

"Call it not vain—they do not err
Who say that when the Poet dies,
Mute Nature mourns her whisperer,
And celebrates his obsequies."

And now in closing this hasty review of another valuable addition to apicultural literature I think I am warranted in saying, in behalf of our fraternity, that

We can but think, our faithful friend,
The end
Of life will find you leal, unweary
O' tested bonds that naught can rend,
And e'en if years be sad and dreary,
Our plighted friendship will extend!

JAMES HEDDON.

Dowagiac, Mich.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked of, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

REMOVING COMB HONEY.

QUERY No. 111.—In removing surplus comb honey, it is desirable to do it when the least number of bees are in the hive; what time will that be of a fair day, fit for bees to pursue their avocation? What plan is best to loosen a section box that seems fairly glued to the hive, to kill or irritate the bees the least?

O. O. POPPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN, IOWA.—See answer to query No. 110.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—(1) From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (2) If sections are thus glued your surplus arrangement is faulty, and a change to some other would seem desirable.

J. E. POND, FOXBORO, MASS.—(1) Any time after ten a.m., and before three p.m., on a fair day, when the bees are foraging. (2) Drive the bees down and use a knife with a thin edge.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—(1) I remove surplus in early part of day without regard to when least bees are in. (2) In the warmest part of the day pry it up slowly.

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, O.—When the bees are gathering honey rapidly during the middle of the day. At this time of the year the weather being cool, the morning is the best time.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—One time of day is as good as another if the bees are busy at work. Bees are most busy in the field in the

middle of the day. Pry up by use of a strong knife.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—I would prefer the afternoon, as the bees would be more likely to be filled with honey. A loaded bee is not so likely to cut the caps. I use a medium sized screw-driver.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—Usually the bees are most in the fields between nine or ten a.m., and four or five o'clock p.m. When buckwheat is in bloom, say at eight or nine o'clock a.m. Do not use any surplus arrangement, that admits of the sections being "glued to the hive."

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—That will depend upon the weather and the distance of the forage. There is a time in the morning when the bees rush out continuously for a quarter of an hour or more, with very few as yet returning. Just after the rush out is a good time, or any time after that up till 2 p.m., of a good day.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—Remove your sections towards the middle of the day, if you have a choice in the matter. Here, if we get the sections to remove, the best time we consider is when we can do the work. (2) Drive the bees out of your road by abundant smoke, then "loosen" if it takes a screw bar to do it.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—In a small apiary I should take off sections very early in the morning, but with a large apiary, at any time most convenient. Have all sections in a case or honey rack and take all off at once, and you will find no sections glued fast, and when you take out the sections from said case or rack, you will have no bees to kill or irritate.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT.—When honey is coming in, any time about the middle of the day, but when there is no honey, early in the morning is the best before the bees are moving about. They can be driven down out of your sections with smoke before you take them off. Any fastening pry gently off with a screw-driver or any other lever as gently as possible, using your smoker at the same time.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—It will depend somewhat on the state of the weather, and the nature of the flow on which the bees are at work. In my location during the white clover harvest, about 11 o'clock a.m., would find the greatest number of workers in the fields. In the autumn, when nearly all nectar bearing plants, yield nectar only in the forenoon, the bees are out in full force by eight.