

person the chills, and this weather has been pretty hard on the little inmates of the hive. All attempts at queen-rearing were discarded. It was simply impossible to get the bees, no matter how strong the colony, to commence cells—or at least more than one or two to a hive. We have had lots of drones ready for a week but they are useless without the queens.

MOISTURE ON TOP OF QUILTS.

In examining the colonies in the various yards, large quantities of water were found on top of the quilts, so much that when removed and tilted, the water would run off in a perfect stream. This is nothing more or less than the moisture coming from the bees condensing when it reaches the cold air above the quilts. At first sight it strikes one as though the rain had beaten in upon the quilt and rested there.

PUTTING ON TOP STORIES.

Our bees are, the bulk of them, so strong that the foreman is busy putting on second stories to give them room.

CHANGING QUEENS.

Our foreman makes a practice of changing queens at this season. When a weak colony has an extra good queen and a strong colony is situate in an opposite position, it is poor policy to allow the good queen to waste her energies in the light stock, and a change is very beneficial all around.

CHESHIRE'S BEES AND BEE-KEEPING.

CHAPTER 7—THE RAISING AND INTRODUCTION OF QUEENS.

THE first question which comes up in this chapter is the feeding of the larvæ, and on this point the author says: "Bee larvæ, male and female, when they leave the egg, are not fed on a mixture of pollen, honey and water, as is so constantly asserted—for they are then too small and tender to deal with pollen grains as a portion of their food—nor are they fed upon regurgitated food, as was taught by DuFour; but they receive from the nurse bees a secretion which is truly a milk, from a gland carried in the head, and which, in the nurses, is extremely active." He claims that the so-called "Royal

Jelly" is a myth, that the same jelly is given to all larvæ but to a less extent, the drones receiving more than workers. "Foremost, of the general principles by which to be guided in raising queens of the highest excellence," says Mr. Cheshire, "are these two: First, the larvæ should be intended by the nurses for a queen from the very beginning; and second, the nurses must be numerous and well nourished, and not have put upon their secretive powers a drain which they cannot fully bear." The modes of rearing queens are given, as practiced by Mr. Alley and others. Speaking of the food supplied to the young queens while in the nursery, he says: "Queens allowed access to sugars only become attenuated, although not visibly reduced—for the hard, chitinous envelope prevents external shrinkage, and the bowel contains, instead of abundant pollen residues, a dirty-colored, nearly fluid mass."

Queen Introduction forms the concluding portion of this chapter, and under this head many of the different cages in use are described, none of them however having any really new feature which has not been thoroughly discussed on this side the water. The clove-form plan, introduced first on this continent, we believe, by Mr. Jones, is also described, and the method of procedure, as given on page 390, vol. I. CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL is reproduced in full. The "Hallamshire Law" is also published in full. This, too, has been given of late in this JOURNAL, (see pages 28 and 131 of present volume). The Simmins' method has not, we believe, been given by us as yet. Mr. Cheshire seems to favor this mode of introduction, which, given in a few words is as follows:—"Remove the queen from the hive that is to receive the stranger, placing the latter, at dusk, in a warm situation, quite alone, and without food, and so keeping her for 30 minutes. Then lift, at one corner, the quilt of the hive to which she is to be introduced, driving back the bees with very little smoke, and at once permit the queen to run down. Close the hive, make no examination for forty-eight hours, and leave the operation so late that a lamp is necessary when the queen is introduced." We must confess that the *whole* of this plan is new to us; we have tried