

swarm of bees, part Italians. Extracted sixty-five pounds of honey and one increase—fall of 1883, 2—2. In 1884 from two I increased to seven; extracted 175 lbs. of honey—fall of 1884 7—6. One died two days before we took them out on the 10th day of April. Looked at them on the 20th inst., one "A" hive did not have a half teacup of bees; another had more bees. Have not fed any this spring. They all have fresh honey and are bringing in a little pollen. All have brood.

Where or from what do they get their honey?

Your bees probably gather their honey from willow, as willow in some localities produces considerable honey. We have several varieties of willow at our different bee-farms. At one there is one species of willow that bloomed after fruit bloom last year.

What became of "A" colony?

We suppose that your bees flew out of the hive and were lost in the repository, otherwise you would have found them on the bottom board, unless they deserted their hive after being set out.

Do bees eat pollen in winter? Mine seemed to have much more last fall than now.

That is a disputed question. It is the opinion of many that bees do not eat pollen as long as they have plenty of good healthy stores. Except the pollen that is in the honey, when honey is sealed over with pollen and the bees consume all the honey in their hive, they appear to suck the honey out of the pollen. In that way they would probably take up an unusual quantity, as where honey is placed over pollen in the cells, or just where the honey comes in contact with the pollen, the latter will be found to be quite soft and saturated with honey on the top.

How far apart should hives be for summer?

It is not important, unless they are placed *too* close together. We usually place the rows from six feet to twelve feet apart, the hives from four feet to eight feet apart in the rows.

I take bees on shares; what share should I get. Who loses by wintering or other losses?

The share you should receive depends very much on the condition of the bees when you get them. If the bees are in old box hives or in log gums you should get a larger share than were they in movable frame hives; if in movable frame hives, one-half the honey should pay you well. Much also depends on the bargain you may make. If you are to receive a share of the honey, you should leave enough in the hives to carry them through the winter; if you are to get half the bees and half the increase for a term of years, the increase should be divided at the end of term.

Please give an essay on queen raising; explain nursery for queens.

We will give you hints on queen rearing in due time. We have some new and valuable points on this subject, which we hope to bring before our readers.

P.S.—Bees wintered outside, packed in chaff, cloth, one thickness rag carpet, six inches chaff on top and four inches on sides in sheltered spot.

HONEY AND HIVES.

HOW SWEETNESS MAY BE MADE, PRESERVED AND SOLD.

North Middlesex Beekeepers' Convention met in the Town Hall, Parkhill, on Friday March 20; D. P. Campbell, president, in the chair; Mr. D. A. Stewart, of Nairn, secretary. The report of the latter upon the membership and finances showed the association to be in a healthy condition.

Election of officers being next in order Mr. Frank Atkinson, of Ailsa Craig, was elected president for the ensuing year; Mr. D. P. Campbell, of Parkhill, vice-president. A. Humphries, of Parkhill, secretary-treasurer; Messrs. D. Norton and J. Allen, directors for Ailsa Craig; Messrs. Henry Phippen and James Gray, directors for Parkhill. Mr. Frank Atkinson made a neat speech thanking the members for the position in which they had placed him. The members were requested to hand in on slips of paper any questions they desired answered.