

the quality, Mr. Holtermann says we must see that it is "mostly capped." In my article of August 10, I explained very fully why we should have it completely capped. I do not think there is much, if any, adulteration of honey with glucose in Canada, not because our bee-keepers are more honest than those of the United States, but because glucose is not so cheap or so easily to be had here as across the line. But I fear that thorough scouting would disclose the fact that extracted honey is adulterated with sugar syrup and even with water in this country. I am not in a position to say to what extent, but there is enough inferior and thin honey on the market to make it necessary to put buyers on their guard and stir up bee keepers to produce a strictly first-class article. In the communication given above, Mr. Holtermann says: "For any one to state that pure, extracted honey covers honey adulterated with glucose, and that extracted honey consisting largely of glucose, an inferior sweet, is also an imposition on the public, and speak of it in terms of disgust as a conglomeration of old comb, dead brood and miscellaneous refuse from the hive, etc., is unjust, and even if it were true, injudicious." In the foregoing extracts, Mr. Holtermann jumbles things up rather carelessly. I did not say that "pure extracted honey covered honey adulterated with glucose," and the old style "strained honey" which every bee-keeper knows was often such a conglomeration as described. What I said was that the term "extracted honey" covered all the inferior, adulterated and conglomerate varieties to be found in the market along with the first-class article. In regard to its being injudicious to inform the public about these matters, I beg to differ from Mr. Holtermann most decidedly. As an editor, I have always taken my readers into my confidence, and dealt with them in entire frankness. Mr. Holtermann thinks that, if true, what has been said might be excusable in a bee journal, but not in a general family paper like the *Montreal Witness*. If what has been said is true, it needs no excuse. I beg to inform Mr. Holtermann that the *Montreal Witness* is a bee journal. It is a newspaper, a political, temperance, religious, agricultural, horticultural, apicultural and live stock journal. Its articles on bee keeping are frequently copied into the bee journals. It professes to give information on all these matters, and was entirely in the line of its duty and mission in putting the public on its guard in reference to inferior grades of extracted honey."

A farm without a tool house is like pants without pockets.

Bee Diarrhea.

DOOLITTLE ANSWERS A QUESTION ABOUT IT.

QUESTION.—Last winter my bees contracted what is known as "bee diarrhea" quite early in the winter, and I wish to know what should be done with a colony of bees in winter quarters when the first symptoms of this disease appear.

Answer.—If the bees were in the cellar, and the temperature of the cellar were above 48° F., I would try cooling the cellar. On the other hand, if the temperature were 40° or cooler, I would try warming it up to the temperature first given, or a little higher. When the temperature of a cellar is just right it may be known by the quietness of the bees. The air of any room is always the warmest at the top, where any warmth-producing material is in the room, and for this reason I always place the strongest colonies in the bottom tier when putting them in the cellar; the colonies of medium strength as to numbers in the next tier, while all of the colonies having the smallest number of bees, are placed in the upper tier. I have found, by years of experience, that if a strong colony becomes uneasy while in the top tier, it may be quieted by setting it on the cellar bottom, and that a small colony which is in a roar of disturbance can be caused to become as "still as death" by raising it from the bottom of the cellar up to the top; also closing most of the ventilation from the hive having the small colony will cause it to become quiet; and removing a whole top from an uneasy strong colony will cause them to quiet down and cluster compactly together for the rest of the winter. But all this should be attended to when the bees are set in the cellar, by putting them in their proper places in the cellar and ventilating each hive as it may require. If, in spite of all this precaution, some of them begin to spot the hive, I will say that, after trying all plans of cure, I now let them alone, for I consider it only a waste of time to fuss with them. If the reader does not agree, he can try giving them a flight in a warm room. Fix a box to set on top of the hive, the same having a glass top; or, should a warm day occur, carry the bees out for a flight; but after all this has been done, the bees will generally be dead before June, if they have the diarrhea bad enough to spot their combs and the inside of the hive during mid-winter or earlier.

One thing which is always against this fussing with single colonies of bees which have become diseased is, that, by doctoring these, the disturbance required is apt to get other colonies uneasy and cause them to become diseased,