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OUR OWN APIARY.

IN spite of the backwardness of the season, the white clover is beginning to bloom, and bees are commencing to work on it quite lively, in a few days we expect to be able to taste white clover honey of this year's production and from the appearance of the bloom at the present time and if the weather continues at all favorable, the crop will likely be very large from that source. We are now preparing some of our colonies for queen-rearing, although we usually have it done a month before this time. The preparations we make may be interesting to some, as from past experience we believe there is no way of making the bees produce better queens. We think this is a subject that has not been given as much consideration as it deserves, because a poor queen means a poor colony, and a good queen a good colony. How is it that some of our colonies gather more honey than others? and yet there is apparently no difference between Spring and Fall. Some gather more than double those of others. If these extra fine colonies are selected for queen-rearing, how much better must be the results if the practice in this direction is continued right along. We are selecting such colonies from which to breed all our queens, and in order to make them very strong we add either young bees or hatching brood. This brings on swarming sooner than by leaving them to their own resources. We can prepare a colony and give them the swarming fever, in less than a week, and large numbers of queen cells will be constructed. If unsealed brood is given, there is no danger of queens being started from larvae; when hatching brood or sealed

brood cannot be found, we give young bees instead, rather than unsealed larvæ. As soon as the queen cells are finished and capped, or perhaps one day before they are capped over, we remove the queen, thus preventing them from swarming, but should they steal a march on us and swarm, we put the swarm back keeping the queen and introducing her to another colony, or making a nucleus for her, close by the parent stock. There is a wonderful difference between queens raised in a very strong colony, (one containing bees enough for three or four swarms), and an ordinary colony; the queens will be ready to fly as soon as they hatch out. We have frequently seen them crawl right out of the cell and fly; they will also mate much sooner than those raised in weak colonies, or nuclei, and as a consequence commence laying sooner. Their movements are more quiet on the combs, are less liable to be balled, and are more easily introduced to another colony on account of their less excitable disposition. These queens may be put in the queen nursery and kept until they are old enough to mate. They may be caged on combs, two or three in each hive, and as fast as one mates she may be caged or taken out, and another one liberated, continuing in this way until all become fertile. We have had fertile and unproducing queens both caged, in one hive, while another unproducing one was liberated to mate from the same hive.

By this process fewer nuclei need be used, and more work accomplished. Queens can be kept constantly on hand to supply queenless colonies, or to ship to customers, as the case may be, after the proper season for queen rearing has once commenced.

We shall be pleased to supply the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL from now till January 1st, 1886, for 60 cents, or from No. 1, issued April 1st, for 75 cents.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE BEE-KEEPER'S CRISIS.

THE crisis the bee-keeper is called upon to meet in the Spring is the time when the old bees have nearly all disappeared and scarcely enough young ones yet hatched to keep up the requisite amount of animal heat and properly carry on the necessary operations of the colony. Frequently this crisis in the Spring development of the colony is so sharp that a very few days of unfavorable weather, just at the critical juncture, inevitably "fixes off" the doomed hive, unless the bee-keeper comes promptly and intelligently to its rescue. Every attentive bee-keeper who looks systematically after his worthy little wards in the Spring has doubtless noticed how rapidly the old bees will sometimes die off and disappear from the hive, a hive which was perhaps overflowing with bees when recently overhauled and straightened up after having been set out of Winter quarters. Such colonies must be looked after promptly and handled skilfully or they "go up" for sure. Upon making the first examination in Spring, if the bees are strong in numbers the manipulator is very apt to give them too many frames not properly taking into account the rapid depletion by death which may soon follow. In my own experience I notice examples of this kind, more or less, every Spring. In apportioning each colony its space, etc., we of course always take into account the usual and inevitable spring mortality, but these exceptional cases under consideration are not often provided for. In my yard this spring I had two or three of such cases. One colony especially when opened for examination was literally overflowing with bees and the queen had commenced depositing eggs freely. Remaining in that condition a week or so the old bees thereafter so rapidly disappeared that when the young ones began to hatch only a few were scattered over the combs. Nor did they "swarm out" and leave their home. They shuffled off their mortal coil in due course without disease or adverse winds. I can only account for the phenomenon on the theory that the bees were all about the same age, and a pretty old age at that. A young and prolific queen was put in a colony with full frames of comb and some honey during the latter half of August when the honey was coming in freely. She soon filled the empty combs with eggs about which time the honey flow came to a sudden halt for the season. Under such circumstances, when the honey flow is suddenly stopped, and lots of brood in the hive, in all stages, I always feed them regularly until the brood is all safely capped over ;

otherwise the eggs and larvæ instead of being nursed and developed are destroyed and consumed by the bees because of the sudden stoppage of supplies from the fields. This queen I suppose laid no more after the first filling of the frames, hence the almost uniform age of the winter bees ; and hence also their almost simultaneous exit.

It is, therefore, wise for every bee-keeper when fixing up his bees in the Spring to err on the safe side and give his bees too few instead of too many frames and too little instead of too much space.

