, we think, have a tendency to make them abandon the cells for brood rearing. We have a quality of wire (No. 30) quite strong enough, in fact stronger than is necessary.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE HONEY MARKET.

PLEASE allow me one word to bee-keepers of Canada. I beg to say do not be deceived or persuaded from your good intentions to help make our exhibit at Kensington what it ought to be and what we can make it by united action by those happy fellows who do nearly all their honey producing and marketing on paper. Blessed fellows! they never get a sting, lose but few bees in winter and have no trouble to sell honey. Here is a P. C. expressing the condition of many others, "I have 1500 lbs. best clover honey. If you know of any wanting it at 9 cts. per lb. and barrels free, I will be much obliged." A few days ago a bee-keeper told me that he could in a half a day pick up 12 or 13 tons of honey that was waiting for a market. Some have two years honey still on hand and from personal knowledge I know the most of our markets are full of honey.

Here is a chance for Friend Holterman to exercise his "patent medicine man" push and energy. "Example is better than precept."

S. T. PETTIT.

Belmont, Ont., Jan. 28, '86.

BEEES AT WORK ALREADY.

J. W. K. SHAW & Co.—Our bees commenced to-day to bring in pollen, color deep yellow. The lively hum continued all day. We have brood in many colonies and to-day commence cleaning their hives. Temperature sixty-seven to seventy degrees.

Loreauville, Iberia Parish, La.

January 21st., 1886.