

for a week or two ahead if it was necessary, and if you kept the queens caged in the hives into which you wish to introduce them after the old queen had left with her swarm, you could at once liberate her, and the work of introduction would be done—but it would have to be done promptly when the bees were in a state of commotion and less likely to notice the stranger amongst them. Another thing in her favor would be that she has already got "sort of acquainted" with them as it were, having been an inmate of the hive for a few days previous. If not done at once, then she should be caged on the comb, and introduced in the regular way. All the queen cells would, of course, have to be cut out or destroyed. The queen nurseries are of much value in any yard, and they are fast coming into general use.

#### THE SEASON AROUND STRATHROY.

J. W. GIBSON.—I cannot afford to be without the JOURNAL, and until I began taking it I had no idea we had such a good paper in Canada. I have lots of bee chat if I could only visit you, but my occupation forbids. Last season was very poor around here, but as for myself, I have no cause complaint. I work my bees on Root's plan, and while they are busy working for me, I am also just as busy working for myself. My father died when I was nine years of age, and I have had no leisure, but have been steadily working ever since, hence my education has been neglected, otherwise I would write you a longer letter.

Strathroy, Jany. 6th, 1888.

Many thanks, friend Gibson, for your kind remarks in reference to the JOURNAL. We find that our many duties prevent us from giving it as much attention as our subscribers are really entitled to, but we hope to gradually overcome these difficulties, and increase its value until all of our bee friends feel as you do, that they cannot do without it. Having plenty to do seems to us to be one of the blessings that many of us are forced to enjoy. Idleness is liable to beget mischief, so that while we are busily engaged with the ordinary pursuits of life we might mix a little joy with them and make everything about our homes happy, and our surroundings pleasant. Let us hear from you as often as possible with every new item in reference to bee-keeping, or with any experience you have which will be beneficial to our readers.

#### WINTERING IN A LIGHT CELLAR.

H. S. BALL.—I am trying wintering my bees in a light cellar, and thus far they seem to be doing well. I am of the opinion that a light cellar is drier and healthier, but will they come out of the hive too much is the question? Please give us your views on this subject.

Granby, Que., Jany. 4th, '88.

We have no personal experience to offer on this subject, never having tried wintering in repositories which admitted light; but we have had a number of reports from others who have wintered successfully in light cellars. Our own experience has shown that when light is admitted to a repository, usually kept dark, that it has a decided tendency to disturbance. This may be, however, because of the suddenness of the admission of the light, and not merely the result of its presence. An argument which might be advanced in support of this position, is that no matter how dark the repository, an examination will show that a great number of bees have flown or crawled out, throughout the winter, and that with a moderate light, no greater number would die. We incline to the opinion that the temperature of the cellar has a very great deal to do with this, *i.e.*, if the temperature be correct, the admission of the light does not create much disturbance, if done gradually. We should like to have some reports on this point from those who have tried wintering as described in Mr. Ball's letter. Mr. A. Bridge, of Westbrook, wrote us, some time since, an article, which appeared in the JOURNAL, on this point. We should like to have his experience up to the present time.

#### TINNED WIRE BY MAIL.

W. C. PUTNEY.—Can you send the one pound spools of wire by mail? if so, what will be the cost, post paid.

We can forward it by mail as "parcel" post at the rate of 6c. for each oz. The rate per spool would be just 30c, exactly what the wire itself costs. The price of the spools of one pound, by mail, post-paid, is therefore 60c. It is much better to order it along with other goods, when the cost of the charges would hardly be appreciable.

#### EXTRACTING FROM THE BROOD CHAMBER.

When extracting, do you do so from the brood comb, and at how low a temperature is it safe to do so?

This question you will find pretty well discussed in the report of the meet-