But what is the remedy when the apiarist finds more or less of his colonies in such a plight in early Spring or indeed in late Spring, when he finds a lot of unhatched brood and only a few scattering bees creeping dejectedly and forlornly over it, more especially if the thermometer is just then sinking down towards the freezing point ? He must "look alive" and act promptly or it will be "all day" with his bees before the weather changes, though it does not take the weather long to change front in this latitude and longitude. He has various remedies, and as to which he may apply depends upon the conditions. The first requisite is to crowd the frames up close together just leaving space for a bee to pass between the combs. A part of the brood—the frames containing the youngest—may be taken out (but none of the bees) and given to strong colonies to nurse. These or others just hatching can be returned to the owner when the cold spell is over and when the colony gets strong enough to receive them, for of course the depleted colony will be gaining in strength all the time as the young bees hatch out. When the frames containing the youngest brood are removed and the remaining ones are crowded up together, additional steps must be taken to make the little household thoroughly warm and comfortable. To this end contract the entrance to the size of one bee, put heavy quilts on top, and pack sides if possible. Another good plan to save colonies in such straits is, if the strong colonies are not foraging to exchange stands with them, exercising care not to take more bees from the strong colonies than they can spare or the remedy would prove worse than the disease. A still safer plan perhaps is to reinforce the distressed colonies with young bees from the strong by shaking them off their own frames on the ground in front of the hives to receive them. I imagine a reader saying, "My bees are already dead, and your advice comes too late." No, not too late for another season, and let no young bee-keeper who has lost his bees get discouraged. The experienced bee-keepers who are readers of

this JOURNAL (and I hope they all are) will please bear in mind that I am not writing here for them—they do not need such. We are expected to, and we must, give the A B C of bee-culture to the hundreds of readers of our JOURNAL who are not experienced, and who are eagerly anxious to learn. In our discussions of "hibernation," the "pollen theory," dry fæces," etc., let us not get above the rudiments of our science and forget the beginners. I sometimes think there is rather too much abstract and metaphysical lucubration in our bee-literature, and too little of the elementary and practical. For myself I always endeavor to get something practically useful in every article. *Verbum sap.* One criticism further in this connection which, however, strikes home to myself equally with the other brethren of the quill, who are generously lending their valuable assistance and striving to make our new CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL an assured success, as it undoubtedly is. I refer to the anachronism so noticeable in the discussion of practical questions. Just when the winter is over we get the best advice how to winter successfully; just as the Spring is past we get homilies (witness my own letter) about how to get them through the Spring vicissitudes all right; and in the Fall the best way to get comb honey, to raise queens, to swarm, to divide *et hoc genus omne*, is put before us with an amplitude, and cogency that ought to carry conviction to every bee-keeper. Now this is all quite natural. There is no time a man feels more like telling what he has done and how he has done it than just after doing it successfully. He just feels the throb of altruism which ought to pulsate in all humanity and he wants to tell his brother straightway how to go and do likewise. And as he tells his story much better under such an inspiration than he would after the afflatus had departed it may perhaps be better after all to put up with the anachronism and get the cream of inspiration instead of the skim milk of re-action.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, June 6, 1885.

Yes, Friend Pringle, we noticed this year, as also in previous ones, that after the cold spell was over it appeared that the old bees had lived out their time and it was astonishing to watch the great mortality among them, many colonies losing nearly all their old working force in a few days, leaving nothing in the hive but young bees that had been hatched but a short time. Your warning against spreading the brood too

much in early Spring is well timed, as it is a great fault with many bee-keepers. The plan of shaking young bees in front of weak colonies, to build them up, has many advantages, in fact, any colony in a large apiary may be built up to swarming pitch in two hours, if young bees are plentiful in the yard, without danger of injury to the queens. Your system of introducing queens by placing a large quantity of hatching brood in the hive with the queen, then shaking young bees in front allowing them to enter, could not fail to be successful if properly done, and at a season of the year when no honey was coming in just at the time. It is wonderful how a few young bees stimulate a weak colony at that time.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

MY REPORT FOR WINTER OF 1884-85.

MY experience during the winter just past has as fully proved the incorrectness of the "Pollen Theory," as it is possible so to do with one Winter's experiments. I am well aware that some will claim that my experience is of little, if any, value; first, because I am not a specialist, and second, because I keep but few bees. I cannot myself see how either reason militates against either the correctness of my views or the value of my experiments. I will, however, give my experience and leave my readers to draw their inferences, as to what is or is not proven. Last fall I prepared ten colonies for winter, and in so preparing them, I took pains not only to leave them as I supposed plenty of sealed honey for stores, but also took especial pains to leave a large quantity of pollen in each and every hive, I had no faith in the "Pollen Theory," and having the courage of my convictions, had no fears as to results. I wintered in single-walled Langstroth hives on Summer stands, with no protection save a blanket over the frames, and an upper story filled with forest leaves. The winter, as we all know, was a hard one for bees. I was unfortunately taken sick the latter part of February, and was unable to get out into my bee-yard for eleven weeks. On examination then, I found two colonies starved, although they had at least twenty-five pounds of honey when packed for winter; every drop of this honey however had been eaten, and had I been able to feed in March, these colonies would

no doubt have been safe. The remaining eight came through all right, and were in as good condition as any bees I ever saw; some of them having used but eight or ten pounds of honey during the winter. It puzzles me to know why one colony will use up so large an amount of stores in a given season, while another, existing under apparently the same conditions, will use but a small quantity. Such, however, is the fact and I think it is one we can make a decided experiment with, by taking advantage of it and breeding from such colonies as use the minimum amount of stores. In the matter of Wintering, I have always packed my bees on Summer stands, and during the nineteen years I have kept bees, have never lost a colony from bee-diarrhoea or Spring dwindling, although I have always left natural stores in the hives, and never taken any pains to remove any pollen. My idea in regard to *proving* any theory is, that the evidence should show that under no conceivable hypothesis, could any other state of things occur, save those set out in the theory, and this I think all will concede is the correct idea. Now how does this apply to the "Pollen Theory?" Its author admits that if the conditions are right bees will winter well with pollen in the hives. I so believe, and I believe too that for my own locality I know how to make the conditions right, and I do it too. My bees live with pollen, and large quantities of it too, in the hives; others die with absolutely none in them. From these facts, and from an experience of nineteen years, during which time I have wintered from five to fifty colonies each winter, and have also kept my apiary almost wholly for experimental purposes, I can draw but one inference, viz; that we must look to something else beside pollen (a natural food of the honey-bee) for the cause of either bee-diarrhoea or spring-dwindling, or in fact of disease and consequent death in any case. If others differ from me, all right. I have no quarrel with them. I can speak only for myself, and when I say the "Pollen Theory" is not correct, or scientific either, Prof. Cook to the contrary notwithstanding, I say so simply because I have tested the matter and found such to be the case. I trust the time may come, and speedily too, when all the bee-keepers will learn how to keep their bees, and that experiments will be kept up in the matter of wintering till such a happy time shall arrive.

