

to be finished up are uncapped, if any part of them has been sealed, and they are trimmed down so as to go between the separators in good shape. And all combs that have the strength to bear it are placed in the case up side down, this practice induces the bees to fill the sections more perfectly.

Fresh new honey is used for feeding back, and it is thinned down with warm water at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pints of water to 3 pounds of honey. The honey is prepared a day in advance of feeding it. The honey is weighed when preparing the feed, and before the water is added. Each colony is fed once a day from 3 to 4 pounds of honey, not counting the water. The feeding is done late in the evening. Those persons who have failed to feed back with profit, have failed by feeding too fast. I know this is true, for I have paid for the information. At first, one case of sections is put on the hive, and when it is pretty well advanced, and the sealing has begun, it is lifted and another case is placed under it. In other words, you "tier up" just as that system is practiced during a good honey flow. If the bees should loose their heads and swarm, make them go back home, and take off the feed for two days. This will cure them.

I would never fail to clip the queen's wings, of any colony that I use for this purpose. Two out of three colonies will run wild when fed by my slow steady process. But I have only lost about two days time in any case. Last season I had 500 sections from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to a little over one half filled, finished up at a good profit on a margin of 4 cents difference in price between the extracted article and fancy comb. And as an experiment I had 96 sections built from the foundation starters at a loss of about 25 per cent on the extracted article.

These are the essential points to "feed back" successfully:

1. Commence immediately after the honey harvest has failed.
2. Feed new honey before any granulation begins.
3. Feed not more than 4 pounds a day, I obtain the best results by feeding but 3 pounds a day when there is much comb to be built.
4. Have a good feeder such as I have described, so as not to disturb or excite the bees, and remove the finished sections, a whole case at a time, using the automatic bee escape to run the bees out of them.
5. Feed regularly at the same time of day, and neglect nothing in connection with the work.

Christiansburg, Ky.

We are very glad to have this full

explanation in reference to feeding back. It certainly has been a difficulty that many could not overcome, owing to the granulation of the honey, but it appears that if thinned with warm water, and fed before it commences to granulate, the desired effect is produced. No doubt, we will have fewer partially filled sections in the market when people thoroughly understand how this is done, and practise it judiciously. We would recommend that the brood chamber in all instances be as full of honey as possible before the feeding back commences, as the bees would be likely to store a vacancy in the brood chamber with the honey fed, but as you commence feeding immediately after the honey flow, of course, the brood chamber would be very full of brood, and as the process was continued the bees will not stop brooding until the feeding is finished, so that the brood chamber will be occupied with brood.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### Prospects for a Honey Crop for 1892.

THE prospect for a good honey crop for 1892 is fine at present. Buffalo clover is coming up everywhere, and the horsemint is also making its appearance in most waste places, which are two of our best honey plants. Bees usually commence gathering pollen the 1st of January from misletoe, which starts brood rearing about the 1st of February. The water elm furnishes pollen in large quantities; then the queen starts laying in earnest, and keeps it up until swarming time is over. They commence as early as the 15th of March, and keep it up as late as the 15th of July.

L. B. SMITH,

Lometa, Texas.

Thank you friend Smith for giving us some hints about Texas honey plants and your bright prospects. We hope you will fully realize your most sanguine expectations.

#### A Quarter of a Million Dollar Plant.

The Family Herald and Weekly Star of Montreal is now comfortably settled in a fine new building, which with its magnificent equipment cost a quarter of a million dollars, and the best of it is that it is paid for free from any sort of incumbrance. The Family Herald and Weekly Star is in an undoubtedly strong financial position.