

pied an 8-frame, two-story Langstroth hive—9 frames in the brood nest and 8 in the "super." By the latter part of July this colony was immensely populous, filling both chambers and the portico chuck full of bees. I suppose the queen occupied about 13 frames—9 in the brood nest proper, and 4 in the upper story. About the 20th day of July I connected the hive containing this colony with an empty hive in such a manner that the latter hive stood immediately in front of the hive containing the colony of bees. In this position the bees were compelled to pass (an opening being made in the rear of front hive) through the empty hive in leaving and re-entering the original hive. I then inserted into the empty hive a frame containing eggs and larvae. The bees in the rear hive immediately crowded immensely into the front hive as if a natural swarm had parted off. I waited the results 2 or 3 days, but no queen cells were started. At this time I inserted another frame or two containing eggs and larvae, and waited as before 2 or 3 days for results, but no queen cells were yet started, except here and there could be seen a few minute cups about empty cells, showing a very slight disposition to build queen cells. I continued this line of manipulation carefully, watching results closely till the 2nd day of August, when the front hive was full of frames thus added. The bees now (August 2nd) began to construct one queen cell only, which was developed very slowly—prolonging the time much beyond 8 days. I examined this cell 8 days after it was sealed over, when it had no appearance of hatching. I, at this time pulled the front hive loose from the rear one and sat it a little to one side, thus giving each hive an independent entrance. The bees were about equally divided and perfectly calm, showing no signs whatever of confusion. This cell finally hatched one of the best looking queens I ever saw. She is not only a pretty queen, but she has proved herself to be one of the best queens I ever owned. This queen did not begin to lay till late (if I am correct, not until the 15th of September). This being true, she must have been backward in taking her maiden flight. Hence she only laid about 18,000 eggs that fall. It is thus seen that the whole process of development from the egg to the meeting the drone was much retarded.

Now, Mr. Editor, you will please answer:—

(a). Why was this development prolonged beyond the usual time?

(b). How does the foregoing compare with natural swarming?

(c). If I had not pulled the hives, as referred in the foregoing, asunder, what would have been

the result? Would there not have been two laying queens in the same continuous hive?

(d). If the foregoing line of manipulation had been developed during (and not after, as was the case in the foregoing) natural swarming, what would have been results, comparatively?

Would like the foregoing inserted in the C. B. J., if agreeable; if not, just cast it aside.

M. G. HILL.

(a). The weather being very cool, sometimes queens will not hatch in 15 days, especially where they are not cared for as carefully and attentively as they are at other times. In warm weather a very populous colony will hatch in less than 15 days. (b). We would prefer natural swarming. (c). There might have been two laying queens, but the probabilities are that the one queen would have killed the other or the bees would have taken more kindly to the one than the other and the old queen would die. Two laying queens in one hive however, is not an uncommon thing. I have frequently had them. I once constructed a hive and put in a large colony with five compartments, four outside, one facing north, one south, one east, one west, and a central colony of the same size to which the bees had access through perforated metal from all the outside colonies. I had queens laying in the different compartments and the old queen in the centre. I also changed queens from the centre to the outside and vice versa. These operations were carried on for some time as an experiment, but we saw no special benefit in it and abandoned their use. (d). We do not think it equal to natural swarming, and the result would not be as satisfactory. It would require much more skill and perhaps frequently prove a failure.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Report From Campbellford.

IT IS so long since I have sent you a report or communication of any kind, and for fear you should think I have deserted the ranks as a bee-keeper, before the busy season commences, I must send you a report of my work for 1890.

In the fall of 1889 I put into winter quarters 39 colonies. All but one came out in good condition, but the latter part of the spring and early summer was very hard on them and on