

## THE YIELD AT DRUMBO.

T. PASMORE.—As I was taking off my top boxes a few days back I thought I would give you the result of the season with me. It is the worst I have experienced. I have taken 14 lbs. per colony, spring count and as many full combs of honey as to put my bees in good trim for wintering. I have not allowed them to increase largely and now my hives are boiling over with bees. Are those strong hives any better or as good for wintering? I use both the Jones and the L, eight frames; when removing the top boxes I find in the Jones plenty of honey to winter on, but scarcely any in the L, not enough to keep them a month, and so full of brood that I could not put the cards of honey in without destroying the brood. How and when should I supply this lack, as I think it should be done early in the fall so as to let the bees have time to fix up things in their own way before winter.

Drumbo, Aug. 29.

Our extra strong colonies did not winter as well on one occasion as those of medium strength but we want to go into winter quarters with strong—not too strong—colonies.

Just as soon as the bees cease gathering feed for winter. The remarks on perforated metal under "Our Own Apiary" in this number are applicable to your case.

## HOW HE INTRODUCED QUEENS.

F. W. FULFORD.—The three queens I received Aug. 1st are doing splendidly. The evening I went to the P. O. I received three queens out of my box to my surprise, not expecting them. I took them home and went to work dividing a stock—which had not swarmed this season—full of bees brood and honey, drew out two frames covered with bees and plenty of brood within five days of hatching. Placed the frames in a new hive, took a third frame out from the old hive with as many bees as possible, shook them off in the new one; put the third frame back in the old hive where I got it. Filled vacant space up in the old hive with extracted frames, the balance of space in new hive with frames of unsealed comb. I placed the queen in a Peat cage upon one of the unsealed frames, and placed this next the frame of brood and closed them up. The entrance I screened with wire cloth so the bees could not get out and yet have plenty of air; kept them shut up 36 hours, liberated them just half an hour before sun set. All was right and jolly. Next day bees were at work carrying in pollen in loads. I repeated this method in introducing the other two queens, with same satisfaction: they have laid well and have lots of brood ready to hatch.

Brockville, Aug. 21.

Skill in management is the only necessary for the safe introduction of queens. The losses are slight compared with a few years ago.

W. D. DREWRY.—I notice in a JOURNAL of the 8th inst. a report from Campbellford for North-

umberland county, which is rather blue for this part of the country at least. I and a neighbor here had 63 colonies, spring count, increased to 88 with about 300 lbs. light section honey and they are doing well now on buckwheat. As I don't understand all about bees I would like an explanation of the following: A hive swarmed about June 10th, just eight days after the queen cells were cut out and a virgin queen from a nursery introduced. In just 14 days from that the hive swarmed again a number of queens hatching. The two that were saved, one with each hive, proved first class prolific queens.

There must have been a queen laying in the hive as all the old queen's eggs and larvæ would be so far advanced as to prohibit making queens of them. A stray queen may have entered the hive. It is not uncommon to find both a young and old queen laying in one hive, the old one being old and quite feeble receives the smaller amount of attention. If the younger led out a swarm the old queen might remain in the hive, and being the only one the bees would naturally attend her, and she would perhaps become more prolific. We have found two queens in a hive and after removing the younger the old one has increased in fertility. To test the matter more thoroughly we have introduced her to another colony to be satisfied that she was laying all the eggs. Of course each colony would start cells and commence raising queens. A queenless colony on receiving her started cells the same as if eggs and brood had been put in without a queen, showing that they knew she was feeble and failing. Such queens when neglected to be fed soon pass away and are superseded.

Do bees ever store honey on top of eggs, and would the eggs in that caselay without hatching until exposed to the air. If so that might explain this case.

Smithfield.

Do not recollect bees doing this, but have known them to destroy or remove eggs and store honey in the cells. In our opinion eggs covered as you describe would not hatch.

## KIND WORDS.

R. WILSON.—I would sooner go without my dinner than miss a copy of the JOURNAL.  
Dickenson, August 28, 1888.

Read the grand array of premiums offered on page 475 of this issue.