

hives, and let the swarm cluster in the top of the tent. Why wouldn't it be a good plan, in a large apiary, to have three, four, or more of these tents "standin' round kind o' handy like," all ready to set over hives when the swarms come "thicker and faster?"

The idea of having several small tents standing around the apiary, seems to have struck Friend Hutchinson and ourselves about the same time, but as we had our tents made before we saw his idea in print, we will enter our protest if Friend H. should claim it as his "moral patent," "d'y'e see?" We mentioned in last issue that we would have some of them on exhibition at Toronto, and all who are there will see them in actual service. They are much smaller than the regular tent and are intended for swarming purposes only, or they will be handy in a severe case of robbing, to set over the weak hive.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

INTRODUCING BEES WITH CHLOROFORM.

YOU speak of using chloroform for introducing queens. Will you please explain in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL how you administer it. My bees are black and they are so cross that I can do nothing with them. Smoke is worse than nothing. The very minute I go near the hives they are ready for fight and do their best to kill me. They are very good honey gatherers and I was thinking that I would Italianize them, but I am of opinion now that I will have to get a quieter race of bees. Henry Alley, in the *A. B. J.*, gives instructions for introducing queens, which I think would be safe for new beginners to practice. The worst thing for me is to find the black queen, especially when the whole colony are doing their best to take my life while I am hunting for her. This has been a poor honey year here; the buckwheat was a failure, my bees have gathered nothing but pollen from it, and the hives are well packed with it. There is plenty of Golden Rod in bloom but the bees are not working on it; the white clover gave no honey. The only flow that we had was from basswood. I extracted about 50 lbs. per colony, spring count, from basswood, and they have enough in their hives of sealed basswood honey to winter on, which I will leave in with the buckwheat pollen. We have had more rain this season in this place than we have had before in twenty five years, and the weather has been cold nearly every

night in August; the mercury fell to fifty and sometimes lower. At this date a person would not feel uncomfortable with an overcoat on.

A. BRIDGE, P. M.

West Brook, Frontenac Co., Sept. 4th, 1885.

We have had directions for introducing queens by the use of chloroform ready for some time, "waiting its tune." We have spoken of it at Conventions at various times and have written a little on the subject. It is several years since we first thought out this system of giving chloroform to bees when introducing queens, and we are now more fully convinced than ever of its great value for this purpose. We believe that before long it will be used in almost every apiary. It may be applied with any of our ordinary smokers. Three sponges will be found necessary in order to make it a success. Drop a dry sponge in the fire-barrel of the smoker, then the sponge saturated with chloroform next, and another dry one on top of it, in the nozzle of the smoker. This will give a more even distribution. Some of our students have had considerable difficulty in introducing queens after the hive had been rendered queenless several times (in fact some of them had a number killed until fertile workers commenced laying). After repeated trials they had almost given up all hope of getting a queen introduced. So we told the students one evening to be ready next morning at seven o'clock to introduce queens to all queenless colonies in the bee-yard in a few minutes. They were on hand early, with their queens, the hives were pointed out, and we poured a little chloroform on the middle sponge in the smoker, gave a few puffs into the entrance of one hive, stepped on to the next and sent a few puffs into it (just enough to make the bees sleepy). After going over four or five hives, we turned back to the first one and told the boys to "let in the queen." When she ran in we gave the colony a few more puffs and then went