

ANOTHER WAY.

In six hours after a laying queen is removed from a nucleus cage a virgin queen in a round wire cloth cage, having a hollow stopper in one end of it filled with soft candy—about a half-inch of the soft candy in a half-inch hole is about right—and place the cage lengthwise with the frames between the top bars of two frames, so that the observer can see the cage at a glance when the end of the quilt is turned up. I turn up the quilt once or twice a day, and when the quilt is first lifted, if the bees are hissing and gnawing at the cage I look to see if the candy is being rapidly removed, and if so I insert a little more, but when I find the cage nearly deserted by the bees I go about my business and leave the bees to remove the candy and liberate the imprisoned queen. I have had a queen mated on the fourth day after removing a laying queen by proceeding in this way. This is simply following the plan I have used with uniform success when introducing laying queens.

AN INFALLIBLE WAY

Take a standard sized super that will fit the top of the standard hive in your apiary, put in two close fitting partitions so as to divide the super into three apartments. Now cover the bottom of the super with wire cloth and tack it fast to the partitions as well as to the bottom edges of the super. I nail a thin strip of wood on the lower edge of the super on the wire cloth so as to give a full bee-space between the top bars of the frames and the wire cloth bottom of the super when it is set on a hive. Some strips of enameled cloth tacked to the partitions at the top of the super so that each of the apartments can be opened or closed without interfering with the others completes the device. I call this device an introducing nursery. It is to be set on the top of a hive containing a strong colony, to obtain the heat from below through the wire cloth bottom. A frame of hatching brood (without any unsealed brood) that has been freed from all hatched bees, together with an empty comb, is hung in each of the apartments of the introducing nursery, and a virgin queen is run into each apartment, and the nursery kept closed for three, four or five days, owing to the rapidity with which the young bees hatch out. The queen, whether a virgin or a fertile queen, is perfectly safe among these young bees as they come to light and find the queen on the combs. As soon as the comb containing brood is pretty well covered with bees the combs, bees and queen are moved to a hive and started as a nucleus. The virgin queen will be mated in about 48 hours after the combs have been transferred

from the introducing nursery to the hive. It is easy to see, by multiplying these introducing nurseries, how rapidly queens can be mated.

G. W. DEMAREE,

Christiansburg, Ky.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Don't Sell Too Cheap.

PLEASED at the practical improvement upon the past two seasons, many bee-keepers have been praising 1889 as a honey year. It begins to look plain to me that, taking the country all over, we are not going to have an average crop by considerable. The past two very poor seasons have cleared the market of honey and got consumers in the habit of paying better prices than formerly. As it is a fact that we need it to keep our business equally profitable with other lines, let us hold up to these prices. In this location the season is not as good, up to this date, as was the past two poor years. We have not anything like an average yield so far. Clover bloomed profusely but yielded very stingily. This ends the white honey crop. Pleurisy is not yet plentiful enough here to produce surplus honey to much extent in so large apiaries as I keep. It is just getting into bloom, and the bees are thick upon it, while they leave every other plant except this for the basswood. We can see the honey standing in the blossoms in little drops, and the bees crawling all over it, rapidly loading and going home. Only a few years ago we could not find a dozen plants within the radius of our apiaries. In a few years more we expect it will yield us a good surplus crop if nothing unforeseen happens. Do not be in a hurry to dispose of your honey. What you do sell early, do not sell it cheap. Let us wait till we see that we have to.

QUEENS AND BEE DIARRHŒA.

I have just read friend Clarke's quotations from "a Hallamshire Bee-keeper" and had to smile at the "queen" theory in accounting for bee diarrhœa. All over this state and adjoining states, farmers who had from 10 to 200 colonies of bees all of which had always, (as had their ancestors) reared their own queens in the natural way, for their owners many of them, couldn't tell a queen when they saw it, have had their whole apiaries swept off by the disease in question, and that too, in a single winter. Oftimes I have sold bees for the stocking of whole apiaries, many times, and sometimes when mine died badly the purchaser's all wintered, and *vice-versa*. I have been a heavy loser of bees by winter bee diarrhœa as the British bee-keeper says, but I have reared nearly all the queens I have produced by the natural method in full