

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

J. P. COCKBURN.—I started with 6 strong and one medium colonies of bees this spring, they soon got to swarming and have continued to do so up and including to-day. I thought in the spring I could cut off at 10, but in spite of most diligent search for queen-sells I have not been able to do so. I have 25 colonies now, many of which have been doubled back thrice and if I had let nature have its course I am sure I could have had 50. I have no evidence my trouble is overcome now. Generally they have been active but have not much store for winter. Although I have taken about 80 lbs. of comb honey and could take as much more but the pesky things have got so cross it is about impossible to do anything with them. Is it the continued hot weather or what? There is plenty of nectar in the valleys and hill sides yet and I think should frost keep off I will yet have considerable surplus honey. I may say that I lost several swarms on account of the crossness of the bees, the boys would not venture among them. I find that 25 colonies are too much for an amateur to experiment with and have passtime. Neighbor Scott stated with one good colony of Hybrids and increased to 3, and from the first prime swarm (in 9 frame Combination hive) has taken 50 lb. sections of honey, with fair prospects of 50 lbs. in addition. Unless the recent dry time interferes, the honey crop in Muskoka should be large. Gravehurst.

FERGUSON WHITESIDE.—If bees swarm as much more in the eight frame Combination hive than they do in the Jones I should be slow to adopt them. Mine swarmed excessively this season though most of them had a top story on early in the season and those which had no perforated zinc bottom swarmed about as much as those which had. I had ten supers with sections putting one comb of brood at the end to coax them them up. I found in most cases they filled the lower sections first and before they sealed the top ones they swarmed. Last night I put out thirty supers full of extracted combs. The bees made a big uproar this forenoon, but are now quiet and going for fall flowers and buckwheat. I did not see that they killed each other at the scene of action eight rods from the yard or that they robbed other hives though some were weak and queenless. I had some large swarms this summer one reached six feet long and varied from three to eight inches in diameter. It was about the size of a man. There were three or

four very large swarms in it. I had one on the 17th about the size of a ten quart pail. Bees have been getting enough to keep them the last two weeks and some are getting a little surplus. Had three swarms from the 7th to the 14th.

Little Britain, Aug. 30th.

A. MURAT.—I started last spring with 13 colonies and increased to 23, all in first class condition. Would have 25 but two swarms left me in the swarming season for the bush. Honey averages about 60 lbs. per colony. Basswood did not yield much. Bees are doing very well yet around here. You will find my subscription for another year enclosed. I am well pleased with the C. B. J.; it gives me many instructions in the bee business. It is well worth the money, especially to beginners.

Mildmay, Aug. 28, '89.

JAS. TAIT.—Mr. Jones will you please answer me through your C. B. J. if I can move my bees 150 miles west this fall without too much damage to them. They are very heavy with honey and strong in bees. How late can I move them and about how much will it cost and which would be the better way to move them by express or freight.

Lynedoch, Ont. Aug. 31st, 1889.

Yes, you can move them any distance provided you give plenty of room to cluster and lots of ventilation. Would prefer to move them not later than Oct. Cost must be ascertained from the railroad company, possibly they would give a special rate by express.

A poor colony or a queenless one is worth something to set on top of a good one because you can extract the honey and save the combs nice and clean for next season's swarms and there will be a profit, but if allowed to stand until late they will require some expense to feed them up to the desired weight. If the stock does not contain plenty of bees from the August brood they will all perish during the winter, leaving the hive and perhaps a little honey in a filthy disgusting condition. Determine how many and what colonies you will winter now, and then, if they are not all in excellent condition, commence at once to put them in shape so that you can count as many colonies in the spring as you can in the fall.

The leaflet "Honey, some reasons why it should be eaten" may be advantageously distributed at the fairs. The result will be increased sales and the creation of a home market.