

have the first frame out, look it over carefully, and if you do not see the queen, set this frame and the next one in a box, or in some secure place where you can leave them out of the hive till you look the others over.

After these two are out, you have the hive so that you can see down into it quite well. On taking out another frame, glance down the side of the next one in the hive, when the queen will often be seen running around to the opposite or dark side of the comb, for young queens are shy. In thus running she shows the sides of her abdomen, to the eyes looking obliquely down, to a much better advantage than could be if the eyes were looking directly upon her back. If you do not see her, look on the opposite side of the comb you hold in your hands, looking obliquely as before, for she will be on one of these dark sides if anywhere on the comb. In this way keep on until she is found, or all the frames are taken from the hive. If unsuccessful, close the hive and try again in an hour or so, when success will attend your efforts.—Rural Home.

Porter Bee-Escape.

I WISH to add my hearty endorsement of the Porter Bee-Escape. It is a most excellent implement. Ruse is worthy of great praise for bringing this idea before the bee-keeping public. Dibbern should have recognition for his suggestion, but the Messrs. Porter have so perfected the instrument, that success is certain in every case. Like the bee-tent, this invention is worthy a place in every apiary, and its merits are so patent that it will soon take this place. No bee-keeper can afford to be without it.

A. J. Cook.

Agricultural College, Mich.

Sweet Corn as a Honey-Plant.

I HAVE been watching with interest the bees working upon the tassels of the corn, and I have come to the conclusion that they gather honey as well as pollen, for they dive deep into the bloom, away from the pollen dust. Corn fields will be quite an attraction this Fall for bees, as the rains have brought up *Polygonum pennsylvanicum* since the last plowing, and also where early potatoes have been dug. Some seasons this plant yields white honey abundantly of a pungent flavor, disagreeable to some persons. A few days since, the Sny levees in the western part of the State, bordering the Mississippi River, were overflowed in June, and the crops destroyed, when this plant, which some persons call smart-weed, took possession,

and thousands of acres were waving like billows of the sea. Messrs. Dadant, of Hamilton, Ill., moved their bees thither, and were well paid for their work.—Mrs. L. HARRISON, in Prairie Farmer.

Clipping Queens' Wings.

OFTEN we can have the most interesting friendly discussions upon the replies given to queries. The replies must of necessity be short, and should be followed up by a series of articles. I notice quite a few in reply to query 307 advocate clipping a queen's wings. There is no doubt that the extensive bee-keeper who can be in the apiary at all times and watch his bees closely, will find it to his advantage to clip queens' wings, but when the conditions are such that a man cannot be on the spot when the swarm commences to issue, I think to clip is a mistake.

I have other duties than those in the apiary and the hiving of swarms has sometimes to be left to unexperienced hands, and I have found that to such, the clipped queen often gets away in attempting to follow the swarm and is lost. The injury which may result from such a loss I do not require to describe here. It would appear to me, we should be cautious about advising the clipping of queens' wings. To the man of experience, I heartily say do so, but to the bee-keeper who has only a limited power of picking out the queen, it is not advisable. We are perhaps apt to forget to look at a question from the standpoint of another, hence many of our differences.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Brantford, Ont.

A Good Season in N. Y.

In a letter from Mr. W. M. Barnum, Angelica, N. Y., we find the following:—

Bees have done nothing in this neighborhood this season. Not one in ten colonies have cast any swarms, and hardly 20 lbs of honey to the colony will be realized. A great many bee-keepers are becoming discouraged. But, as for myself, I shall purchase more bees and keep my 'platter' right side up. The harvest when it does come will make it truly a year of jubilee for the bee-keeper who is prepared. Fraternally,

W. M. BARNUM,

Angelica, N. Y., Aug. 26, 91.

* * * Please send us the names of your neighbors who keep bees, that we may forward copies of the BEE JOURNAL to them. A postal card and five minutes time will do it.