

combs which I have reserved are capped from end to end, and contain from five to ten lbs. each. I would like to enquire if there would be any danger of the combs dropping from the frames by using your foreman's method. Perhaps he will kindly reply in C. B. J.

GEO. WOOD.

Monticello, Ont., Jan 1890.

Well, now, we believe that friend Wood has opened up a question that is an entirely new one in beekeeping circles, one that we have never thought of in connection with modern bee-keeping. We must confess that it pains us to think of it. Friend W. was right when he stated that we did not approve of killing the little creatures—but the arguments he uses seem so plausible, that we stop and ask ourselves if there really are not two sides to the question. We thought that we could answer the whole question in one breath by saying, "Give them away to anybody that wants them, and you'll find lots who do," but our answer seems taken away by the statement that he "can neither sell them nor give them away." But is the answer wholly taken away? Has friend W. tried all the means at his command of disposing of these surplus bees? Surely if he were to place a small advertisement in the JOURNAL, offering the bees to anyone who would pay the cost of packing, right away after he is through with them at the expiration of the honey harvest, we believe that he would find lots of ready purchasers, especially in districts where there is a good fall flow of honey. Another point that he makes that we hardly think is well taken is his allusion to the "killing any domestic animal." Just here we might raise a laugh at friend W's expense by reminding him that a bee is not an animal, (though we know that he does not mean to infer that it is). But to come back to the subject; cows, pigs, poultry and other farm stock are not usually killed off simply because it isn't going to pay to winter them, or of there being a possibility of too great an increase, but because of the money that is derived from the sale of the carcasses. This can not be said of the bees, and we should like to hear from everybody who has a suggestion to offer, and we hope that some plan can be devised whereby the killing of the bees may be averted.

Replying to the question asked in the last paragraph of the foregoing letter, we may say that there will be no danger of the comb dropping from the frames by using the method described by Mr. Bray. The combs all need to be kept in a warm room sometime previous to being placed over the steam chest (as we may term it) in order that the brittleness may be done away with. If the heat is raised to a temperature equal to that inside the hive, it will bring the honey to a state in which it may be easily extracted.

## CAPPINGS.

Which Have Dropped From Various Sources.

CHAFF HIVES VS. SINGLE WALLED FOR HONEY.

THE answers to a query sent out by the A. B. J. are to the effect that the single-walled hive is way ahead of the chaff hive for purposes of honey production. This is our opinion often expressed.

HOW TO SELL GOLDEN-ROD HONEY.

E. K. Dean in the A. B. J. says: "I supply my home market, and at this season I sell considerable extracted honey for buckwheat cakes, going from house to house, taking orders from samples which I carry in ordinary fruit-cans. An first sight a good many will say, "Oh, I don't want any of that dark honey!" I reply, "All right; its all the same price; suit yourself." But I urge them to sample each variety, after which some will say. "I declare I believe the dark is the best, after all;" and so the result is, I can sell just about as much of the golden-rod honey as of the white clover."

CHEESE CLOTH AS A BASE FOR FOUNDATION

At the Brantford convention the question was asked, whether cloth of any kind had been found *practical* as a base for foundation. The answer was in the negative, and I think this is really the answer yet, though the last number of *Gleanings* contains a letter from a bee-keeper in Arizona, who uses cheese cloth as a base, and finds that the bees do not gnaw out the thread. But he makes it "four dip." Just think of the wax he wastes—and wax costs