

looks so nice and that the yield has been a fair one even in this vicinity, and although we cannot thank basswood for any of it, we must give the much abused thistle credit in this instance for it certainly has yielded plentifully." Then came a sigh, a long deep sigh, a sigh such as only a woman can give, after which she continued, "I presume I am to get the long promised new dress for assisting you to hive the swarms etc.—and I do hope when the bill accompanies it, you will smile just as loud, and as long as you did after reading Mr. McEvoy's letter," and to keep me in still further good humor, I was handed the baby to nurse, "just while I write this," and he is cutting his eye teeth too—need I say more—and now under the circumstances, I think I will conclude, as no doubt I have already written sufficient. I must however state that "everything is just lovely," with the weather all that could be desired, for thistles and seeing we were not favored with basswood, all we now hope for is nice weather and nice thistles. Mrs. G. wishes me to add, she hopes Mr. McEvoy will write often, especially if it will have the same effect on me always, as in this instance, I don't think she knows exactly all I have now written, trust you may print it, all the same. She never gets mad at me, and she is not easily frightened either. Extracted honey in small quantities 12c. comb 17c.

F. A. GENMELL.

Stratford, Aug. 1st, 1889.

KENT.

The weather has been all that could be desired for the past three weeks and honey has come in lively. Basswood did not last long, about 5 or 6 days, but did well while it lasted. White clover is in full bloom yet and has done well here. Alsike did not do anything worth speaking of. The button willow is in full bloom now, from which I expect to get a nice lot of honey as there are large quantities in the swamps here. I have extracted 60 lbs. per colony spring count, and have hives with 72 sections on nearly ready to take off. I think the yield will be large here this year, with prices good. Buckwheat, goldenrod and fall flowers promise well.

W. R. STERLING.

Rondeau.

ESSEX.

The weather has been fine for bees, all that could be asked for and honey is coming in fast to-day. Although basswood was a short crop bees did well. White clover is good yet and the fall crop will be large if it is not too dry this month. But there was not as much honey as it

was thought for, basswood was full of blossom but not yield as much honey as the crop looked to be. Bees will give a good surplus this season.

R. E. SMITH.

Tilbury Centre.

Giving Laying Queens to Colonies Immediately After Swarming.

FOR years we have been told that no colony should go without a laying queen a single day if it were possible to give them one, and plans for introducing queens, which required that the hive should be queenless a few days previous, have been severely criticised. We have also been told for years, that the bee-keeper who wished to secure the best results from his bees, should have a laying queen ready to give each old colony as soon as they swarmed, as the time lost to them, by rearing a queen, was equivalent to a swarm of bees.

Being eager to know for myself, all the plans which would give the best results, I have experimented largely, and the truth of the statement, that the time lost to the bees in rearing a queen in natural swarming, was equivalent to a swarm of bees, is the reason it has not proven a success. If it were bees I was after, the case would be different.

With me, white clover yields only enough honey to keep the bees breeding nicely, and prepares them so that they mainly swarm from June 20 to July 1. Our honey harvest is from basswood, which blossoms from July 10 to 16.

Now all who are familiar with natural swarming, know that the bees are comparatively few in numbers in the spring, and increase by the rapidly increasing brood produced by the queen, which in due time, hatch the bees, until a swarm is the result.

By giving a laying queen to a colony immediately after it has cast a swarm, we bring about the same result (swarming) as before, for we place the bees in the same condition. The only difference is, that having plenty of brood they build up quicker, and are prepared to swarm in a shorter time.

As this second swarming, brought about by giving the laying queen, comes right in our basswood honey harvest, it cuts off the surplus honey, for it is well known that bees having the swarming fever, do little or no work in the section-boxes, and if allowed to swarm, the object we have sought after (section honey) is beyond our reach.

Having given the result of my experience on this point, let us look at how the same colony would work, had we not given the bees a laying