

SELECTIONS.**First Swarm May 19, 1890.**

E. HEAL.—I can report you my first swarm to-day at 11 a. m., and a monster too. I presume they thought the limb of a tree insufficient for their weight as they settled on the eave of the house. Bees wintered better than I ever knew them—no loss. Have had drones flying for two weeks.

St. Thomas, Ont., May 19, 1890.

FOUL BROOD—DESTROYING AFFECTED BEES.

E. G. B.—I enclose the names of all the beekeepers I know around here. If beekeepers had all suffered from foul brood there would be no opposition to Inspectors, though I think that where colonies are destroyed, that any money could be made out of, there ought to be compensation, at least partial, for the destruction of one man's bees would be like making him pay an insurance premium for all the rest. However, I shall be glad to receive a visit from Mr. McEvoy, and assist him as far as possible as soon as he takes the war path. I've been combating the pest for the past two years, and have some work still to do, when the weather is warm and favorable, and applebloom about on. Last year in spite of it though, I had a crop of honey—about 70 lbs per colony, spring count—two thirds being extracted, selling at 12½ and 10 cents per pound; the balance comb, at 17c net., and 14c., the two prices representing the early and late crops. Bees are in good condition this spring so far as I've been able to examine; consumed a large amount of stores in winter—a good many spotted entrance boards, but twas caused by brood-rearing which was kept up all winter I guess. Temperature in repository, 44° to 50° F. I allowed every colony about 35 lbs of honey by weight—no guess work.

There is another case of a request that we with-hold the name of the writer, because, we suppose, of the existence of foul brood in his apiary, though he says in a P. S. he intends writing to Mr. McEvoy as soon as I have examined all his colonies. Just here let us impress upon those requiring the services of the Inspector, that Mr. McEvoy cannot act on instructions or information received excepting it comes through the President of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association, so that for the present season, all requests for the services of the Inspector should be made to Mr. Allen Pringle, Selby, P.O. Ont. If this be remembered much trouble and postage will be saved.

HONEY VINEGAR.

A. BLAIS.—Will you be kind enough to give us a receipt for making honey-vinegar, in the columns of the BEE JOURNAL?

Glen Sanfield, Ont., May 17, 1890.

Recipes for making honey-vinegar

have appeared in the columns of the BEE JOURNAL, but for your information as well as for all later readers we give below a recipe as practiced by Miss Buller, with much success:—

If making from cappings, I soak them in warm water to dissolve the honey, and then strain through cheese cloth into an open cask or barrel, which keep in a warm room with a thin cloth over it until fermentation is over, and it tastes slightly sour, when I strain it again, first removing the scum from the top, and put it into a cask which I leave with the bung-hole open, and covered only with a piece of thin muslin. Putting it into a vinegar cask makes it sour more quickly, or the cask may have a little vinegar left in it a few days first, and a little stronger vinegar added to the honey water after it has worked. It will be fine vinegar by the spring, when it may be drawn off from the mother, and the cask cleansed before returning it. I make the water about as sweet as a pint of honey with one gallon of water."

FOUNDATION IN SECTIONS GETTING OUT OF TRUE.

CHAS. W. DICKSON.—Could you give me any plan of putting the foundation in the sections. The difficulty I find is this: I get the foundation nicely placed in the centre and it seems quite firm, but as soon as I place the sections in the supers ready for use, the foundation moves out from the centre of the sections and the openings in the top of the sections appears so small I can't move the foundations back into place. If you could advance some means of keeping the foundation in place, I should be glad to hear from you.

Stellarton, N. S., May 12, 1890.

We have never had any difficulty in getting the foundation true in the sections using the ordinary foundation fastener. As long as the foundation does not touch the sides of the section, and it is made sufficiently light, the bees will cluster on it to draw it out, and their weight will stretch it down straight. Bees always build their comb in that way, never from the bottom upwards, because they then have no way of plumbing it, and they could not get it truly built. They soften the wax as they work it and if properly attached to the top bar or section so that it will not pull off they will easily bring it to place.

EARLY SWARMS.

BENJ. LUNDY.—I am pleased to report two swarms to-day—the earliest we have known in our limited experience. Bees have all wintered well and are strong in brood and bees, but short in stores at present, owing to prolonged bad weather.

Victor, May 23, 1890.

R. B. EMRICK—I had a swarm come off to-day (May 22), and this is the first I have