J. E. POND, JR.

Foxboro, Mass., June 6th, 1885.

Friend Pond, we agree with you that your experience is of value, when you have had so many years of experiment-

ing and experience. Some who only keep a few bees watch them more closely than those who have many. While Prof. Cook does not keep as many colonies as some of us, yet we consider his experiments of more value than are those of many who keep more. We think Prof. Cook agrees with us, that bees may, and do, winter well with pollen in the hive, other conditions being right. We think it is a disputed question who the father of the "Pollen Theory" really is. Some have adopted it of late, and given it considerable prominence, but if we are correct, the child was born years ago, and very little notice was taken of it for some time.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

BEE NOTES FROM OUR APIARY.

NO. I.—OUR LOCATION.

OUR Apiary is located five miles from the great cataract, Niagara Falls, and its roar is plainly heard at our door.

WINTER REPORT.

I for one like to know how others' bees have wintered, and am not ashamed of my report, although it is not very encouraging, as I never lost any in wintering before. Last fall I packed on their Summer stands forty-five colonies, some in chaff and some in sawdust. No more sawdust for me. All were alive the first of March, when they began dying and to-day I have fifteen left. Experience is the best teacher but the tuition is terribly high. Well, the last three days in July I took out all my honey and left them, and sometime in August they began gathering honey dew. I left it there to my sorrow. The consequence is as I have said. A few colonies came through in excellent shape, but I don't know why. It was the coldest winter ever known here, fifteen degrees below zero. The winter of 1882-83, and 83-84 registering eight below. The reason I left the honey dew was because I never saw a winter in this region that the bees could not get a fly in February or almost every month in the winter, but nearly all this winter it was zero, zero, zero. I thought it would never 'let up.' This has been a very cold and wet spring.

THOSE FIFTEEN.

I shall endeavor to take all the honey I can from them. I should not advise any beekeeper to work for increase and not honey. I have

nearly 500 empty combs on hand, and will continue to sulphur them weekly until all are in use. I can sulphur them in thirty minutes. Don't melt up combs, you will be sorry if you do.

WILL ELLIS.

St. David's, Ont., June 10th, 1885.

P. S.—Saw the first white clover last Saturday. Splendid prospects.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

ON BEES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT.

THIS is a subject that occupies the minds of more persons to day than at any other period for the last hundred years. Many of those who have never kept bees, as well as many hundreds who now make it their special calling and life occupation are now deeply interested. It has been long since demonstrated beyond a doubt that bees will pay a large increase on capital properly invested, if managed rightly afterwards. This is the whole secret on which successful beekeeping is hinged; and it should be understood by many who make loud professions of knowing it all. If we could credit half of what we hear some people say we could not but think the science of apiculture had really been exhausted by the all-wise and would-be beekeeper. But here let me say as one who has watched with much interest for many years the wonderful workings of this most industrious insect, that no man ever lived long enough to learn all there is in this beautiful science of apiculture. I am well aware that failure need not overtake the judicious and careful beekeeper. It is at all times proper and right that the bees should receive at least their proper share of attention from the manager of the apiary, especially during the working season from the 20th of April, or when pollen is gathered from the willow and soft maple, until late honey harvest, which sometimes continues to the first week of September. Now we have come to a period of time that will demand at the hands of the bee-master some of his best efforts and judgment for successful wintering of his bees. In the first part of the season which we call Spring, do not set your bees out on their stands too early, not before the willow or soft maple is in blossom, for before this period there is great risk of spring dwindling. When bees are set out, clean all the dead bees from the combs; also dirt and mould if any, so that the bees will not be under a laborious work of cleaning. First of all see that your bees have enough to live on, if not feed granulated sugar, viz., three pounds to a pint of water, well dissolved, put in a feeder. Be sure and not have them fed on candied honey, for it will give

them dysentery. Next you should be well provided with at least a superabundance of well made and finished hives, all of which should be of the same size and shape, well painted and ready for use. Then comes the question of swarming which means increase of stocks. Proper management of the same can only be achieved by means of a good movable frame hive. There is a class of people who think a box of any kind will do so long as the bees are procured in it. To such I would say you are wasting time and money in not getting a good marketable quality of honey. Some may say anything will do so long as we get the honey to sell, as we always have done in the past by using the old box hives. Let me say that I have had my bees make honey the past season in my hives with section boxes and sold it for 18c., 20c., and 25c. per lb. There is another class of persons who are too miserable to have a good article as the price is too great to suit them; they are always looking for a half price article and they are always behind, bees die, loss of labor and time, careless and indifferent like a man always on a mortgaged farm.

F. W. FULFORD.

Brockville, June, 1885.

We are now making a comb honey hive which will be described later on, and which, we believe, combines all the valuable principles in connection with the production of comb honey, and perhaps some others that have not yet been brought out; it is wonderfully simple in construction, and will be produced at such low prices that every person can use them, or make them for themselves if they choose to do so. There are some features about it that will entirely get over many of the difficulties that have been encountered in connection with the production of comb honey in the past; it will answer equally well for extracting purposes. A prominent beekeeper who has examined it pronounces it a marvel of perfection.

