

June was very wet or my crop would have been much larger. My bees are brooding like May. "Let em go it." A small amount of bees cannot counteract zero or 16 below, as we had it here last winter but I never saw it as low in my life before. Hope I never will again.

W. ELLIS.

St. David's.

The Market.

HOW RUINED AND HOW MADE.

It is to be regretted that with such a yield of our magnificent white clover honey, the best produced anywhere in the world, so much is still secured in a slovenly, unmarketable shape. Farmers who have only a few colonies are especially careless in securing the honey in the best shape and lack room and facilities to care for it when secured. The result is they often chuck it into any old box, and hurry it off to town. Probably the sections, for the days of broken combs in pots and kettles are about over, will slap against each other and rattle around so that by the time town is reached, it will be in a leaky condition. Of course the dealer takes in the situation at once, and if he takes the honey at all, will pay about half the price that nice honey, in good condition, is worth. He in turn, to beat other storekeepers, will advertise white clover honey at an astonishingly low price. Now when the bee-keeper who takes great care in having everything as neat and nice as it is possible to have it, comes to market with his honey, he will be asked to compete with this damaged honey in price. Now if he knows his business, and what his product is really worth, he will likely take his load home again, perhaps a sadder if not a wiser man. Now let us see what is the remedy for this? Is it not in educating the farmer, who will keep bees, in securing and marketing his usually small crop, in a neat and business-like way. It is true the bee and agricultural papers have done much in this direction, but much more is still required to be done. Now we believe the farmer who spoils the market, wishes to get market price for his honey, but he is speedily told that it is very leaky, out of condition, if not that, it is "dirty stuff." Then if he is not satisfied at the first place or two he calls, he is generally ready to sell what is offered by the time the story is repeated to him. Bee-keepers can not well protect themselves against this kind of competition, by buying up their small lots of farmers, as they have their own crops to care for. Then, too; it is often in old soiled sections with crooked

leaky combs, no separators having been used, perhaps partly in old dark comb, so that it would be entirely unsuited to go with his own nice goods.

Now that we have secured so nice a crop of honey, let us see what we had better do with it. It is presumed that the readers of Bee Notes in the Plowman are up with the times in securing the nicest honey in the most attractive shape. With the beginning of August our white honey should all be taken off the hives, or it will be soiled more or less by the bees running over it. Take off all cases where sections are completed, and return such as are not sealed over, to be finished during the fall bloom. Bee-keepers should have a work shop and also storeroom for honey. The honey as it is brought in from the apiary, may be temporarily fitted up in the cases, but as soon as there is time, it should be emptied out, and all the sections carefully scraped of propolis, and then piled up on broad shelves around the walls of the honey rooms. It is best to pile it loosely, leaving about a half inch between sections to allow air to circulate. When it has been some two weeks off the hives it should be fumigated with sulphur, to kill the wax moth, which is sure to appear, especially if there is any pollen in any of the sections. Some bee-keepers claim that this is unnecessary, but I have never had an early crop of honey, that did not need it. In piling up the sections it is a good plan to put paper that has been prepared with paraffine to prevent absorbing moisture, at the bottom, and between each tier of sections. There will always be some leakage the best we can do, and this prevents the honey from any upper sections, from running over those below. It also saves the honey leaking out which can be used for bee feed if for nothing else. Now when you wish to market the honey, get some nice new shipping cases with glass on at least one side. Now take a board and saw it off so as it will just fit inside of the case. Now take the paraffined parchment paper, and make a pan by folding it over this board, and turning the covers, and you have a nice pan for the bottom of your shipping case to catch any possible drip. This paper can be had very cheaply and answers the purpose better than anything I ever saw.

Now when you get an order or wish to make a shipment, grade the honey, so as it will run even in each case, and so that the sections next the glass will be a fair sample of the whole. If the cases hold two tiers high of sections, put a paper pan between them, and a few layers of old newspapers on top. Nail on the top with