

# THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

"THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER."

VOL. VII, No. 13. BEETON, ONT., SEPT. 15, 1891. WHOLE No. 294

## THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

ISSUED 1ST AND 15TH OF EACH MONTH.

D. A. JONES

EDIT. B.

### EDITORIAL.

We have just been asked the question — "How fast can bees fly." It depends on circumstances. In cold weather bees cannot fly as rapidly as in warm weather. Wind retards their progress, but if the air is calm and the weather warm enough, bees can, we think, fly from 60 to 100 miles an hour. When we were returning from Palestine and Cyprus with a large number of small colonies of bees, we were told that the train ran at a speed of over 60 miles an hour from Brighton to London. As some of the colonies had plenty of bees and to spare, we thought we would test them, and see if they could fly as quickly as the train was running. We let a bee out occasionally to see what the result would be, and they would fly and keep up with the train for miles and miles. Several gentlemen who were very much interested in the experiment, watched with us, and were surprised at the rapidity of the little insects.

When will it become thoroughly known that bees only die off rapidly when doing a large amount of labor, and that in proportion to their labor their life is shortened or lengthened?

If you find a colony being robbed, close the entrance, sprinkle a little flour on the robbers, and after keeping the entrance closed, say five minutes, open it, and as they will rush out filled with honey, and go to their hives directly, it is easy to tell the colony or colonies from which the robbers come. Place a few sticks on an angle over the entrance of the robbers' hive, leaving plenty of air, throw on a few handfuls of hay or straw, and sprinkle cold water over it; this will cool the ardour of the robbers. The same thing should be done at the hive they are robbing. In this way you stop the work at both ends, because by stopping it at the hive they are robbing, they sometimes pitch onto another hive. This plan will be found quick, simple, and effective; but you should have a force pump to do it properly.

\* \* \*

Early in the morning, or late in the evening, as you walk through the yard, if you find a hive that has a lot of cappings, or little fine bits of comb about the entrance, watch it, and as soon as the bees commence to fly, see if robbers are not operating there.

\* \* \*

Honey gathered after the frost comes is very thin, and colonies getting much very late in the season should get an opportunity to ripen it. the hive being thoroughly protected from sudden changes.