

spring and early summer. Willow, of which we have a large number of varieties, giving a succession of blossom, Poplar, Asp Leaf Maple, Ash, and the following wild fruits, Saskatoon, Cherry, Plum, Raspberry, Currant and Strawberry.

I am not certain that beekeeping will prove a success on the treeless prairie here, but near timber and on the numerous creek and river valleys, I think the prospect is very promising.

I find the honey from our wild flowers very delicious.

S. A. BEDFORD, Supt.

Brandon, Man., July 2, 1890.

We are glad to observe that the Government are testing this matter of whether bees will prove a profitable investment, and we hope that it may prove a success. We shall look forward to a report after the present season is over.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A Wisconsin Report.

LAST winter was very favorable for wintering bees out doors in this locality, but the changeable weather in April and fore part of May was very unpropitious and many of the bees seemed to have la-grippe, or something else which caused some colonies to dwindle badly. Those wintered in cellars or clamps suffered most; many colonies succumbed altogether. Two or three neighbors lost all the bees they had. About the 20th of May the weather took a more favorable turn, and since that date, what bees were yet alive have been doing well. White clover is abundant and commenced to yield nectar about the middle of June, but we have had so much rain that the nectar is very thin. From June the 24th to June the 28th, inclusive, we had five days of the warmest weather that we have had for several years, at least I think so. The thermometer ranging from 98 to 102 in the shade on north side of building, through the heat of the day and scarcely falling below 70° during the night. Although we had several thunder storms mean-while yet that did not seem to cool the atmosphere very much. During these hot days the clover blossoms do not appear to yield very much nectar, and the bees find but little to do except to cluster on the outside of the hive, or amuse themselves by swarming, perhaps hoping to find a cooler place.

A LARGE SWARM OF BEES.

On the 18th inst. a neighbor living about one

mile from here came into my yard in a great hurry and requested me to supply him with a hive and then go and help him hive a stray swarm of bees which had clustered near his house. I complied with his request, and finding the swarm to be an unusually large one, I bought it of him for three dollars (\$3.00) and brought it home, and it weighed 9½ lbs., exclusive of hive and frames. Where they came from no one knows. They are pure bred brown bees; and if they are all the progeny of one queen she must be enormously prolific, and must have had a large hive or a large tree to breed up in. But I rather suspect that two swarms had by some means, united together. Did any one ever have a swarm of bees that would weigh nine and three quarter pounds? Who can beat this? On the 21st (of June) I set the hive containing this colony on scales, and they stored 9 lbs of honey that day, on the 22nd 8 lbs, on the 23rd 9 lbs, 24th 9 lbs. On this day commenced the hot weather mentioned above, on the 25th the thermometer went up to 102° in the northern shade, and they only stored three pounds, on the 26th only one pound, and only one pound any day since. I mention this to show the effect of excessive heat upon the secretion of nectar in the flowers. To-day (the 30th) it is not quite so warm, the thermometer only up to 88°, and bees are more active again this afternoon.

JOSEPH BULL.

Seymour, Wis., June 30th, 1890.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Western Ontario

AS A LOCALITY FOR BEEKEEPERS.

WHEN speaking of this section of Ontario as a locality for bees it will be remembered the information is given by one who has been here but little over a year, although much has been related to him by others. After keeping bees further east and then here it no longer surprises me that beekeepers find it difficult to reconcile the idea that locality make so great a difference in results. Let me at the outset say that a portion of at least Essex and Kent is as yet uncleared, in fact, I believe there could be travelled from where I am writing in one direction, a distance of ten miles without an acre of cultivated land being crossed. The soil is good. The reason it has not been cleared and cultivated, is because it needed draining. Again, being on a peninsula with Lake Erie to the South and Lake Michigan and St. Clair to the North, we not only have more showers but the air has more moisture in it. Again, being in the most