SWARMING, PERFORATED ZINC., ETC.

I COMMENCED last spring with eight colonies most of which were very weak and as they had no pollen in the hive they did not commence breeding until I fed them meal, which was late in April. The Spring was so cold and wet they gathered very little pollen before

the middle of May, and as the season was very wet I only increased to thirteen and took 360 lbs. of extracted honey. I bought one colony in the Fall, so I put fourteen into Winter quarters, six in your d. w. hives, six in boxes packed with chaff and two in cellar. One colony in d. w. hive starved (during cold snap in March when thermometer fell to 20° below zero) with honey in combs on which they were not clustered, also one packed in chaff starved, I think owing to being robbed late in the Fall, but as the weather was warm and unsettled until very late, all colonies consumed an extra amount of food. The two colonies in the cellar have not been disturbed and appear to be in good condition, the other ten are in good condition and are breeding quite fast. In some colonies bees were hatching on April 8th. How can I manage to let my bees swarm the second time without keeping them queenless between first and second swarms? Will you have any home-bred Carniolan queens for sale, if so, at what price? Will cheaper grade of sugar do as well as the granulated for spring feeding? What better are the perforated zinc queen cages than wire cloth ones?

M. J. LEWIS.

Central Onslow, Colchester Co., N.S.

If you want the bees to swarm a second time, you had better let them swarm as the queen hatches, that is the first queen that hatches will lead off the swarm, and very soon the second one will issue, after which if you wish to prevent further increase you had better remove all the queen cells but one, leaving the best. We shall have home-bred Carniolan queens for sale, also some mated on our isolated islands in the Georgian Bay after a little time, will give price in JOURNAL (if we don't forget) when ready to fill orders. Any kind of sugar syrup that the bees will eat will answer, but after trying all of them at present prices we have found the best granulated sugar to be the cheapest to feed as it makes more syrup in proportion to the weight. The difference between wire and perforated metal queen cages is that the wire is not nearly so stiff and cannot be pressed in the combs quite so satisfactorily. There might, however, be some special lot of wire found that would answer as well, but we have not yet found it.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

TIN SECTION STRIPS.

BEING the subject open for suggestions I will venture to give my plan for fastening those tin \perp section rests to the case viz:

1st. Make the \perp tins one inch longer than the outside measure of the case, then take your strips and clip one half inch off from the flange on both sides the rib or centre part at each end, clip the top edge of the rib just enough to cut it so that one half inch of the ends can be parted.

2nd. Make saw cuts with a thin fine saw, one half inch deep (or as deep as the upright rib in the center of the \perp) in the lower edge of the case, just where you wish to fasten the \perp tins, place the rib (or upright part) of the \perp tins into those saw cuts so that each end will project beyond the side of case one half inch, press them in firmly so that the flanges which are for the sections to rest upon will fit tightly to the bottom edge of the case, then part the ends of the tin which project beyond the case, bend off right and left, nail them firmly to the ends of the case, and the job is done, in a neat and substantial manner.

The tins could be so cut before they are folded that they would need no clipping afterwards. This plan is original with me and there is no patent, nor any application for a patent about it. All are welcome to adopt and use it if it suits them.

JOSHUA BULL.

Kymane, Wis., April 27th. 1885.

Many thanks, Friend Bull, for your original idea, we think when the section rests or tin rests are not required to be moved the plan would work admirably. There are many plans and inventions coming in now in connection with the use of sections in frames and cases, and there seem to be about as many different ideas about them, as there are about the reversible frames; no doubt something will crop out that will have valuable uses.

—————
 We can supply all the back numbers of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL at the present time, and we shall be pleased to send new subscribers all the back numbers if they so desire.

—————
 These are the days when the little busy bee is heard to sing—"Be it ever so bumble, there's no place like comb."

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear each week, Queries and Replies; the former may be propounded by any subscriber, and will be replied to by prominent bee-keepers, throughout Canada and the United States who can answer from experience, as well as by the Editor. This Department will be reserved for the more important questions, others will be answered in another place. We hope to make this one of the most interesting departments of the JOURNAL.

WHAT IS IT ?

QUERY No. 19.—DUARTE, LOS ANGELES, CAL.—Will you please be kind enough to explain the following: I was about a quarter of a mile from the apiary, and hearing a buzzing sound, I looked up and saw a cluster of bees in a funnel-shape, about five feet long and three feet wide at the rear. It was about two p. m. They were about 75 feet in the air, travelling towards the apiary point first. By the sound I took them for drones. What say you?

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—Probably two or three fugitive swarms making their way to your apiary.

O. O. POPPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN, IOWA.—I can give no explanation.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—Have nothing to say.

S. T. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—I never saw anything like it and therefore do not know.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—From the description I should think it was one of those "large swarms" that I have heard some of our Michigan bee-keepers tell about, but I have never seen them, so I would not like to venture an opinion unless I knew what became of them.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—I give it up.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—If this were not from a bee-keeper I should call it a fish story, but now it must be a bee story.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I am not good at conundrums, but from what I have read I should guess drones.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—I guess it was a swarm flying over. I have seen them cluster quite close.

S. T. PETTIT, BELMONT, ONT.—It was a small swarm. I think the shape not quite so well defined as stated.

By THE EDITOR.—If there is no mistake about the shape and size, is it possible that it may have been drones in pursuit of a queen?

FROM THE WESTERN FARMER.

THE S. W. ASSOCIATION.

THE Southern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association met at the Court House in Janesville, May 12, 1885.

