on black alder, the poplar following in a few days, and on the 15th the black willow followed suit. There are other kinds of willow shrubs here with more reddish and yellow bark which comes later. The willow in question has a more dark green bark with dark green pollen tassels.

It has been usage with me, whenever the black willow shows pollen to set out the bees, and not sooner, so I prepared the stands and took them out of the cellar in the evening—20 colonies. After carrying out eight of them and finding them unusually heavy I desired to ascertain how much honey they had consumed during the winter. I then put the remaining 12 colonies, as they came up on the scale. They registered from 62 to 77 lbs. each, showing an average consumption of 16 lbs., from Oct. 18th till April 16th. They could have well stood another winter as far as stores were concerned. When I weighed and numbered them last fall I wrote the weight down with pencil—along side the number and had no trouble now to know how much each colony consumed, for by numbering the colonies they can be brought to the same old stands, and what is more, a bee-keeper can thus easily mind the merits or demerits of each colony—if he keeps not too many—and can manipulate them accordingly.

On the 17th, when the sun got high and the most of the workers were out for pollen and honey, I commenced to transfer the combs and remaining bees in to clean hives and found they had wintered very well. No mould in any of the hives, and some not even a single dead bee on the bottom board, but two were queenless. They took to the wing as soon as I opened their hives and united with the nearest colonies to them. These two, we did not intend to winter them, having both three year-old queens, but could not crowd them in with any of the rest, so we had to put them in the cellar with the above result. This leaves me eighteen good colonies.

It is advisable for any one who tries the three-story hive to prevent swarming to replace old queens with young ones, unless he has too many already. There is every prospect of a large honey yield; my bees are gathering like in midst of summer; there is no loitering around the hive, they come out as if they were shot from a bow.

The weather is very fine, 73° in the shade Black alder, poplar, black willow, hazel, soft maple, and a lot of small flowers are in bloom. The bush around here shows a wonderful aspect.

E. SCHOLZ.

Kilworthy, Muskoka.

Report of the Brant Bee-Keepers' Association.

THE Brant Bee-keepers' Association met at Brantford, Ont, on March 30, 1889, at 2 p.m., with President Howell in the chair.

The steps necessary to retain affiliation with the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association were taken, the members for the Ontario being as follows: G. H. Morris, S. A. Dickie, R. J. Howell, Thos. Murray, Thos. Birkett and G. W. Barber, with representatives D. Anguish and R. F. Holterman. An invitation was received to meet at Harley, Ont., at the next quarterly meeting, which was accepted.

It was decided that if the grant would allow, to give towards the prize-lists at Brantford and Harley, for honey and bee-keepers' supplies. The prize-list was then made up, which will amount to over $60.00 for Brantford. A list of names for judges was made out, and the Secretary instructed to correspond with those selected.

RESULTS OF WINTERING, ETC.

President Howell reported that he had lost 4 colonies out of 32; two of them had starved outright, and several he knew were too light in the fall.

Mr. Ramey stated that he had packed chaff around his hives, about 6 inches thick, and the colonies were all alive and doing well.

This question was asked: 'If a colony is divided will the one left without a queen build its own queen cell?' Answer: Yes; if brood three days from the laying of the eggs is given them, or eggs. It was, however, suggested by one, that it would not be advisable to divide colonies.

Mr. Birkett said that he generally put all second swarms back, and had but little trouble.

D. Anguish reported that his bees were all alive, yet he put four colonies out ten days ago; three of these had consumed 10 pounds of stores each. The temperature was about 48° above zero.

T. Birkett keeps his bees in the cellar, and 3 colonies died (starved) out of 56. The cellar was dry, and too warm to keep potatoes in. The bees were very quiet.

Mr. Barber put 103 colonies—38 outside and the balance in the cellar. One colony was starved, and the balance he thought were alive. The present temperature of his cellar is 45°; but generally it was 42° to 43°.

Mr. Murray winters his bees outdoors, in a shed facing the south. The hives are chaff-packed all around except at the front, so as to expose them to the sun. He uses a shade-board at times, and leaves the entrance open two