

hay, getting their wings and body wet, before they reach the hive the fight is all taken out of them, and instead of entering the hive they will turn and head for home.

BEES KILLING OFF EACH OTHER.

H.F.C.—In some of my colonies the bees commenced killing off each other last fall, and would do so every warm day, though I would shut them up tight in the morning, before daylight and leave them until afternoon. The killing was done outside the hive amongst the workers. Even now they are at it some. They have lots of honey are packed in straw out-doors. I took off the straw, and set them out about the middle of February. I neglected to say that there were no bees on the outside of the hive when I had them shut up. I should like to know what the trouble is, and what I can do to save them.

Davison, Mich., March 11, 1890.

From the data you give us we cannot say what the trouble is; perhaps a case of robbing. We should advise you to call in some neighboring bee keeper with more experience than yourself, and he will probably help you out of your difficulty.

BEES DYING OFF FROM NO APPARENT CAUSE.

JAS. TAIT.—Nov. 6 I put my bees in the cellar in good shape, and they have been getting along fine till this last month, since which, a lot of them have been dying off, and seemingly there is nothing wrong with them. Two, of the three, are colonies that I did not allow to swarm, and one of the two gave me 186 lbs of honey. You can see they were good ones. The cellar, with a sandy bottom, has been dry and the temperature has not been below 42° nor above 45°. The colonies are in frames 8x12½, 12 to the hive. Please advise me in next issue of the BEE JOURNAL. Perhaps a little sketch of my career as a bee-keeper may encourage the beginner. I bought two colonies of bees five years ago, and now have nineteen all in good shape with the exception of the three mentioned above. My yield from eleven, spring count, was 950 lbs, one giving me 186 lbs. That is not a bad record for one who does as the BEE JOURNAL tells. I take the Review, too, and these and God's help have given me my success. I think Mr. Jones and Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson should receive all commendation, for their good work. There are some who think they can do without a bee journal, but they are generally found in the back ground.

Lynedoch, Feb. 28, 1890.

It is quite usual for bees to die in winter quarters, and yet leave the colony good and strong. Dysentery often depopulates them very much but by what you say we imagine it was just the old and worn out bees dying off. Perhaps the very strong colonies you speak of commenced brooding, and

when they rear brood in winter it appears to exhaust their vitality, and they die off more rapidly than those not brooding. Being exercised similar to the summer season they age more rapidly; this may account for the loss, but without further particulars it would be difficult to say positively the difficulty. We do not know anything that could be done for them. They may have got queenless, and queenless bees will never winter as well as those having queens, for they always scatter about and die more rapidly.

AFRAID THE CLOVER IS KILLED.

WM. A. PEARSON.—Last year was a poor year here for bees; too much rain and wet and cold. Lots of bloom but no honey. Our crops here were a failure on account of too much rain and wet. The hay crop was the best we had and that was only about half saved in condition, so we count this the hardest times we have had for years on account of loss of crops. The outlook is not good for another crop of honey for I am afraid the clover is going to be badly winter killed; very little snow to protect it. However, we are never short of bloom here if we can get favorable weather for the bloom we can always get an average crop.

Lacolle, Que.

OVER 125 LBS. PER COLONY.

S. BRAMEL.—I began 1889 with 23 colonies, increased to 51, and extracted 2,400 lbs., and took 500 lbs of comb honey. How is that for a greenhorn?

Canton, Feb. 17, 1890.

You have done excellently. May the present season be equally good.

PLEASED WITH HIS DEALINGS.

FRANK WILKIN.—Please continue the BEE JOURNAL to me, I would not miss having it come for five dollars. I have fourteen colonies in good shape, and prospects are good for next summer. The two pounds of bees and queen you sent me last summer is a large fine swarm now. They filled their hive full of honey from Golden Rod. I never saw bees work like them before, and I would not take \$25.00 for them. I shall have some more soon.

Pelham, N. H. March 3, 1890.

ANOTHER REPORT OF OVER 100 LBS. PER COLONY.

R. E. EMRICK.—My father and I started last spring with over 13 colonies; we increased to 31, and took over 1500 lbs of honey (comb and extracted) and left ample winter stores. Got four first prizes on honey at the Waterford township show, and three firsts, and one special, at the Norfolk county fair at Simcoe.

Tyrell, Ont., Jan. 16, 1890.

You did well, indeed, but you do not give anyone a chance to estimate, how well, as you bulked the quantity