Although it was a very busy season of the year for farmers there was a large attendance, and the heavy winter loss did not appear to cool their ardor in the least. The meeting was called to order by the president; minutes of the previous session read, and other business attended to. The statistics of the season of 1884, which were incomplete, only 16 members reporting, was then read by the secretary, to-wit:

The Fall of 1883, put into winter quarters, 415 colonies; took out 406 colonies; Winter loss, 9 colonies; Spring loss, 9 colonies; sold 31 colonies; bought, 40 colonies. Commenced the season with 400 colonies: increase, 167 colonies. Comb honey presented, 16,516 pounds; extracted, 4,562 pounds; wax 72 pounds.

The wintering problem and minor topics werethen discussed with animation, and many good things said which the secretary failed to note. All present gave their practice, experience and opinion which was interesting and instructive; those that removed the late unripe fall and aphidise honey had good success, but the loss is very large and according to the notes taken will reach fully 65 per cent. Indoor wintering gave the best results. Sample copies of the *American Bee Journal* and the *Bee Keepers' Guide* were distributed and some very fine samples of foundation were shown by M. Rosco Gammon, of Rockton, Illinois. Two members were received, D. A. Stark, of Utica, and Mrs. C. J. Blakely, of Janesville. It was moved and carried that our next meeting be held at the same place on the last Thursday in August, at 10 o'clock a. m.

C. O. SHANNON, PRESIDENT.

JOHN C. LYNCH, SECRETARY.

ELGIN BEE-KEEPERS.

THE Elgin Bee-Keepers' Association met in the Hutchinson House, at 1 o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

The attendance was very large, much greater than at any previous session. The president, S. T. Pettitt,

of Belmont, occupied the chair, while ranged about the room could be seen most of the old veterans in apicultural science, besides many new aspirants for knowledge of this interesting pursuit. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A number of new members joined the Association, but some of the more enthusiastic members of last year were conspicuous by their absence, having, no doubt, been frightened out by the heavy losses of last winter.

Mr. Chute, Port Burwell, put up twenty-four strong colonies last fall in a lath and plastered room, which he found all right in February, but March proved so much too much for them that he had but one single swarm alive in the Spring. Mr. Pettitt suggested that this loss arose from want of ventilation, and that he would advise a ventilating shaft to be placed in the room to be continued ten or twelve rods underground to warm the air before coming into the room.

Wm. Hill, Yermouth, lost eighty-nine colonies out of ninety-five, with which he started the winter. His hives were all heavy in the fall, but on examination he had found that they were not heavy with honey, but chiefly with this, so called, honey-dew. His loss was likely due in some measure to this bad food, and to extracting too much good honey, from the brood chambers early in the season. Mr. Hill is, however, not disheartened, and has re-stocked his apiary with twenty colonies, purchased in old box hives, which he has transferred to his own hives.

One member suggested, that where bees are removed to cellars or other enclosures in the fall, that this removal should be effected early in the fall, before stores become frozen. Another member from Port Burwell, although a young hand at bee-keeping, has succeeded in keeping five out of eight hives, in double-walled Jones hives. He forced his bees on to as few frames as possible, then filled the rest of the hives with a chaff cushion, and placed another on the top. His loss was entirely attributable to accidentally allowing a draft of air through three of his hives. Another has saved fourteen out of sixteen colonies, Jones hives, single, by packing them with about five inches

of straw, and clamping this on. He has also crowded his bees together, filling the rest of the hives with chaff or sawdust, with cushion on top. He did not detect any difference of packing quality between chaff and sawdust. He had not extracted any honey, and had taken away but very little honey, and that in section boxes. His bees had filled up their cells with honey dew late in the fall.

The President said that this member's experience was just what he had always observed under similar circumstances. If bees are left alone and not worked for honey, there was generally little trouble in increasing the stocks or in safely wintering them. But to work them for honey a person must manage the affairs of his apiary in another and different way—and what was for the best in that way was not easy to say.

Mr. Yoder had thirty-one swarms left out of ninety, with which he had started the winter.

On the subject of introducing queens, one member said that his plan was to remove the queen to be destroyed twenty-four hours before introducing the new queen. He then fastened the queen on a piece of comb and placed her between the frames. The bees soon got acquainted with her and liberated her.

Mr. Pettitt said he would divide up strong colonies and give a new queen to one of the parts. This prevents swarming. If one is introducing new queens, not to increase, but rather to improve his stock, he should remove his poorest queen and supersede her with a new and better one. He introduces a queen by placing her on a card of brood taken from another hive, and places her in a different hive, which he places in the place of the hive to be supplied with a queen. He then smokes the bees, and drums them out. Old combs, although very mouldy, may be introduced gradually to strong colonies; but one should cleanse the cards as thoroughly as possible before giving them to the bees and especially should all pollen be removed. When a queen breeds drones to any very great extent, it is a sign that the queen is too old, and she should be removed. It was generally admitted that black bees made a nicer style of comb honey than any other bees. There is but little distinction between Holy

Land and Syrian bees—both are very gentle. Cyprians again, are very cross, when pure, but when crossed with Italians, they make the best bee we have. Black and Italian hybrids, however, are crosser than either of their progenitors. Mr. Pettit gave his mode of hiving new swarms of bees, which, he claimed, was very easy in working, and successful, but an account of the technicalities is beyond the powers of our reporter. Mr. Almon, of Bayham, used a hoop of wood from which is suspended a cotton sack. This he attaches to a pole, with which he can reach a swarm anywhere.

How shall bee-keeping be elevated to the honorable and proud position that other professions enjoy, and be made a source of wealth to the country?

