

would be likely to mould. When he says they must be above the freezing point, it will be interesting to know how close to the freezing point we should get them in order to secure the requisite temperature. Now, to our southern friends a magnifying glass made of ice, no doubt would be a curiosity. We have never seen one so made. Perhaps we will try our hands at it this winter and see how we succeed. In reference to the sun's rays being the only safe way to bring bees to animation we wonder why the same temperature secured by artificial heat would not give as good results? Any change of temperature no doubt would be very unwise as it would be absolutely necessary to keep them constantly at that particular temperature which causes them to remain in a dormant state if good results are to be expected. It would appear from this letter that the bees were buried in a snow cave. He does not say whether there were combs left in the hives or not or what way they took to cool the bees and dry them, and we do not know that the atmosphere is very dry in this far Northland. The remark about missionaries does not reflect credit on the writer. In reference to copper and where they get it, there are many places in northern Canada where the pure copper can be taken from veins in the rocks. At some of the mines tons of pure ore can be taken out in almost a solid mass. The recipe for curing cold with honey and hoarhound is, no doubt, very good, and we think basswood honey would be the best kind to use. We would like to get 6,000 lbs. of wax at ten cents per lb., even though it were not very well rendered. We would willingly pay that price for any quantity of wax, in Canadian silver, but we would not want wax that was rendered without water and scorched so that the texture and color of the wax was destroyed. If prickly ash and high bush cranberry will cure foul brood we have abundance of the medicine in this neighborhood. Prickly ash is scattered along our streams and can be found quite abundantly as well as high bush cranberry, and we have one grove of prickly ash within a mile of our village, but we are a little doubtful about it curing very bad cases of foul brood.

From the American Bee Journal.

REPORT FOR THE SEASON OF 1887.

THE first of June found me with only twenty-six queens in my yard, fifteen of which were mothers to fair colonies of bees, five were mothers to rather weak colonies, while the remaining six had only about bees enough to hold their queens till steady warm weather should come. My bees were wintered as heretofore, about one half on the summer stands and the rest in the cellar. Those in the cellar wintered the best the loss being only one colony in fifty, while among those on the summer stands there was a loss of six out of forty.

As I look back over the past I can but wonder that the loss was not greater, as these bees were kept confined to their hives by steady cold weather from November 10th to April 10th, or just five months. Five months of such severe weather as we had last winter is very trying to bees on the summer stands, and as the cold held on day after day and week after week, after others had reported "bees had a flight," I came nearly deciding that I would get out of the cold climate of "old cold Spafford" as our town is called and seek a more favorable locality. However, the ties that bind me here are so strong that I presume I shall always stay here, trying as in the past to breed up a race of bees hardy enough to stand the cold climate that they must endure.

After getting the bees out of their winter quarters, the spring proved on the whole very unfavorable, the nights being cold all the while till nearly July. I had intended to keep about forty colonies with which to commence the season of 1887, but owing to my great correspondence and other pressing matters I found that I was being overworked, so much so that my physician said that I must do less or break down in health; so that I concluded to sell my bees down to the number of colonies spoken of at the beginning of this article.

In selling I sent off my best colonies, and in reality I had but one really good colony left with the number kept; I kept that to rear early drones with, as the mother was an excellent queen for drones. When willow and hard maple bloomed the bees gathered quite freely for brood-rearing of both honey and pollen, and had it not been for the cold nights a much larger force of bees might have been secured for the harvest.

Of the twenty-six colonies I set apart twenty for producing honey, hoping to make nuclei for queen rearing out of the six weak ones; but at about this time the demand for queens was so great that I thought I should have to use all the colonies I had for queen rearing or get "swamp-