

of the bee journals. I have often found letters in the bee journals that were worth far more to me than the year's subscription. Our CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL should be taken by all. Will the writer who signed his letter "Ena" be kind enough to answer the following questions through the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL:—1st, In what condition were the colonies when placed in the cellar? 2nd, When were the bees put in the cellar and what was the temperature of the cellar for the first four weeks after they were put in, and what was the temperature in February? 3rd, Did they breed much in the fore part of the winter, and how many combs had each colony to winter on?

WM. McEVoy.

Woodburn, July 4th, 1888.

You will see something further from our correspondent signing himself "Ena" in this present issue of the JOURNAL. We have no doubt that he will be pleased to answer the questions you have asked to the best of his ability. With reference to our transgressing the rule which we made requiring writers to sign their names to all communications for the BEE JOURNAL, we may say that under the present circumstances we have allowed the use of a *nom de plume* because it is an unpleasant thing to have foul brood, and where a person is making every effort to get rid of the disease and refuses to sell colonies, bees and queens, until the disease is thoroughly eradicated, it seems to us only a matter of respect that the affair should not be hawked around the country so that every one should be at liberty to say: "Mr. So-and-So has foul brood"; while it is but right that bee-keepers who are careless and have foul brood, doing nothing to eradicate it, should be advertised.

For the Canadian Bee Journal

The Season in Vermont.

THE honey crop with us is a failure. All along the spring has been late and clover was two weeks behind hand. The first week the hives were filled and work began in the sections when the weather became cloudy and cold with a north wind and for about ten days during the heart of the clover season bees did nothing. They tore down queen cells and sealed over partly filled sections. Since July 4th, however, the wind has changed and a jog in the cappings of sections shows where they began again to get honey.

I have 98 colonies in good shape with, I think, honey enough in their hives to last till next year's clover bloom. I like nothing better than plenty of honey in the brood chamber (except plenty of brood in May). Even though a solid frame of honey be called a dollar division board yet I don't object to having a little money invested in that way. I don't believe they use any less honey by having only enough for a week ahead.

I have been much interested in common with many others, in the talks of Amateur Expert. What has become of him?

J. H. LARRABEE.

Larrabee's Pt., Vermont, July 9, 1888.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

THAT NEW PEST.

THE "bird" you sent me is the female of *Diplax Berenice*, a species common over the southern portions of Ontario. This insect—as all members of related genera—feed on small insects, which they capture and devour on the wing.

We have species of the genera *Anax* and *Aeshna* much larger and more rapacious than any species of *Diplax*. But although fairly well acquainted with these insects and their habits, I never knew them to capture any of our larger *Hymenoptera*, and I am inclined to think the jaws of *D. Berenice* are much too weak to crack the exoskeleton of *A. Mellifica*.

But as it is of great importance to bee-keepers I would suggest that the correspondent who sent you the *Diplax*, and other bee men, again observe, record and publish, and then "remedies" can be discussed. Yours truly,

W. BRODIE.

Toronto, July 10, 1888.

It would appear from the above that Mr. Brodie is not of the opinion that the insect which Mr. A. W. Brown, of Port Rowan, sent, would devour the bees, and, as will be seen by his letter, he suggests that all bee-keepers who see any of these insects about their premises should report the results of their observations. This will refer more particularly to bee-keepers along the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. We do not seem to be bothered to any extent with the insects here.

MICHAEL BROWN:—I put thirty-four colonies in the cellar last fall and lost nine, and five died since, no honey being made. I have to feed bees now. I have had no young swarms this season.

Woodbridge, July 7, 1888.