

commencement of clover to any time. Then take a clean hive and foundation and shake the bees off in front, back about two feet and let them walk 'in, always about sundown, so they will get settled nicely by morning. Now you see those bees are in good shape and ready to build wax in an hour. If the brood in the comb is not worth saving, cut out the best of the beeswax and render it, making a bon-fire of the frames and dead brood, doing all such work outside after sundown. Take the good brood which is worth saving and fill a hive, close the entrance for a few days to keep them warm and other bees out. I set two stories of brood one above the other and weighed one colony of bees which came from two sets of comb. It weighed just ten pounds.

I may say I know what I am talking about and have paid for any experience and value it pretty high, so don't sit down discouraged, but plank down your foot and say I am here first and will stay too. You will be surprised to see what new energy your bees will have. Please let me say I have no time to debate this or any other question. I often think you give too much valuable space to prove some single opinion.

I have seen several curious things in beekeeping in the last three years. I also doubt very much if those people all have foul brood, as there are many colonies this year with starved brood during June which is not cleaned out yet. It looks much like the simon pure but lacks the smell and ropyness. If any of my friends wish good wages I will give \$5.00 a day and expenses to any finding foul brood in my apiary.

CHARLES MITCHELL.

Molesworth.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

The Insect on the Basswood.

LIVES ON THE APHIDES BUT DESTROYS THE FLOWER.

I HAVE observed the destruction of the linden blossoms for the three past seasons in this locality and have drawn the attention of two of the leading entomologists to its haunts and habits and also presented them with living specimens. So far they have not been able to say what they are as they were imperfect or only larvæ. In a short time we will have some matured. They are, however, pronounced harmless and of great benefit as they are carnivorous and live on the aphides. Any one wishing to have a sight of them just now can by visiting any basswood tree that has galls on the leaves and by turning up the back

of the leaf may find the little fellows busily engaged ripping up and devouring the larvæ they contain. They are active, about a quarter of an inch long, almost diamond shaped, with six legs, marked grey and yellow. When the egg is laid by the female in the crotch of the blossom stem she either stings or bites the small stem so that the sap exudes and forms a frothy mass, resembling spittle, covering first the egg and then the larva, but preventing the flow of sap to the flower and this is where the evil comes in. I believe the damage it does while in this stage is very great, while it may be a benefit after. Whether the mass that surrounds the larva contains any saccharine matter or not I cannot say. These are my observations so far and I have no doubt that in a short time they will be able to classify the insect.

JOHN McARTHUR.

Toronto, August 5th.

Reports for August 1st, Continued.

QUEBEC.

MISSISQUOI.

The season has been below the average here and but a small crop has been secured. One reason of this was protracted cold and rainy spell the first half of June during which time average colonies nearly ceased brood rearing; the result was few bees to gather the harvest. Have noticed no such insect as Mr. Couse refers to, but basswood trees were much injured through this section by a worm about one and one-quarter inches long which nearly stripped the trees of their young foliage in some cases. Extracted honey, retail fifteen cents, wholesale twelve cents. comb 22, wholesale 18, and 20 cents.

F. W. JONES.

Bedford.

ONTARIO.

LEEDS.

The honey harvest is over, or at least the finer grades of honey have been harvested and the result is, with us a trifle over sixty pounds per colony spring count, with an increase of sixty per cent. Bees seem working very nicely on buckwheat; thistle yielded very sparingly. Linden honey flow was very copious but very brief. Have not noticed the work of the insect mentioned by friend Couse as working on linden bloom. Extracted honey wholesales at ten cents per pound, packages extra.

MATTHEW B. HOLMES.

Athens.

LENNOX.

The clover and basswood season is now over and has yielded an average per colony of about