

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

BEEES STEALING EGGS.

MR. BLACK wants some reader of the C. B. J. to give him some light on his bees stealing eggs out of some of the rest of his hives. I keep some bees; I watch their movements pretty close. I can't say that they steal eggs but will steal honey if they can. Mr. Black says one of his colonies was queenless in the spring and left it till he would get a queen cell out of some of the rest of the colonies, and when he went to put a cell into his queenless colony he was surprised to find a queen larva ready to be sealed over. Mr. Black did not tell us that queen came out; he must have forgotten. I think if it came out it would be a drone. In my opinion some of the workers had laid that egg, for it was the best that the little fellows could do, being so long without a queen. What say you Mr. Editor, for the bees don't know a drone egg from a worker's egg? The summer of 1888 in one of my first swarms that came off the young queen that took control of the colony could not fly out to get mated. She was a fine looking queen. I did not know it till the first time I opened the colony and found the combs full of sealed drone and queen-cells built out of drone eggs sealed over. I hatched some of them out to see fine big fat drones come out of them; that was the best they could do. I gave them a good queen cell. Tell us Mr. Black if that queen came out a queen.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT SHAW.

Rosemont, Feb. 27th, 1889.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

"THE HALLAMSHIRE LAW."

"A HALLAMSHIRE Bee-Keeper" writes well and so far as positiveness in assertion goes, proves his case—at least I presume to his own satisfaction—but why does he so positively assert that every one else is wrong? Possibly he alone is right in the matter, but proofs are wanting as yet of that point. No doubt exists in my own mind that his rule for introducing queens is a good one, perhaps as good as any; but that it is absolute, I know not to be true. It fails, and fully as often as does the "Simmins method" or the one I claim as my own. I never claimed my method was absolutely safe, I only claimed that with myself it had never failed. I believe, too, that when followed precisely as I have advised, it will prove successful in the majority of cases, and, from its very simplicity, will prove as valuable as any plan offered as yet.

There are methods of introducing queens that are absolutely safe; but to follow them re-

quires so much fussing and extra labor that they do not pay the ordinary bee-keeper. For instance, any queen can be safely—absolutely so—introduced to a colony (beg pardon, stock) of very young bees, but to get such a colony in shape—"Ay! there's the rub." Simplicity in all bee manipulations is desirable; for the more simple the less time taken. To introduce a queen, the old queen must be removed; it is desirable to so remove her that no appreciable loss of brood is made. In order to do this the new queen must be introduced at once after the old one is removed. The "Simmins method" and my method will accomplish this with a very small percentage of loss. "The Hallamshire law" is said by its originator to be absolutely sure; by others not. Now till the proofs are different, or at least until different evidence can be produced I am excusable if I still believe the methods of Mr. Simmins and myself can at least stand on the same ground as "The Hallamshire law"; and this I state with all due respect to its originator.

J. E. POND.

North Attleboro, Feb. 20, 1889.

From the American Bee Journal.

DISEASED BEES.

ERADICATING FOUL BROOD FROM THE APIARY, ETC.

IN the American Bee Journal for March, 1888, I wrote my experience with foul brood, and how I eradicated it from my apiary. Thinking that some at least might wish to know what success I had I will repeat the treatment.

I put the bees into empty boxes for two days, scalding and cleansing the boxes effectively.

I then put them back on full sheets of foundation, destroying all combs in which there had been any brood, and saving all the nice white outside combs, some of which were only partly drawn out. I treated all but two colonies at the time they appeared to be only slightly affected, but they soon became so bad that it became necessary to treat them same way.

From the two colonies I took eight frames of brood, with a few bees, and put them into an empty box, and they are there to-day, as free from foul brood as bees can be. They were without a queen for at least five weeks, and being weak, consumed all their honey, of which they had a very little. At first I fed them syrup, and afterwards gave them two frames of bees and brood from another colony, and in the fall it was strong as any colony I had. Last spring that was the first colony I divided, and very soon I had two good colonies, both of which stored considerable surplus honey.

After this colony, without any aid whatever,