

before us, with all its joys and sorrows, will not fail to be to both you and us a Happy New Year.

AMATEUR EXPERT.

England, 24th Dec., 1886.

We wish you and all our friends across the Atlantic a pleasant and happy New Year, and that you may live to see a great many of them. You will see from the reports of our Ontario Convention in this issue, how our friends in Canada feel over their kind treatment while in England. We have had with us, one of your number, in the person of Mr. J. A. Abbott, and we have in our feeble way endeavored to express to him the esteem in which you, on your side of the water, are held.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

GIVING UNFINISHED SECTIONS TO FIRST SWARMS.

QUERY No 124.—When a first swarm is hived, is it best to give them the sections that are partly finished on the old hive and leave them on the old stand, or put the swarm on a new stand and leave the sections on, and prevent second swarms, and put sections on the swarm when well started in the brood-chamber?

H. COUSE, CHELTENHAM, ONT.—Can't say exactly.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I have not had experience in this direction.

JUDGE ANDREWS, MCKENNY, TEXAS.—I do not know. Such practices never come in my way.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—Put them on the old stand and give them the sections from the old stock.

O. O. POPPLETON, HAWKS PARK, FLORIDA.—My experience is very limited in working swarms by either method.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—I give the part filled sections to the swarm hived on the old stand and like the plan much.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—I give the partly finished case or cases to the new swarm on the old stand, giving them nearly all the old

or outside workers. They go ahead and do a splendid business.

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, OHIO.—If increase is desired, place the swarm on a new stand, with the partially filled sections from the old hive put on the hive the swarm is in. If no increase is wanted follow the Heddon plan.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I prefer the first course. The old hive is so depleted, that for some time the sections will not be used. I should also strive to prevent second swarms. The Heddon method will usually do this.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Take the case of partly filled sections from the old hive and put on the swarm. It will depend on what you want to do, to change the location and put the new on the old stand. Cut out all but one queen cell, or better still, put in a queen and you will prevent second swarming.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—This is a mooted question, and one that can only be decided by the circumstances of every case. Much will depend upon the size of the original colony, the time of issue of the swarm relative to the honey yield. What would be proper at beginning of the season might be "all wrong" at the middle or end.

A. L. SWINSON, GOLDSBORO, N.C.—I would give the partly finished sections to the first swarm on a new stand about the fourth or fifth day after hiving them. This rule will best apply here; can't say it would be best in a locality where honey is more plentiful and the main honey flow longer than with us; here it only lasts about three to four weeks at best, and often not more than three weeks.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—I think it is best to put first swarm on a new stand and put a new super with sections in when they are in five or six days, leave the sections on the old hive. Open it in six days after swarming, shake the bees off each frame to make sure you see all the queen cells, cut them all out except one, return the frames and let the bees run in when they will go to work like a new swarm when there are no queens to quarrel, or give this hive a young queen when you cut out the cells.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—That depends upon the date of swarming, the size of the swarm, the flow of nectar, whether you are hiving on empty frames or with foundation, or possibly, combs, the blood of the bees, how they act, and a host of other details. We usually divide the surplus cases resting upon the old