

honey. In my rambles among the consumers of honey, I find the people of the United States are better acquainted with the business than ours are. It is not because they are more intelligent, or because they have any better beekeepers, but because the conditions connected with the industry are brought more prominently before them.

Yours, etc.,

J. R. KITCHIN.

Weidmann, March 13th, 1893.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

PAST AND FUTURE.

I transferred my bees from the cellar to their summer stands on April 15th, 1892, and they carried natural pollen the same day. We had fine weather till May. During May and June the weather was very rainy, still the bees worked well between the showers, and on June 9th began to swarm, and kept on until the middle of July. White clover was very good, but the caterpillars destroyed the basswood both in '91 and '92.

We had some heavy rainstorms during July, but after that we had dry weather. The bees worked well till late in the fall and kept on breeding until they went into winter quarters, with plenty of young bees and plenty of honey.

The bees are quiet so far, and prospects are good for this year, as white clover had a good growth last summer, and the caterpillars nearly all died before spinning their cocoons. There were consequently very few eggs laid as compared with 1891, so we may get some basswood honey this year.

I intend to order my supplies in time this year and enough. Last year I did not order soon enough, and it kept me busy with other work to get hives ready. The bees swarmed more than I expected, so I bought some hives of a neighbor, who had one colony of bees, and had five hives to spare, as the one colony died.

My advice is to order supplies in season.

JOHN M. SEILER.

Chanhasen, Minn., Jan. 11, 1893.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE AFRICAN BEE.

MR. EDITOR—I should like to be informed through the columns of the C.B.J. how I can get a swarm of bees to build a hive of drone comb without giving them drone foundation for certain purposes. I have asked one person (and it is not Dr. Miller either) who I thought could tell; but he says he doesn't know. Let some one advise us on the subject at once, for there is much to be learned from the honey bee yet. Here I wish to say a word or two for the poor African bee. A year ago last summer I sent for one of the (so-called Punic) queens, to see what they looked like, and what I could do with them. I had all the other kinds as well as the blacks. In twenty days she was laying, and in due time I had some black and yellow bees to look at. In the fall I brought them home from my apiary, and at the proper time I cellared them. I took them out again one fine spring day to examine them and found them all right. Later on I took them back to my apiary. In a week or ten days afterwards I visited them again, and, to my surprise, found the queen dead, leaving some queen cells almost ready to hatch out. After a few days I visited them again, and found a young queen all right. I gave a frame of brood to help things along until she should commence to lay, and then left them to work out their own salvation. When I extracted in the fall I had twenty frames full from top to bottom. Now they are wintering on ten frames of the same hive, packed in chaff, and in a long box with a tin cover for them and four others. So far I must say they are no worse to handle than some Cyprians. They were the best bees I ever had for bringing in honey; they were a little hot to handle; but the worst bee I ever had was the Egyptian.

In the fall, seeing some five-banded bees advertised in the C. B. J., I sent for some, which I shared with my neighbours, who were desirous of trying them. They were really very pretty, and all the bees hatched by one of those queens were five-banded. I soon hope to see them rolling in honey