

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

Liability of Clipped Queens to be Superseded.

QUERY No. 190.—Are queens with one or both wings clipped as likely to be superseded as those without, when being introduced to other colonies?

ALLEN PRINGLE—Yes, and a trifle more so.

H. D. CUTTING—I cannot speak from experience.

DR. C. C. MILLER—I don't think it makes any difference.

G. M. DOOLITTLE—Yes. Just about the same no more and no less, others to the contrary notwithstanding.

PROF. COOK—Just as likely and no more so, I think. I feel certain the condition of the wings, as to length, has nothing to do with it.

DR. DUNCAN—The clipping of queens' wings does not injure or shorten their lives, nor prevent them being accepted when introduced into another colony.

J. F. DUNN—I believe that apiarists who practise clipping claim that queens so mutilated are in no more danger of being killed when introduced to colonies than those with perfect wings. When bees supersede a queen they usually rear queen cells while the old queen is still mistress, and occasionally this old queen and her daughter may be found jointly performing the duties of the hive. It is "a cold day" for the old queen, however, when the young princess gets her hand in.

Small Sections.

QUERY No. 191.—How small sections can bees be induced to store honey in without lessening the yield per colony?

PROF. COOK—Give it up.

J. F. DUNN—"Ax us an easier one."

H. D. CUTTING—One-half lb. is the smallest we have used.

DR. DUNCAN—I don't know as I have never used any but the one pound sections.

ALLEN PRINGLE—I have never used but the two standard sizes, viz.: the Jones and the Langstroth.

DR. C. C. MILLER—It might take a good deal of experimenting to decide, and then what is true for one might not be for another.

G. M. DOOLITTLE—A man in Michigan says two ounces, but one and a quarter are small enough for all practical purposes, in my opinion, and sell just as well, all things considered.

O. G. RUSSELL—Our comb honey is nearly all stored in two pound sections, and we have found after experimenting with smaller sizes, that any thing smaller lessens the yield. My experience has been that a strong colony will in a time when honey is coming in rapidly, fill a two pound section nearly as soon as they would a pound. With small colonies, and during a long protracted flow, when honey is coming in slowly, it does not make so much difference.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

A hive of bees belonging to Mr. Robert Martin, of Huron township, swarmed on Saturday, the 28th April. This is certainly the first of the season, and the earliest date on which we have heard of bees swarming in this section.—
[Lucknow Sentinel.]

SPRING REPORT FROM THE WELLINGTON APIARY.

A. FYFE.—It has been a cold and backward spring thus far for bees. Weak colonies and colonies short in stores have suffered considerably. There are some heavy losses reported in West Wellington, mostly all from want of stores. I carried my bees out of the bee-house on the 25th, 26th and 27th of April. All are in pretty good shape. Lost two nuclei and three colonies out of 107 from want of stores. Bees brought in first pollen on April 28th. I am well pleased with my success. I find that bee-keeping cannot be learnt in one day, and I do not think any person can make bee-keeping a success until they have met with a few misfortunes. It is by such mistakes that we will learn not to give up but stick to it. My bees were wintered in three different styles of hives—the Jones, Combination, and one of my own construction similar to the Langstroth. I weighed all colonies last fall when put into bee-house, and again when I set them out. The average number of pounds consumed in each hive was: Jones, 8 lbs; Combination, 11; my own, 10. The Combination came out strongest both in bees and brood. This will account for the larger consumption of stores. I had one strong colony of Carniolan crosses in Jones hive which consumed only 4 lbs. I am pleased with the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. I take five of the leading bee journals, and none of them suit my taste like the C. B. J. I think the proprietors are making a grand success of the JOURNAL. "Our Own Apiary" must be very interesting to all. I think it is about time some of our Minto and Mount Forest bee-keepers were getting to work and organizing an Association for West Wellington.

Harriston, May 14th, 1888.