

From an Exchange.

WHAT BEEKEEPERS WANT TO KNOW.

Q F bee-keepers there are two classes, the large and the small producer. The small producer wants to know how to get several hundred pounds of honey from a few old box hives, set at various angles in the meads down by the hog pen. If he gets a few pounds of honey he wants to know how to dispose of it as soon as possible and at any price. If he be a well-to-do farmer, he wants to know if it will pay best to raise honey in the above slipshod manner, to buy of the specialist or to go without. Also to know what a specialist finds so very interesting in a bee paper and how to keep cool in swarming time while enveloped in a coat, wool hat and thick veil with woollen stockings on his hands. He further wants to know what in the dickens that big swarm went to the woods for when himself and wife and children made all the noise possible with tin pans, dinner horns and guns; and if there is any improvement in bee-management since our grandfather's days.

The specialist wants to know in what locality his bees will produce the most honey, if it will pay to sow especially for honey, which is the best time to produce honey with the least manipulation and in the best marketable shape, which will pay best, comb or extracted honey, how to equalize the sale of honey, making a more uniform price, so that it will not sell for 40c. in one market and 10c. in another. He wants to know when fools will stop rushing honey upon the market in July when there is little demand for it, the best method for wintering bees, if honey will ever become a staple article: why people make such an outcry against adulterated honey and not a word about chicory coffee, and adulterated spices, syrups, etc., and when farmers will learn that bees are useful in promoting the yield of fruit and grain.

J. H. MARTIN.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

SOUR MONEY.

R. WILSON.—I have 30 colonies of bees all doing well, and bringing in honey very fast just now. I have about 50 lbs. of sour extracted honey which I took out last spring. What can I do with it?

Dickenson, Ont. Aug. 28.

Add a little water to it and melt it over a slow fire. When thoroughly melted skim it and boil until the water is evaporated and the honey sufficiently thick. To avoid any risk of burning it

is advisable to place the vessel containing the honey in hot water.

FAIR REPORT FROM QUEBEC.

A. O. COMIERE, M.D.—The season here will not be favorable for honey, and the harvest will be small. Only two-thirds of my hives have swarmed, and they are only beginning to work in the supers. Last week I saw a young man from St. Hugues, named Paradis, who brought out of his cellar this spring 80 hives; he has got only 27 first swarms and about 3,000 pounds of extracted honey. Last year with 50 hives which he brought out in the spring he had at the same time about 50 swarms and 4,000 lbs. of extracted honey. This year the spring here was too long and too cold—then it rained too often. If this slight report can interest you in any way, I shall be fully repaid.

St. Celestin, Qne., August 8, 1888.

W. W. Howard, of Delta,, writes:—"Both queens you sent me were well received by my bees. Am well pleased with the yellow one, but the Carniolan proved to be a drone layer, all brood capped indicating drones. Shall I pinch her head or will she be of any use? Has she been mated and have I to stand the loss?"

Our answer was:—"The queen was mated and laying before she was shipped. We presume she in some way received an injury which caused her to be a drone layer. We will forward another immediately as we do not know where the fault lies.

MRS. G. BURROUGHS.—Our bees did not winter well; we set out 39 hives with apparently plenty of bees, but they dwindled away and eight or nine died. The combs were mouldy with a great many dead bees. I cleaned the hives but it was too late, the bees were in poor health. We were going to take off the bottom boards but I think we will try another plan. Two years ago we bought a hive of Holy Land bees; they were late swarming but I thought they were doing well; I gave them a good deal of comb honey in the fall. When we came to set them out in the spring we had not one, they were all dead, starved to death. I was very sorry to lose them for they cost a good deal, but they were so cross I did not feel quite so bad. I thought they were more like wasps than anything else.

Fallowfield, Aug. 28, 1888.

Sorry you lost your Syrians but frequently they will breed and consume all their stores in winter. See that all your bees have a sufficiency of stores this fall. We feel very sanguine of the coming season and trust that your bees will be in grand condition.

Read the grand array of premiums offered on page 475 of this issue.