

introduce were also raised and hatched in a queen-nursery placed in strong stocks. Now be it remembered that to my certain knowledge I have never had but one virgin queen accepted and become fertilized when attempted to be introduced as above, and this one case was accomplished in one of my apiaries in Ohio in 1883. And in this case the queen was not long-lived, the bees having superseded her before she was sixty days old. We ask who can fully explain why it is that virgin queens cannot be safely and surely introduced. Try it who will and we will guess a failure eighty-five times in 100 trials. What say Brothers Cook, Jones, and we will not slight brother Heddon, of Michigan, either, but ask you all candidly for an answer.

J. M. HICKS.

Battle Ground, Ind.

This year has been an unusually severe one on queens, complaints from many quarters indicate that it has been most difficult to introduce them. We introduce probably 100 virgin to one fertile queen, have introduced thousands this year, as we do every season, and have never experienced the above mentioned. We would suggest the chloroform method as adopted by ourselves, and we are sure you will be well pleased with results, as an eighty-five per cent. loss is too great to meet with. By using chloroform when the colonies are queenless, and the queens are ready to be put in, we can introduce, in any kind of weather when bees can be handled at all with safety, 100 queens in from two to three hours without a loss of five per cent. Have not lost a single queen this year with chloroform, and have taken all the worst cases that could be found in the yard.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A CORRECTION.

THE foundation that I use I get mostly from the Dadant's, of Hamilton, Ill., and it is a splendid article. It is not scented with tobacco smoke, as you understood me, but with tobacco, or tobacco essence; to keep the moths away. I never heard anyone say that it was tobacco essence, but I have a "truly good" nose, and it says "tobacco" every time I handle foundation. I have read that

comb honey made with foundation is never troubled with moths. I believe the reason is that enough of the tobacco smell stays in it to keep the moths away, but not enough to injure the honey in the least. Now, if so be, I have made a mistake, and my friends, the Dadant's, do not use any kind of essence, or anything to keep the moths away, behold! here I am on my knees, (figuratively speaking), ready to beg their pardon to any extent.

The "Good Sisters," when all the other colonies killed and drove away their drones, took them in and fed them—good for the drones, but too hard on the "sisters," so I killed them off.

MAHALA B. CHADDOCK.

Vermont, Fulton Co., Aug. 15.

We beg your pardon for mistaking tobacco smoke for juice or whatever it may be. If you got the foundation from Friends Dadant we are sure there must be some mistake about the tobacco business, as they would never think of using tobacco in connection with the manufacture of comb foundation as they are the largest manufacturers in America, and their foundation is considered to be of the *best* quality.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE WINTER PROBLEM.

IN view of the fact that you have wintered such a large number of colonies with only a trifling loss I endorse the words of the Rev. W. F. Clarke that we place ourselves as humble disciples at your feet and learn how. As long as I keep bees in Northern Michigan your paper will be indispensable to me. The honey resources of Northern Michigan are much the same as Northern Canada and the flow is incessant without any gaps from the time of the wild cherry and willows until the "melancholy days" set in. The latter has bloomed luxuriantly and during some days the hives presented a swarming appearance and now the fireweed is giving her bountiful harvest although the farmers look on it with the same aversion as your settlers do the dreaded Canada thistle which is happily a stranger to us as yet. Golden rod and asters promise a good yield. I would however rather be located on the west side of the State in the famous fruit belt as apples and plums are the only fruit trees which flourish here. Last winter owing to my neglect I lost my entire apiary by cold and mice but this year I shall winter in a cave with wire screens to ward off the mice. I believe in double-walled