

very slowly that it retains its color and texture much better than when rapidly liquified. When honey is set in hot water, or in any place where it receives too high a degree of heat, the color, texture and flavor are injured. We left a 60lb tin on the reservoir of our stove at home, where it was kept warm for about a week, and you would scarcely imagine it was the same honey. It evaporated very slowly; now it will hardly run out it is so thick. That kind of honey ought to easily bring from one to three cents more per pound than ordinary grades.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### PREVENTING AFTER SWARMS.

I HAVE read Mr. Pringle's article, on page 484, with the usual interest with which all his articles are read, and perhaps more because of his controversy regarding my methods of preventing after swarms.

Because I have always succeeded perfectly with that method, and further because Mr. Hutchinson and other such practical men have also met with like success, and again, because I have failed to gain any advantage from clipping queen's wings, but rather been damaged by the practice, I am induced to write this essay, notwithstanding the required time must be snatched from other business. Continued experience with clipped queens has proved to myself and assistants, beyond all question of argument, that in our location, with large numbers of colonies in each apiary, surrounded by our special environments, clipping queen's wings, is certainly an unprofitable practice. I will not dispute but that in locations where bees are less inclined to swarm, and where smaller number of colonies are kept, clipping might prove profitable or satisfactory.

I notice that Mr. Pringle's method of preventing after swarms, is quite like my own, embracing as it does many of the same manipulations and their advantages; though with his manipulations and his locality, it seems that it will not work without multiplying the labor and care several fold, by handling all the frames and cutting out queen cells.

Mr. Pringle says, "With due respect to Mr. Heddon, I must here express the opinion that his method of preventing after swarms, must inevitably prove a failure in a large proportion of cases."

If Mr. Pringle means "cases" tried in his own location, and under his own management, though

that management be ever so good his statement is not illogical; but after I have succeeded perfectly with it for several seasons, and many other bee-keepers widely scattered over the country have also reported success, with only one or two reported failures. I cannot think that Mr. Pringle wishes to be understood that my method will "inevitably prove a failure in a large proportion of cases" tried throughout the country. I notice that most of the manipulations used in Mr. Pringle method are in principle just like my own; this removing the surplus from the old colony to the new one, also carrying the old colony away, are basic principles connected with my method.

I see that he considers it necessary to see if young queens are hatching on the same day the colony casts a prime swarm. If with his bees in his locality, such postponing of prime swarming or premature hatching of young queens are common, I venture the assertion that such a state of affairs is an exception not the rule as applied to our whole country. Further, I have always found that by the removal of my old colony alone, without shaking out any of its bees, provided I postponed such removal till just before the young queens began to hatch, not only reduced the old colony all it should be reduced, and that too at a time when the brood was in a stage to best admit of a greater loss of bees than natural swarming involves, but reduced it sufficiently that no after swarming occurred.

My method having been before the public for some considerable time has been criticised by some able writers who had not given it any trial whatever. One of the main objections they raised, was that I exhausted the old colony too much; that I made it nearly worthless, and though I gave all forces taken from it to the swarm, yet this didn't compensate for the great loss sustained by the old colony. My experience proved that these gentlemen were mistaken, that both old and new colonies were at all times in a condition to do all that the recreation of nectar admitted of, and no matter just how the working force was divided, the result of its energy could not be lost. I would be sure to get it in one hive or the other. They also said that by this unnatural method of reduction I was endangering the brood in the old colony. Now, it seems, Mr. Pringle goes to the other extreme; he not only removes the old colony, but "shakes" bees from its combs, and that too at a time when there is much more unsealed brood in the hive than there is at the time I make the reduction by my method. I think he is quite right in telling us we need have no fears of bad results from