

Badinage aside, I seriously think that this is a wise and prudent move, to add a poultry department to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. Why? For more than one reason. In the first place a great many bee-keepers are interested in poultry and keep more or less, and the two go quite naturally together. And in the second place the poor honey seasons we have had of late have more than ever convinced bee-keepers that it is uncertain and unsafe to depend exclusively upon it as a means of subsistence. Something else must be added to have two strings to the business bow; and the poultry business is quite safe if properly conducted, as we have free trade in eggs with our neighbor south of us, to whom we ship immense quantities annually at very fair prices. But to conduct the business properly and profitably poultry literature is required no less than apian literature is required to conduct the business properly. Such information will, I have no doubt, be found in the forthcoming poultry department of the C. B. J.

Some fifteen years ago I built a hen house and yard capable of accommodating about twenty-five (counting the roosters), and sailed in. I got Leghorns, and Spanish, and Brahmas.

For just the right kind of eating give me the eggs of the Spanish and the corporation of the Brahma. They all did fairly well; and the roosters remarkably well, but I soon resigned in favor of the bees and turned the whole lot over, profits and all, to the other side of the house, promising to furnish all the feed necessary if the other side of the house would feed the feed, gather the "fruit," tend the chickens, and give me lots of them to eat when I wanted them. The other side of the house has been faithful to the compact, and I never bother my head about the hens or roosters except to eat them (especially the latter) whenever I can lay my teeth on them—always well cooked. The other side of the house declares there is a handsome profit in the hen business, but of this I always pretend to have grave doubts, seeing that my grain disappears so rapidly. Occasionally I threaten to kill off and exterminate the whole lot; but a prompt provender of the tenderest kind of "pot-pie" usually has a mollifying effect, and they get a new lease of life.

The other side of the house will now I suppose become a reader of the C. B. J., and I would not be surprised if you would hear from the aforesaid "other side."

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, April 25, 1889.

TO THE DEAF.—A person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 177 McDougal Street, New York.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A WORD FOR THE BRAY CLAMP.

ON Nov. 10th, '87, we placed 13 colonies in the Bray Clamp, on the 26th of April following; pollen being on the willow, we concluded to let the bees out. On opening the clamp we found that rats had almost taken possession, having killed all but three, having entered the hives from the top. They destroyed both bees and comb. Nothing daunted, however, we determined to give it another trial, so, on the 9th of Nov., 1888, we again placed in Bray Clamp, 65 colonies, taking the precaution, however, to place the honey-boards on top of the cotton quilts, then packing all snugly with oat straw.

On the 16th of April, 1889, just ten days earlier than last year, we opened the clamps about 4 o'clock p.m., giving the bees a short fly before sun down. The day following being fine we overhauled them all, when 59 answered the roll call, six having succumbed, two from starvation and the other four being weak in bees when put in, the honey soured giving them the dysentery. We might add that the others are in excellent condition, having brought in several pounds of willow honey since being set out.

Considering the unfavorable fall of 1888, the Bray Clamp with us is a success.

BURTON BROS.

Osnabruck Center, April 30th, 1889.

When do Most Bees Die, and what Causes their Death?

EVERYONE knows that during the time when the fields are full of flowers young bees are hatched in all healthy and populous colonies daily, not by hundreds, but thousands, every parent hive, as a rule, giving off one first swarm, and one or more second swarms, in which the work of increasing the population is carried on in a similar way as in the parent hive. If this went on continually the hives would soon be incapable of holding the large number of bees forming the colonies, and the country would in a short time be unable to support the number of hives in the different districts. But as it has been ordained that trees shall not touch the sky, so it has also been wisely arranged that the number of bees in a hive, and the number of hives in a country, shall not increase excessively, for quickly as bees make their appearance they die off just as rapidly.

It is well known, when and how the largest number of bees and new colonies originate, but