

The Canadian Bee Journal.

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OUR OWN APIARY.

WE were unable last week to tell our readers anything about our own apiary, as we had had no weather fit for our bees to fly. From the time we set our bees out of winter quarters, and the examining of the clamps from 20th to 24th of April, there had not been one day suitable for handling bees, and only a few hours altogether that the bees could fly out; in fact we have had snow, sleet, frost and cold damp weather almost continuously. Within recollection we have never known such an unfavorable spring as this has been thus far. The weather commenced getting warmer Wednesday 13th. A great many who had purchased bees and queens expected them long ago, but as it was not safe to ship, we were forced to delay doing so in their interests. During the last two days we have got off over 150 colonies, and we shall continue at that rate until present orders are filled.

We told you about clamp wintering and how the damp sawdust with straw next to the hives had brought the bees through in fine condition, but after three week's bad weather the dampness from the sawdust seems to have affected them injuriously, and some of the colonies are not now nearly as good as they were at that time. You see that damp sawdust in spring is no advantage. Those set out from the bee-house and having no packing around them appear to have suffered much less than some of those now in the damp sawdust clamp. Had the sawdust been dry this would not have been the case, as is proved by examination of those in the other clamp, which have not suffered but

rather improved. The weather has been so very unfavorable that in many colonies during the cold spell brooding ceased entirely, and we have received many reports of bad cases of spring dwindling. Our bees are in much better condition than could have been expected after the severe weather against which they have had to contend. The reports from South Western Canada are more favorable and the weather has not been so severe. At this writing, (May 16th) everything is looking very favorable, both honey and pollen being gathered from willows.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

PRODUCTION OF COMB HONEY WITH DEEP FRAMES.

FROM reading the writings of some of the correspondents to the different bee-papers, one would form the impression that it was impossible to secure a good yield of comb honey unless the shallow, or Langstroth, frame was used; some believing that all should "fall into line" and use the L. frame, regardless of all else save that said frame shall be the one that is adopted by all apiarists. Only last week I was reading in *Gleanings* the surprise manifested by the editor, in finding that our Canadian friends use a deep frame, as he breaks out in these words: "It seems to me a little strange that a deep frame should find so much favor in Canada, when our bee-keepers in the United States so universally decide in favor of the shallow L. frame." With Dr. Southwick and others, I deny that the L. frame is "universally decided upon" for use in the U. S., and if Friend Root will consult convention reports, rather than his order books, he will deny it also. How could his patrons be other than those who order the L. frame, in-as-much as he tells all, that if they order other than his regular line of goods they must expect delays, as he fills such orders in preference to any others. In this way many are compelled to use the shallow frame who would use deep ones in preference had they machinery to make their own. When I first started in bee-keeping I used the L. hive as there was an agent selling said hives in this county at that time. After using them for two years I thought I would try the Gallup hive, as at that time E. Gallup was an excellent writer for bee periodicals. After one year's trial, the Gallup or deeper frame gave me so much better results, that the next year all my bees were transferred to such hives, and