

was found, the same nearly ready to hatch. A few days ago I again examined the stock, and on lifting out a frame covered with bees, a large circle of newly-laid eggs was noticed, and I at once knew the young queen was laying. As I was about to lower the comb into the hive the old clipped queen came from the opposite side of the frame, and immediately afterward along came the young queen. The two travelled around the comb never more than two inches apart and often touching one another. Not the slightest animosity was shown; in fact, where one went the other seemed to follow, as though there was some mutual attachment. After watching them for some time I reluctantly removed the old queen, as I was afraid her presence might cause them to swarm. At other times when I have noticed the old queen present, when a young queen had been reared to take her place, the former has always been in a secluded spot in the hive. In the case mentioned, the old queen seemed as vigorous as ever, and if the colony had been at home yard, would have liked to have seen how long she would have remained.

Prospects here in our locality (July 2) are for a rather light crop of clover honey. Hot, dry weather previous to clover bloom brought on the flow with a rush about June 17th. For first week flow was rapid; since then the nectar is only secreted in afternoons. By the looks of things now, one week more will finish the alsike, unless we should get rain, as the ground is hard and dry. Practically no swarming as yet; only three or four all told. However, as I write this evening my brother-in-law has just 'phoned me saying that at the Cashel yard there were two swarms out to-day, so perhaps next week may make us hustle.

Try a small ad. in the Want and Exchange column. They bring results.

THE HONEY BEE

Its Early History, Natural History and Place in the Economy of Nature

(By Mr. E. F. Robinson, Victoria)

It is with some diffidence I attempt the task of interesting you in this wonderful insect, so I ask a little forbearance on your part if I fail to fulfil my object as I would desire. To-night I propose to essay the wonders of that small and, to many persons, insignificant insect—the "honey bee," and presume to place it far above any other insect in its wonderful domestic economy and usefulness to man.

The value of most insects is doubtful, but with the bee the results of its works and usefulness continue on for many centuries. Man at the present day is reaping the benefits of its labors made many years ago—in the beautiful flowers and luscious fruits which he now so delights in, and which are so very essential to his health of body and gratifying to his sense of the beautiful. The remark may be ventured that no insect has rendered so valuable a service to man as the bee, and next in order, I suppose, is the earth worm; but the worm, with its drainage and pulverizing of the soil, can be imitated quite effectually by man with his improved implements, whereas, with the bee, it is quite impossible to carry out the important process of fertilization and the production of new varieties in the vegetable kingdom, to the immense extent, and at the exact time, as is so effectually and at such a minimum cost done by this truly wonderful insect.

The bee is a native of the Holy Land, and we find the Assyrian bee referred to in Scriptures over 3,700 years ago. The Orientals call it "Deborah"—meaning song, singing, or "she that speaketh." "Bee" is mentioned in the Old Testament four times, but "honey" is there mentioned 52 times, and in the New Testament four times. "Honey-comb" has

eight references and one in the is mentioned for ment. Is there with such beauty either to itself the following:

We read of Solomon of Man to eat good, at the same not to eat too

We find Jacob best fruits of Joseph.

Samson regaled of the lion's car he gave his family his domestic honey-eater came forth sweet came forth sweet

We find it Christ Himself honey, "that H good."

These passages value and significance was held by the earth, and the bee in connection of various honey-gathering, of view, is only tion.

Honey ranks in Egyptians with spices, myrrh, et indicating a beautiful flowing with me really is so—ever accompanying me produce grass and long way deficient climate necessary honey; it indicates and that fruitful necessary for the pi sequently, it has referred to as some earthly produce