

firmly obscuring the light from the eye, and thus causing total blindness as the result of whatever cause from which the injury was first received. No person need fear to apply the honey as stated, thinking it might do injury to the eye, as the remedy has been known and used by the writer for years on horses, cattle and sheep and lambs that were perfectly and totally blind, and he has yet to find the first case that it failed to cure. It will not, of course, restore an eye that has the sight run out, only those covered by a film from injury either from a known or unknown cause.

JONATHAN TALCOTT.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### NOTES FROM THE ITALIAN APIARY.

**T**HE past season has been favorable with me, although we had a great deal of cold, rainy weather, a good many days when the bees could not go to the fields at all, or if they did go they failed to return. Notwithstanding all these so-called difficulties I found in the fall that my apiary had increased just 100 per cent, besides a good number of queens and colonies sold, and had given me an average of eighty-five pounds of surplus honey per colony, spring count, and plenty of honey to go into winter quarters. This was accomplished without feeding one pound of sugar during the season, and they are at present all in fine condition. My honey is all sold and netted 9½ cents per pound over and above price of cans, labels, etc.; but if all who are now embarking in the business are successful the price of honey must go down, in fact I was told by a merchant in Smiths Falls that he bought his honey for six cents, and a merchant in Brockville told me that he bought his honey put up in gem jars (quarts) at thirty cents each, which would give the producer a fraction over seven cents for his nice honey. The bee-keeper just mentioned is one of our scientific bee-men, not ten miles from Brockville. I suppose each of us has perfect liberty to sell his product as he sees fit, but at these prices it must fail to be a profitable business.

I would only add that I consider it the duty of each and every bee-keeper to give our commissioners for the C. & I. Exhibition our most hearty support and co-operation: with contributions from our honey crop, and if necessary contributions of cash, as Ontario must take the palm, at least so far as the honey exhibit is concerned. The CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL is a welcome weekly visitor with us and many times during the year do we find single articles in its pages worth more than the price of subscription; couldn't get along without it.

M. B. HOLMES.

Delta, Ont, March 4th, 1886.

The prices that you mention for honey are the lowest we have ever heard of in Canada. Of course as long as people will offer it at low prices, buyers will be found, but it seems to us that a little effort on the part of producers to sell it among the farmers would result in a better price. The slaughtering of honey upon our markets will probably have good effect. It will induce many more to consume it. We hope by our efforts at the Colonial Exhibition to find in the future a market for all our surplus honey; and feel satisfied that our merchants will not buy it at so low a figure for some time again.

## SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

#### 90 DEGREES FOR WINTERING.

**J. FOOT.**—How can bees be wintered at the high temperature of ninety degrees (90), (see Mr. Ira Barber's essay) without worrying themselves? A few degrees more would almost melt the combs. I keep my cellar between 30 and 40.

Halifax, N. S., March 3, 1886.

Bees can be wintered successfully at a temperature from 30° to 40°, but 45° or 50° give us the best results. Along towards spring just before we set them out we let the temperature run much higher, occasionally 60° to 70° for a day; but we prefer a temperature not above 50° until just before setting out in spring. Friend Barber will be able to give you any particulars. Perhaps he will do so through the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### SIDE-SLOTTED SECTIONS.

**T. L. VON DORN.**—Be kind enough to tell me if you prefer a section having open sides as well as open top and bottoms? If you do not use such, do you know of any experts who do?

Omaha, Neb., Feby. 20, 1886.

By all means use the sections slotted on sides as well as top and bottom, leaving only the corner's full width. There is no question about their superiority and the many advantages accruing from the use of such sections. When first brought forward, some years ago, they met with opposition from a few who perhaps had not the proper facilities for using them, but experience has proved their great superiority over the others.

#### DAMPNESS IN WINTER QUARTERS.

**ROBERT KENNEDY.**—Your card and copy of *World* with "swarm-catcher" to hand, thanks. I doubt I won't need to use this ingenious contrivance much, as I have only two colonies of bees left; one is very weak. I built a place for my bees last fall inside my driving-house, 18 inches from the inner wall, which is a division between stable and cistern-house. These walls are packed with saw-dust four inches thick.