

not like to have mate with our queens if we could help it; "thereby hangs the tail." The mating of the queen, when so much depends on her mating, what shall be the character of her progeny. When we get a queen mated to suit us we feel as though we would like to have her live "a hundred years." We are sailing in smooth water now, I assure you, and if no great disaster befalls us, we can, with a large degree of confidence, hope for a large honey crop next Winter. Now, Friend Jones, by all means make a visit to Cuba, at your earliest convenience, for I know you would be well repaid for the time and money, for this is truly a land of honey and some milk.

A. W. OSBURN,

San Miguel de Juruco, May 7th, 1885.

We meant that the climate of Cuba is more like that of Palestine and Syria, than the climate of Canada was like that of either country. You are quite right; there is very little ambition about many of the natives of the East, yet we think the bees an exception, in fact some claim that they are *too* ambitious; there is no doubt that difference in locality has much to do with success and failure with bees. Some races or strains are better adapted to some localities, and *vice versa*. We have succeeded in breeding some more amiable Holy Lands, and think that with careful breeding we shall have them just as we desire. We should be pleased to pay you a visit at your honey home in Cuba. Give us a description of your honey plants, their time of blooming, peculiarities, etc., as no doubt some of our friends have a longing desire (after the severe winter we have had here) to hear from the land "flowing with milk and honey," and where there is full summer weather the year round. But are there not some drawbacks? What about your hot season when there is no honey in the flowers?

We can supply all the back numbers of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL at the present time, and we shall be pleased to send new subscribers all the back numbers if they so desire.

## QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear each week, Queries and Replies; the former may be propounded by any subscriber, and will be replied to by prominent bee-keepers, throughout Canada and the United States who can answer from experience, as well as by the Editor. This Department will be reserved for the more important questions, others will be answered in another place. We hope to make this one of the most interesting departments of the JOURNAL.

### CHAFF OR SINGLE-WALLED HIVES.

QUERY NO. 18.—SIENANDOAH, IOWA.—Which are better for the north: chaff or single-walled hives?

O. O. POPPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN, IOWA.—In my opinion chaff hives are decidedly the best.

S. T. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Chaff hives, provided the chaff be kept dry.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—All things taken in consideration I would prefer a single-walled hive.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I am in latitude 42°, and have never tried anything but single-walled hives. As I winter in cellar perhaps I shall never try any other.

S. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—Single-walled, made of nine-eighth inch white pine or cedar—cedar preferred. I would like to call attention to that kind of hive, one inch and one-eighth thick.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I do not believe in chaff hives for any place or climate. Bees better be in single walled hives and either packed several together, or put in a good cellar for winter.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—Chaff hives, no matter where wintered. Still if I used chaff hives and practiced cellar wintering I should desire a movable brood chamber so that this only could be carried to and from the cellar.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—I prefer a single-walled hive for summer use, with an outside packing case for winter, with space of about four inches all around, with chaff cushion on top. Pack with chaff, leaves, or any non-conductor.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—Chaff hives, as they are not only much safer for outside wintering, but they preserve the heat in the hive, which is so essential in the cold spring weather when the brooding is going on. They are also better for summer as they preserve a more equable temperature for the bees, though I pre-