

around here and there, every one in its place, and the bees either clustered out in front of the hives or inside busy at work again. I set to and made short work of making up these swarms. *The queens were clipped.*

S. CORNELL, LINDSAY, ONT.—I have always clipped my queens and have never had occasion to suspect that they were injured thereby except in one case in which the wing of a young queen was by accident clipped close to the body. This queen was soon after superceded. I am satisfied it requires less labor to take care of swarms when the queens are clipped. Last season we were troubled by the swarms coming out again within a day or two after being hived. This freak I attributed to the fact that when the swarm first came off the bees returned to the old stand without completing their programme by clustering. I tried Doolittle's plan of attaching their caged queen to a bee-bob but sometimes they took little notice of it. This year I purpose hiving the returning swarm in one of Doolittle's nucleus boxes made large, and placing it in a dark cellar for a few hours to allow the bees to cool off and get over their swarming mania before hiving them permanently. Will Mr. Jones please describe the operation of clipping a queen?

By THE EDITOR.—If we were going to have plenty of assistance in the yard would prefer queens' wings clipped.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

MOUNT FOREST BEE-KEEPERS.

MT. Forest Bee-keepers' Convention was held on the 17th inst. Meeting opened about 3 o'clock, President Rev. D. P. Niven in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted, after which the following topics were opened for discussion, viz: best modes of increase; best modes of artificial increase; best hives for securing increase; best hives for extracting; when should feeding (if at all) cease in order to have bees prepared for winter properly; how did bees winter best—out doors or in cellar, &c.?

To the first question it was generally conceded that natural swarming was best. To the second it was argued that by setting an empty hive on the old stand and removing the old hive, then putting old queen into empty hive and shaking plenty of bees down before the hive, the hive or colony would be properly divided with very little danger of swarming. The above plan should not, however, be resorted to until they were about ready to swarm naturally. Small hives were advocated for plenty of swarming where honey was no object.

A two story hive was urged for extracting, but the meeting was somewhat divided upon this point as some do not believe in handling bees any more than is really necessary, which would not be often if a two story hive were used. Feeding should cease by the first or second week of Sept., and only fed if bees had not stores enough gathered for winter.

According to reports handed in at convention, those who kept their bees in cellar at a uniform temperature seemed to have come out with the least loss, although there was quite a difference in the temperature in the many cellars; the two best being Wm. Fraser, of Egremont, at a temperature of from 32 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit, the other, President Niven, being 40°. The average consumption per colony in the President's cellar was 11 lbs., the greatest being 19 lbs. and the smallest 8 lbs. The total number of colonies represented as having been placed in cellars in the fall of 1885 was 104, the total taken out in spring, 70.

Mr. Niven reported honey now 10 months old still free from granulation, it having all been sealed before extracting. Mr. Fraser reported his bees having upward ventilation to have wintered best; all his bees wintered on sealed stores from sugar syrup, he having extracted all honey previous to feeding the syrup. The convention, however, urged that we all leave natural stores with bees for winter. Spring dwindling was lightly touched upon. It being now 6 o'clock the Convention adjourned till the first week in September.

J. H. DAVISON, Secy.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

LOST 26 OUT OF 46.

JAS. G. MUNRO.—In reading so many reports in the BEE JOURNAL, and having been instructed and also encouraged by the reading of the same, I will attempt to give your readers my report for last year. In the fall of 1884, I placed in the cellar 46 hives, all in good condition. On account of the extreme cold of last winter, my cellar was often at the freezing point. I examined the bees frequently, but found them perfectly quiet. In the month of April I could detect a foul smell, when I opened the bee-room and some of the hives were quite spotted on the outside: I was quite satisfied by this time that my bees had the dysentery. I removed them to their summer stands as soon as the weather would permit. I made an examination of them all, and I found that those hives that were diseased had no brood, nor had the queen laid any; others had considerable brood. I lost by spring dwindling 22 hives; 4 died in the cellar, which left me 20 hives to begin with, and some of them not very strong. The honey season was poor in this part; I ex-