

they will be found very unsatisfactory, or they will require time and patience to make them succeed.

J. K. DARLING, Almonte, Ont.—Use full sheets. I had the same trouble, and now use sheets that reach within an inch or two of the bottom, and more than half of them are finished out with drone comb. The bees are bound to have drone comb somewhere, and I would rather there than elsewhere.

G. W. DEMAREE, Christiansburg, Ky.—Give them full sheets of foundation. When foundation first began to come into use I used it for starters altogether. I found that second swarms with virgin queens would build mostly drone or store combs. All swarms with old (or for other causes slow) queens would build an excess of drone or store comb, while all colonies with young prolific queens would build nearly all worker combs. With these facts before us we can see the difficulties in the way of adopting the plan of using starters only. If we could always know the condition of the swarm we are about to *hive* we could act intelligently when choosing the plan to be followed. But as this is not practicable in a general way it is the safest way to use full sheets of foundation, or empty combs if we have had the forethought to have had them drawn out in the upper storeys the season before.

Contract the brood chamber by division board, or place on supers. We place frames with starters between two full combs of brood and have no such difficulty as you speak of.

Mr. Wm. McEvoy answered all the queries sent him, but by some mishap they did not reach us in time to appear in regular order. Here they are:

209. "Sun wax extractor and foul brood":—Yes, if the wax was daubed with the diseased honey, which it would be most likely to be. Bring the wax to a boiling heat. Half an hour is too long; it would be injurious to the wax.

210. "Using queens from diseased colonies":—Yes, safe every time, and that I know from experience. Don't destroy the queens. Anyone that has such can mail them to me in the honey season for twenty-five cents each if they are Italian queens.

211. "Heat for ripening honey":—About 80 will do for both the extracted and comb honey. The extracted honey *will always* have a much better flavor when ripened by the bees, and for that reason it should never be extracted until *dead ripe*. Comb honey should be kept in a warm place for two months after it is taken from the bees.

212. "Cause of loss of mating queens":—If the honey season had been a good one and everything booming you would not have lost so many queens. The greatest cause of all was the poor season. The bees did more killing than

you think they did. You will be all right next season, as we are going to have one of the very best.

213. "Space alongside section foundation":—A sixteenth at each side and nearly an eighth at the bottom.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

A LAKE HURON REPORT.

WM. WILSON.—I see by the JOURNAL that the season has been poor; I cannot complain, however. I started the season with seven colonies, divided to fifteen—all good strong swarms—and took 200 lbs. extracted and 20 lbs. comb honey. My home is on the shore of Lake Huron.

Johnson's Mills, October 2, 1888.

THE PORTABLE SUPER "ABOUT RIGHT."

JAMES C. ROBERTSON.—I write to advise you of the arrival, in good shape, of the last bill of supplies; in fact everything I got from you is first-class. The season was so poor this year that I did not get a chance to try the portable super, as I would like, but I think they are about right.

Morrisburg, October 9, 1888.

W. J. BROWN.—I commenced the season of '88 with 30 hives, sold one, increased to 70. Took 100 lbs. comb and 300 extracted. Fore part of season was very cold and windy, middle too dry and latter too wet—altogether a very unfavorable season. I may here say that I congratulate friend Black, of Barrie, on his good success, but I think the majority of bee men will agree with me when I say I think that his report is too good to be all gospel. Am glad to see friend Cumming doing so well at the Provincial. The C. B. J. is a most welcome visitor.

Chard, Ont.

A. W. BROWN.—Will you please tell me in next issue of C. B. J. how you should proceed to unite at this time of year a small colony having a laying queen with a larger colony having fertile workers, without danger of losing queen?

Port Rowan, Ont.

Take all the combs away from the colony with fertile workers in the morning, leaving them in this condition until after dark, then shake the other colony in with them, giving several good smart shakes so as to mix them thoroughly. Give them full combs from colonies not troubled with fertile workers. A little sweetened water sprayed over them will render the work easier.

Read the grand array of premiums offered on page 615 of this issue.