Resolved as follows;—1st by teaching the people that those who have the necessary *natural* abilities and have devoted a great deal of study, a large amount of capital coupled with experience and an indomitable determination to succeed, generally do make a living at the profession, and that as in all other professions will secure a competency.

2nd. That it requires the same amount of knowledge to handle one colony of bees successfully that it does one hundred, and a very great deal more time and labor in proportion.

3rd. Except the specialist generally speaking the people can buy their honey much cheaper than they can raise it, and get it in nicer shape.

4th. By calling attention to the fact that except the specialist every 3rd or 4th year nearly every body loses their bees, and then the market is flooded with miserable dirty dead honey.

5th. That all indications point to the fact that when our own markets, Canadian are more than supplied we may expect a considerable reduction in the price of honey.

The members, generally, thought that this was the most successful meeting the association had ever held.

The meeting adjourned, to resume the second Saturday in October, in the same place.

JOHN YODER,
Sec-Tres.

BEE-LORE.

The total product of honey for the United States for 1884, at about 70,000,000 lbs., the State of California furnishing about $\frac{1}{3}$ of this amount. Truly California is a land "flowing with milk and honey."

D. P. Campbell, Parkhill, writes us that the weather in that section is cold and wet. They had a hail storm on Sunday of last week, which broke about one quarter of the glass in the village, his with the rest.

Frank Benton's last issue of *Bees* is mailed at Beyrout, Syria, and in it he says, "In a few more days I shall start for Munich, going via Cyprus, Rhodes, Said, Smyrna, Athens," and other points.

We have to thank Mr. W. A. Pyral, of the *Pacific Rural Press*, published at San Francisco, Cal., for a copy of that excellent magazine. The copy before us is called "The Apiary Edition," and contains a large quota of bee matter.

We notice that portions of Friend Pringle's article "Apiculture," which appeared in the *Popular Science Monthly* a short time ago, and later in the C. B. J., are being copied extensively in the press of the country—truly it was an article of much value.

Mr. A. W. Humphries, the gentlemanly Secretary of the Middlesex Beekeepers' Association, has had a narrow escape from being burned out at a late fire in the town of Parkhill, where he does business in the stove and tinware line. Fortunately his damage was confined to that done by water to the stock.

We have to thank some kind friend for sending us the report of the South Wisconsin Beekeepers' Convention which appears in this JOURNAL. The paper came to us with the Convention report marked, but with no name of sender thereon. We always like to know whom to thank for these kindnesses.

Speaking of Cyprian Bees, riend Benton remarks: 'The claim that Cyprian bees are possessed of such stinging propensities as to make them nearly unmanageable, I have not found well-based; indeed, in common with many others who have carefully tested them, I prefer to manipulate Cyprians rather than Italians, and find that, while getting no more stings from them, I can get on much faster with the work.'

A correspondent to the *Napanee Beaver* writes of Mr. Allen Pringle's apiary as follows:

"I took occasion to visit the apiary of Allen Pringle, Esq., who has proved himself to be one of the most enterprising of Canadian bee-keepers. He has a thorough knowledge of the subject, not only theoretically, but practically, his success being the best proof of this. I was deeply interested in his explanations, and his accounts of the several varieties and their traits. He has four kinds of bees, and I should say over 100 colonies, besides a large number belonging to Mr. Walter Membery."

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

BUILDING QUEENS.

ANDREW GRAHAM, DALRYMPLE.—If a colony of bees lose their queen in the winter, and you place eggs with them is there any hope of their building a queen?

It frequently happens that the queen dies in winter and the bees hatch another in her place, but she is useless without fertilization. She is a drone layer, and before drones could be hatched in the Spring she would be too old to become fertilized, and, of course, useless.

STRAIGHT COMBS.

C. OSWALD, ZURICH.—I would like to know how to get the bees to build straight combs?

There are various ways to do it, but there is one principle that must always be observed, and that is to crowd the bees sufficiently to enable them to cover the entire frames, or the top of the hive where they commence to build their combs. For instance, suppose a quart of bees would cover two frames, and build them down perfectly full of worker comb from top to bottom, if given four or five frames they would build the combs crooked. A colony that would cover four or five frames more or less, so they would have, say three frames more than they should, the outside comb would be bulged on the last rack they occupied and where they commenced building on the next one, it would be attached to the rack on the opposite side in all probability. If eight quarts of bees can occupy eight frames

and build combs straight, four quarts only occupy half as many frames if straight combs are to be secured. If you have very small swarms just give them room in proportion to their size, and straight combs will be the result every time. Better crowd them a little than give them too much room. It will doubly pay you to use starters of foundation in your frames, which will ensure straight combs with little or no effort on your part.

CLAMP WINTERING.

H. F. HUNT, VILLA MASTIA, P. Q.—I have just received No. 6, and have read with much interest the clear description of the clamp in which Mr. Jones' bees were wintered, but there is one thing I would like to know, when were the bees put in the clamp? Did they fly afterward, if so how did they mark their location? I suppose they wintered on sugar-syrup.

We do not recollect the exact date on which the bees were put in clamp, they flew frequently after they were placed there, but the appearance of the long clamp six feet high in front, so changed the aspect of the yard where they sat that they all seemed to accept the situation, and none of them returned to their original stands. It was cool weather when they were placed in the clamp. If they are packed during a cold spell when they are not flying, no difficulty will arise from their returning to their old stand, the long entrance and strange surroundings seem to blot out the memory of their former quarters.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

C. FRENCH, OSHAWA, ONT.—A great many bee-keepers in this section have lost all their bees. I have been trying to get them to take your journal and start up again. You may look for one or two more orders before long. My bees came through the hard winter very well. I have sixty-one out of sixty-seven put up last fall, and they are all good. I winter on summer stands. I like it much better than any way I have tried so far. I find there is a good deal in the way they are put in for winter. I find some lost their stocks from a large supply of buckwheat honey.

which they stored in the cold wet weather of July and August last year, and of course it was very thin. I look my bees over in the Fall, see they have enough stores and bees; if not I feed and supply enough bees to make them strong and able to keep warm. Although some of those I lost starved to death, they would not leave their brood to go for honey it being so cold, and with over twenty pounds of honey in the hive too. That is one reason I do not like your cross frames. Give me the "Langstroth" long frames where they have the whole length of hive to move in without going over the frames. I have tried several kinds of hives but prefer the "Langstroth," which I have modelled to suit myself.

