

## LAMBTON BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE Lambton Bee-Keepers' Association met in the Music Hall, in the Village of Watford, on Monday, April 11th. There was a fair attendance, and all seemed anxious to exchange ideas on the various questions advanced. The morning session was short owing to the President not being in attendance until late in the forenoon. The first business was that of calling the roll of officers and members. Next was the reading of the minutes of previous meeting, which were adopted. The Treasurer presented his report, which was accepted. The by-laws, which had been drawn up by a committee, were presented and read, and a number were ordered to be printed and a copy sent to each member of the Association.

Mr. J. B. Aches, of the adjoining Association was present, and was made an honorary member. This closed the proceedings of the morning session.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

When the meeting was called to order, the President was asked to give an address, but not having one prepared he declined, and asked that a question box be opened, so that any who was desirous of gaining information could ask questions concerning bee-keeping, which would be discussed by the Association. The first question was

WHAT IS THE BEST METHOD OF BRINGING BEES THROUGH THE SPRING AFTER REMOVING THEM FROM THE CELLAR.

Mr. Aches said not to set them out too early in the spring. Last spring he did not set his out until the 15th of April, but as soon as they were taken out he examined any he suspected of being short of stores, and if they required it he put in a frame or two of honey. He advised not handling too much, as there was a possibility of their being killed with kindness. He advised, if weak, to crowd them on as few frames as possible, and place a division-board in the hive with a cushion over them. He found no trouble in the spring with strong colonies; it was with the weak ones that the trouble arose. The question was asked him what time he set his bees in the cellar in the fall. He said that if the winter looked like setting in early he placed them in earlier than if it looked like being a late fall. He began to prepare his bees for the winter during the summer and liked to have them in good condition in the fall when he placed them in the cellar. He did not care to have them breeding during the winter.

Mr. Husband said that he wintered altogether in cellar, and he wintered successfully, especially

this last winter. Last fall he took the ventilation pipe out of his cellar and found that his bees wintered much better. He thought it best to keep them in cellar until about the time that they could gather pollen, providing they could be kept quiet. He kept his cellar absolutely dark and found that his bees kept much quieter. He said that he ran his bees for honey. He thought that the reason that Mr. Aches wintered so successfully was because he did not extract from the brood-chamber. He said that last winter he wintered on sugar stores exclusively, but thought, that probably, under all circumstances, honey was the best.

The next question was

IS A QUEEN EXCLUDING HONEY-BOARD PREFERABLE FOR GENERAL USE.

Dr. Harvey never thought of using a queen excluding honey-board, unless for comb honey.

Mr. Traver said that he had never used one, but believed them to be a good article in an apiary. He also said that he believed that if he had used them last season he could have kept his queens in the brood-chamber, and by so doing would have gained honey enough to have paid for them.

WHY DO BEES WINTER DRONES OVER THE SEASON WHEN IN GOOD CONDITION?

Dr. Harvey thought it purely an accident.

Mr. Aches said that bees generally kill their drones off in the fall; he had seen a number at different times in the hive in the spring, but thought, as a general rule, the old queen had died during the winter, or they were queenless in the fall when put away.

WHICH IS BEST, TO WINTER WITH THE PROPOLISED CLOTHS ON THE HIVE OR TO PUT NEW CLOTHS ON FREE OF PROPOLIS?

Mr. Aches thought it best to leave the old cloths on, and to put cushions on, in the fall, over the cloth.

Mr. Traver had always wintered with new clean cloths, but last fall had left an oil cloth on one hive in mistake all winter, and packed above with dry shavings, and thought that it was this spring about one of the best colonies he had in his yard.

HOW IS IT THAT COMB HONEY BECOMES GRANULATED IN THE SUMMER?

Mr. Aches said that it must have been sugar syrup fed to the bees.

Dr. Harvey thought it best to keep honey at an even temperature, and that, at a high temperature.

Near the close of the afternoon session a lengthy discussion arose concerning the British honey market, and the best way of having our honey reach the British consumer free of adulteration. After a great many plans and ideas