

C. B. J. whatever you may think best from letter, but if you will kindly print the n. de p. instead of my true name, it will have the effect of increasing my desire to write you again more fully.

Your goods are very good—perfect—but the price of foundation per pound is a little steep.

The honey harvest in this district for 1895, is very light, about a quarter of a good season's. I have received about 250 sections of good white honey, principally clover, but my hives were arranged and furnished for 1500.

There is a prospect of dark honey coming in in some quantity, in the meantime the bees are working on thistles, etc.

I have observed that as the rowans or mountain ash berries begin to color so does the honey begin to get slightly amber, and as the season advances the color deepens.

I think this is a good argument for dark honey to be more esteemed because dark and brightly colored fruits are as a rule richest in flavor, but honey you know is too often made the subject of mere fancy on the part of the buyer.

My bees began to swarm on the 8th June, and kept me busy all that month. I think that but one hive out of sixty tried to swarm a second time so that the apiary has needed less watching than any season I've experienced as yet, as this was without cutting out the queen cells which is usually practiced.

This is now the third poor season in succession, and it must be of general interest to know that bees pay even in the poorest season far more than the expense of boarding them during the winter, and generally make up a very heavy loss from the ignorance and carelessness of the inexperienced in wintering bees.

I have improved little by little from season to season, and have a good hope that next spring I may find the most desirable results—no loss at all.

SCRIPS.

To the Editor of The Canadian Bee Journal

DEAR SIR, —It will naturally happen that at this season of the year many will be thinking of providing for increase, and to the novice it is a matter of much importance how he sets about doing this, and a little of my own experience in this line in past years may not be amiss by way of suggestion.

When I got my first hive it was in the fall of the year, and on what I think was known as the Soper frame. During the winter following I made the acquaintance of the present worthy Sec'y of the O. B. A., who had but shortly left D. A. Jones'

establishment, and having no previous knowledge of bees, I learned all I could from him and from various journals and books, and had decided before spring that as the Jones hive was the hive *par excellence*, I would on the first opportunity transfer my bees into the Jones hive, and provide Jones hives for the increase, as I realized that in order to successfully handle bees they must be on a frame interchangeable through the yard.

I then laid in a stock of Jones hives and belongings, got a smoker, honey knife and extractor.

When the weather got warm enough I proceeded to transfer, and it was a serio-comic figure I must have cut to any practical bee-man who had happened round. Veil down and watchfully tucked in at the bottom and pinned so as to leave no possible passage for any designing bee to crawl up through, a thick coat on tied at the waist, my pants tied at the ankles, great woollen mitts, the right hand one of which had to give place to an old kid glove so I could use my fingers of that hand, before the operation was finished, and what a sweaty, messy, stinky operation it was in spite of all my precautions.

Next job of the kind I had was to transfer a hive of bees from the Quinby frame, on which frame I had got them from J. B. Hall, of Woodstock. This was done perhaps a little less awkwardly than the first, as I was getting more familiar with handling the bees by this time. I had later, however, lots of transferring to do, but by that time I had got rid of the mitts and gloves and could go at it barehanded, could handle them as the saying is "without gloves" in the full sense of the words.

After a year or so I began to waver towards the Langstroth, and introduced a few of the 10 frames, as I was now accumulating property in bees. I liked these very well, but one spring failing health caused me to throw up my situation and get out into the country with my bees in the hope of recruiting. It had to be decided what hive I would put my increase into, and the lot was cast in favor of the Jones, as extracted honey was to be the desideratum. There was a preponderance of Jones hives in the yard, and I had got more familiar with handling the Jones frames than the Langstroth, and had the impression that I could handle them more conveniently for the extractor. To make up enough hives to make it worth while to move to the country I bought twenty-five more supposed to be in the Jones hive, but found out when it was too late that I had been misled, and that they were on a frame inch and half shallower than the Jones, but the same