

issuing, they perhaps had been hurt, and the bees wished to supercede them; but as is most likely the case, the old queen is the one that led off the swarm, and she was either beginning to fail, or had partially failed, and the bees learning this fact, gladly accepted the frame of eggs and larvæ, and commenced queen rearing. The queen that you thought looked like a young one, perhaps was. The old one may have laid a few eggs, and the bees raised the queen that you found in the hive, at the time you searched for the queen cells and found other queens hatching. The probabilities are that this young queen was being hatched at the time you put the eggs and comb in the hive, and that before the young queens were hatched from the comb you placed in the hive, the young queen, which you observed, hatched out, and the old queen being useless, they allowed her to remain in the hive, and as is frequently the case, when bees are strong and they have queen cells hatching, they refuse to allow the first queen that hatches, to tear down the cells. If you should examine the hive again, we think you will find the old queen is missing, and one of the young queens, which has survived the others, is the sole occupant of the hive. It is the opinion of some, that when an old queen fails, the bees kill her. Our experience does not prove that. The old queen is used to a very active life, being fed very liberally, and attended by the bees, and as the young queen commences laying, they gradually cease feeding or caring for the old one, and she has to take care of herself. Being very feeble this non-attention causes her to die off soon.

---

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### A New Bee Disease.

**A**BOUT a week ago as I was walking through my little apiary, I happened to notice an unusual amount of bees dead and dying, lying in front of a hive that contained a strong swarm. Thinking at first they were the old worn out bees, I just went on and didn't think any more about it. The next day I was looking at them again, and there was a pint or more dead in front of the entrance. I knew then something was the matter. I examined them, taking out all the frames, and found they had plenty of nice sealed honey, and plenty of

sealed brood, but no eggs nor larvæ. The queen had stopped laying. Not knowing what to do for them, I just let them alone, and in a few days they quit dying. Then another swarm took it and every one died, queen and all. They still keep dying, have lost two of my strongest swarms and about half of another. One of the swarms contained my finest breeding queen, and how I hated to part with her, but it was no use to grieve after her. So with a sigh of regret, I threw her into the weeds. I find from investigating that several of my box hive neighbors are loosing bees the same way. Some of them say the moth worm is killing them, others say ants, while some of them say the king is dead, and they are fighting among themselves trying to make each other work, but of course all practical bee men know different to that. They act more like as if they were poisoned than anything else. But it cannot be that, for there is no poisoning going on in the country, and I know they are not poisoned. Now, if it is not the so-called Nameless bee-disease, I have no idea what it is.

Symptoms of disease are, that it seems as if the old bees were effected. They will come rushing out somewhat excited and will drop on the ground, after rolling over several times they die, while others will crawl several rods from the hive. They can be seen at all hours of the day and night, crawling all over the place. I can take a frame from the hive and shake it a little, and nearly half the bees will fall to the ground and never make an attempt to rise, nor get back to the hive, but will crawl off and die. Their appearance and size is natural, so far as I can see, with the exception of a few that look somewhat swelled. I can take one and tear it open, and they seem to have an unusual amount of pollen in them and smell very offensive. I have most of the standard works on bees, but have failed to find anything suited to this case. Have also been a reader of the Bee Journals for ten years. Now if the editor, or any of the readers, of the C. B. J. can give me any light on this, and what to do for them, I would be pleased to hear from you through its columns, and oblige.

L. B. SMITH.

Lorneta, Texas, Lampasas City.

Thank you very much friend Smith for giving us the particulars of your bee trouble. We have never had the like here and never known a similar case to yours, therefore, we are at sea in the matter. In our experience we have endeavored to see what bees would do when poisoned, and they acted very