Friend French your objection to our frames is just the same as we had to the "Langstroth" and many others. Instead of having the honey over the bees—as it is in ours—it is scattered lengthwise; the bees would cluster in the centre eating the honey out up to the top bar, instead of which it had better be consumed up toward top bar, thus dividing their stores in the centre, then moving either forward or back from the rest. If the stores which they got are all eaten rather than cross back over the cold combs to the opposite end they would starve; but if the necessary provisions are made to crowd up the bees sufficiently to cover all the frames, there will be no starving in either the "Langstroth" or the Jones' frame.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

D. A. JONES.

F. H. MACPHERSON

D. A. JONES & CO.,

EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

BEETON, ONTARIO.

WEEKLY, \$1.00 per Year, Postpaid.

BEETON, ONTARIO, JUNE 24TH, 1885.

DISCOUNT.

We are still giving a discount off all supplies, except foundation, of five per cent. for cash with order. Foundations are "nett" at prices quoted in each issue. We can still offer a few colonies of bees for sale.

NUMBER FIVE.

The first edition of this issue of the JOURNAL is completely exhausted but we shall reprint it

during the coming week, when we shall supply all those of our friends who have hitherto not had it. We are keeping the names of those subscribers to whom we were unable to send it and shall forward it to them immediately it is issued

HONEY KNIVES.

A few days ago we were advised of a large shipment of (100 dozen) honey-knives being "in bond" for the coming season's trade, and we will not this year, we trust, be out of honey knives before the season is half over, as has been the case for two seasons past. We have a new style this year at \$1.25 so that we can now furnish knives at \$1.00, \$1.25, and \$1.50 as per advertisement in this issue.

FOUL BROOD, ITS MANAGEMENT AND CURE.

Some of our friends will have begun to think that this long promised pamphlet was never going to be finished, but when the work of the JOURNAL was commenced it had to be laid aside for a little time. It is now ready, and before this JOURNAL is printed, all orders now in will be filled. The price we have placed at ten cents—by mail 11 cents. We anticipate a large sale for this little pamphlet, which is not gotten up so much for what money will be made out of it, as the good it may be to those who cannot easily discern and cure foul brood.

NAMING INSECTS, BUGS, ETC.

Often times readers of the JOURNAL find in their apiaries insects or bugs, etc. which are strangers to them, and for which they would like to have the names. We are pleased to say that Mr. Wm. Brodie, President of the Natural History Society, of Toronto, has kindly consented to undertake this department of the JOURNAL, and in the pointed language of that gentleman we have to say to our readers, "send on your bugs." They may be sent by mail by "sample post," in queen cages, pasteboard boxes, or in any other way that insures safe carriage.

THE NAMING OF HONEY PLANTS, ETC.

What we have said of insects, bugs, etc., is applicable to honey plants, and, if anything, it is perhaps even more important that every bee-keeper should know the names, variety and peculiarities of flowers and honey bearing plants in his neighborhood. To this end, Mr. C. Macpherson, Principal of the Prescott Academy, Prescott, and a thorough botanist, has undertaken the work of correctly naming all plants which we may send to him for that purpose, which together with the variety, etc., will be published in the JOURNAL. We have asked friend M., to write us a short article on "how specimens should be sent by mail to insure their safe arrival."

W. E. CLARK, SUCCESSOR TO L. C. ROOT.

Dealer in all kinds of **Apiarian Supplies**, the Quinby Smoker—the best made—a specialty. The Quinby Hives made and sold finished and in the flat. Also all other kinds of hives. The Vandervort Foundation kept in stock, both wired and light. Send for illustrated price list, free.

2-3m.

Garwood's Reversible Frame Device

Will fit any frame, is simple and cheap; any one can make it. No nails or screws required to fasten it to the frame. Send ten cents for photograph with instructions, or 25 cents for a model. Friend Root turned this down as "too much machinery; but quite ingenious." You will smile.

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High side-walls, 4 to 14 square feet to the pound. Wholesale and retail. Circular and samples free.

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is attested by hundreds of the most practical and disinterested bee-keepers to be the cleanest, brightest, quickest accepted by bees, least apt to sag, most regular in color, evenness and neatness, of any that is made. It is kept for sale by Messrs.

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TO ALL that are interested in Bees and Honey, send for our Free and Illustrated Catalogue of Apiarian Supplies. Address

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IF YOU WISH TO TRY

The **Heddon Section Case** adapted to the Simplicity hive, don't fail to send for my circular, as it will tell you how to get Samples of them free.

D. S. HALL, South Cabot, Vt.

The BEE-KEEPERS' HANDY BOOK

A work of over 300 pages and nearly 100 fine illustrations, written by a practical bee-keeper of twenty-seven years' experience. This work contains more real practical information about bees and their management than any work extant. Send for particulars. Price by mail, bound in cloth, \$1.50. Address,

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Is second to none in the market. **Square Gears, Honey Jars, Tin Buckets, Langstroth Bee Hives, one-piece Sections, etc., etc.** Circulars mailed on application. Send ten cents for "Practical Hints to Bee-Keepers." Address

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THE NEW ONE-PIECE SECTION.

