

the queen's wing was clipped and I let her go in with them. As the swarm did not issue again I supposed they had destroyed the old queen and this morning, July 30th, I examined the hive and to my surprise found the old queen quite at home and very busy depositing eggs, and several young queens hatched out in the hive, besides numerous queen cells in all stages. I took one young queen out, another flew away, and then I closed the hive, which is a two-story deep Jones frame, and have left them to manage their own business. This colony gave me 150 lbs. of surplus in 1887, and more than any other in the yard last year. This season I have taken 60 lbs. and they are sealing the frames in the top story again. With regard to the bees sealing the honey, though it is more labor to extract after the cells are capped, if all bee-keepers were careful not to extract before a good part of the honey at any rate is capped, the prejudice that many have against extracted honey would soon be overcome. There is no doubt in my mind that leaving it in the hive long enough to have it thoroughly ripened by the bees gives it a peculiar richness and fine flavor that you will not find in honey that has been extracted before it is sealed.

HENRIETTA F. BULLER,

Campbellford, Aug. 1st.

For The Canadian Bee Journal.

A Case of Robbing.

I HAVE a colony of bees that have acted so strangely all summer since brooding began that I have to ask you to determine for me the cause. The colony is quite strong and have brooded fairly well, but have not swarmed nor made any surplus honey. When the young brood began to come out I noticed that the head and the other extremity of the bee was very black, and the whole bee had an oily appearance. The older bees worried them about very much, sometimes throwing them off the stand and they would crawl around on the ground. Latterly they have seemingly determined to kill them and a terrible struggle is going on at the entrance and the poor young creatures are being disposed of as fast as they come out; and they are coming out in great numbers (but no drones). Another feature which has amused me is, that the bees come out very early in the morning and stand around the entrance trembling and shaking as though they had the ague. I have examined the hive several times, suspecting the presence of foul brood, but I found the sealed brood apparently healthy, and plenty of it to build the colony up rapidly for usefulness. The brood seems to hatch out all

right but they kill off so many that it keeps the stock much lighter than it otherwise would be.

A. BOOMER.

Linwood, Ont.

Must say that we don't know unless it is a case of robbing. The bees with the black and shiny abdomens must be old bees instead of young. Is it not possible that you are mistaken on this point? Where robbing is going on the symptoms you describe are frequently present and the shiny abdomens indicate pretty conclusively that they are old bees pretty well worn out, or perhaps practised robbers. Those standing at entrance are the guards watching for the coming attack of the robbers.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

FOUL BROOD.

SEE you are again troubled with reports of foul brood. When I saw the letter from Mr. G. L. Pearson I was fairly enraged. It is like the scotch fiddle, it is no disgrace to get it, but it certainly is to keep it. I am speaking with respect and sympathy. Now I am not like many of our best bee-keepers when asked about foul brood. Mr. Doolittle is about the only one who don't sing out, "I never had it nor never saw it, none around here." This makes a good cheap advertisement for nothing. I was lucky enough to get it about 8 years ago from an old bee-keeper who is no mean authority on bees, but didn't seem to know it from the honey moon. It was the simon pure and could be smelled on walking through the yard. You see it is not a nice thing to admit having had it even after eight years, and I always kept them warranted healthy except first summer. I always felt guilty when I saw a poor bee-keeper who I could help out without any drugs or expense and only about five minutes given to each colony and no teaming. My experience puts me almost along with F. Cheshire "that the disease is not in the honey" and I had almost clear proof some years ago. Still it is better to be safe.

I want no bees starving when curing foul brood but on the contrary want them well fed on honey from the fields.

Now for a simple cure. All I ever did was to take an empty hive and be sure and put it on the old stand. Brush all the bees off about sundown letting them run into an empty hive (without comb) and it would save cleaning or expense to give no frames, leaving them two or three days to digest all honey and get in shape to do rapid work on foundation. I would prefer the