Though these sections cost more to make than the old style, still we are supplying them at the same price. We keep in stock 3 1/2 x 4 1/2 (ours), and 4 1/2 x 4 1/2 (Langstroth), and can make any other sizes to order on short notice. Prices:

Per 1,000.....	\$ 6 00
" 5,000.....	27 50
" 10,000.....	50 00

Sample sections sent on application.

D. A. JONES,
Beeton, Ont

1-tf.

Bees & Queens.

At greatly reduced prices. After June 15th I will sell two frames of Nuclei, with two pounds of bees in each, no queen, for \$2.25. Tested queens, \$1.50 each. Warranted purely mated, \$1 each. Untested, 75 cents each; to Canada 10 cents more each queen, unless five or more are taken at one time.

I. R. GOOD,
Sparta, Tenn

ITALIAN QUEENS.

TESTED \$2.00 TO \$4.00.

UNTESTED \$1.00 TO \$2.00.

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Sheets 12 inch, wide cut to order.

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TINNED WIRE.

We have just bought a large lot of Tinned Wire, No. 30 which seems to be the number best suited for wiring frames and we are able to sell it very low:

Spools holding one pound.....	30c
" " one-half pound, each.....	18c
" " one ounce, each.....	07c
Reels, of from three to five pounds, per lb.	25c

The spooled wire is much more convenient than that in coils as there is no danger of tangling. These prices will supersede those in our price list.

D. A. JONES,
Beeton, Ont

IMPORTED QUEENS BY MAIL

—DIRECT—
FROM ASIA AND FROM EUROPE.

**Cyprians, Syrians, Carniolans, Italians
AND PALESTINES,**

ALL REARED IN THEIR NATIVE LANDS.

Imported Cyprians and Imported Syrians.

Grades and Prices of Queens:	before June 1	June	July Aug	After Sept. 1st.
Finest Selected Queens, each	\$12.00	10.00	9.00	\$8.00
Fine Prolific Queens, each...	10.00	9.00	8.00	7.00
Smaller & darker Queens each	8.00	6.00	5.00	4.00

Owning an apiary in Cyprus and another in Syria, I have facilities equalled by no other person for obtaining choice queens of these races. I shall visit these apiaries during the coming winter and return in early spring bringing with me a fine lot of queens. Those who desire Imported Cyprians, or Imported Syrians VERY EARLY can have them **mailed direct from Cyprus or from Syria** to their addresses during March, and on all queens so sent I will assume three-fourths of the risks, that is, will replace at one-fourth the regular price any that die in transit, provided the purchaser receives mail from New York City within five days time.

Imported Carniolans and Imported Italians.

Grades and Prices of Queens:	before June 1	June	July Aug	After Sept. 1st.
Finest Selected Queens, each	\$7.00	\$6.00	5.00	\$4.50
Fine Prolific Queens, each...	6.00	5.00	4.50	4.00

I have several times visited both Carniola and Italy, inspecting at each visit a large number of apiaries, and also have, for several years, kept side by side imported stocks of both of these races, and I unhesitatingly give the preference to the Carniolans. They are the gentlest bees known, equal the Italians in honey-gathering qualities and in point of beauty, and far excel them in prolificness and hardihood.

Cyprians and Syrians Fertilized in Carniola.

Prices two thirds those of Imported Cyprians and Imported Syrians.

All these queens are selected daughters of fine imported stocks, are reared in full colonies, and are fertilized in Carniola itself, where of course ONLY Carniolan bees exist. From these crosses bee-keepers may expect the best results which can be obtained through crossing any two distinct races.

Imported Palestine Queens.

(SO-CALLED "HOLY LANDS.")

Prices three-fourths those of Imported Cyprians and Imported Syrians.

Though Palestine bees possess some valuable qualities common to Cyprians and Syrians, still, on account of their very bad temper and poor wintering qualities I cannot recommend them for general introduction. To fanciers, however, who desire them, I will say I can furnish as fine imported queens as are to be had in Palestine.

During five years experience in bee-culture in the Orient, three of which were passed there, I have neither seen any foul brood or sign of foul-brood, nor have I ever heard of its existence there. None exists in this portion of Germany, and having examined the apiaries from which my Carniolans and Italians come, I can also testify as to their healthful condition.

Queens sent Post-paid Arrival with Safety Guaranteed.

Any Six Queens 5 per cent. discount; Ten Queens, 10 per cent.; Twenty Queens, 12 per cent.; Forty Queens, 15 per cent.

Remittances by international postal-order, bank draft, or by Canadian or U. S. bills in registered letter. Drafts on banks outside of Munich, 25 cts., additional for collection.

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Ten Per Cent. Reduction.

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All orders until Further Notice. Goods better than ever.

The following are samples of many letters received:
Dear Sir,—Received sections (14,000) yesterday. They are all O.K. Finer even than last year.
May 2nd, 1885. J. Mutton, Atwater, O.

Dear Sir—Of those 61 Falcon Chaff Hives I bought of you 58 had full colonies and nuclei, all have wintered finely; that speaks well for the hive and my mode of packing.
E. L. Westcott, Fair Haven, Vt.
April 5th, 1885.

I manufacture a full line of **Bee-Keepers' Supplies** Send for my illustrated price list for 1885, free.

W. T. Falcozer, Jamestown, N.Y.

BEESWAX WANTED.

Will pay 40 cents per pound for good pure wax. **COMB FOUNDATION** for sale to suit any frame or section. Wax worked on shares or for cash. All freight to Campbellville station C.P.R., if by mail to

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