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VOL. V, NO. 3

1889

APRIL 10

PUBLISHED EXCLUSIVELY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE HONEY PRODUCER

THE CANADIAN



JOURNAL

THE FIRST \$ WEEKLY IN THE WORLD

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We can supply Binders for the JOURNAL 55 cents each, post paid, with name printed on the back in Gold letters.

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TO CONTRIBUTORS

Communications on any subject of interest to the Bee-keeping fraternity are always welcome, and are solicited.

Beginners will find our Query Department of much value. All questions will be answered by thorough practical men. Questions solicited.

When sending in anything intended for the JOURNAL do not mix it up with a business communication. Use different sheets of paper. Both may, however be enclosed in the same envelope.

Reports from subscribers are always welcome. They assist greatly in making the JOURNAL interesting. If any particular system of management has contributed to your success, and you are willing that your neighbors should know it, tell them through the medium of the JOURNAL.

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Is all it will cost you to get three copies of the *BEE-KEEPERS' REVIEW*. Of the year 1888 we have several hundred volumes, and so long as the supply holds out, we will send free to each applicant THREE copies selected from these back numbers. This is done to allow bee-keepers to become acquainted with the *REVIEW*, with the hope that the acquaintance may prove of mutual benefit. Price of the *Review* 50 cts a year.

The Production Of Comb Honey!

Is a neat little book of 45 pages. Price 25 cents. This and the *REVIEW* one year for 65 cents. The book and the *REVIEW* two years for \$1. Stamps taken, either U. S. and Canadian.

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Single and double-walled Hives, Frames, sections, etc., at lowest prices. Quality and workmanship of the best. Send for price list to

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THE QUEEN BREEDERS' JOURNAL

E. L. PRATT, Pub., Marlboro, Mass.

A 16 page Monthly devoted to Queen Breeders and Queen Rearing. Price 50 cents a year. Send your name on postal and receive a sample copy of this bright new journal. Address, The Q. B. Journal, 175 Main St., Marlboro, Mass

FLORIDA!

Land for Sale in the County of De Soto, Lat. 26° 40'.

Twenty acres of good dry pine land on the Myakka River with over 500 feet of water front, 12 miles from the terminus of the Florida Southern Railway at Punta Gorda, with deep water all the way. Was selected for an apiary, for which it is very suitable, being within easy reach of black mangrove, cabbage and saw palmettoes, and punnyroyal, the great honey plants of Florida. It is also suitable for growing lemons, guavas, pine apples, and all kinds of vegetables. The Myakka is a tidal river running into Charlotte Harbor, and steamers drawing eight feet of water can go right up to the property. At Southland, 1 1/2 miles down stream, a large landing establishment is just about starting.

Price for the whole \$1250 per acre, or in 5 and 10 acre lots, \$15 per acre, cash.

ALSO

Forty acres of first-class high pine land on Shell Creek, water front; 4 miles from Shell Creek station, 10 miles from Clevealand, and 9 miles from Punta Gorda, all on the Florida Southern Railway, and with water carriage for sail boat to all these places. This land is 15 feet above the creek, rich in phosphate, and will grow oranges and all kinds of citrus fruits without fertilizing. Price per acre for 10 acres and upwards, \$10 cash—a great bargain.

The climate is splendid; heat rarely extends 90° in the summer and very mild in winter, and is exceedingly healthy—no malaria or yellow fever.

Apply to T. B. HECTOR,

Punta Gorda, De Soto County, Florida a



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VOL. V. No. 3

BEETON, ONT., APRIL 10, 1889.

WHOLE No. 211

EDITORIAL

Preparations are already being made for the meeting of the International Association which will be held at Brantford during the coming fall, the date of which has not yet been positively announced. We believe that we can safely assert that this meeting will be more largely attended than any of the late association meetings, and we can promise our American friends a right hearty welcome; such a one as they received on their visit on the occasion of the last Annual Meeting held in Toronto in 1883 at which time the editor of this journal had the honor of being president.

Reports generally warrant us in saying that the bees are coming through the winter in very good condition. We are writing to a large number of beekeepers in different parts of Canada, asking them to make out reports as near as they can of the way in which bees have wintered in their immediate vicinities, and what the prospects seem to be for the coming season, and we will be able to give a full report very shortly.

NOTICE TO AFFILIATING SOCIETIES.

At the last annual meeting of the O.B.K.A., the time at which county or local associations must apply to the parent Association for affiliation, was changed from Nov. 1st to

May 1st of each year. The difficulty that arose last year was that many of the local associations did not decide on affiliation until so late that they were not able to dispose of the grant which was received from the O.B.K.A. and in some instances we believe special meetings had to be held in order to dispose of the grant, while in others the money was not spent at all; and yet remains on hand. The majority of the local associations hold spring meetings, and they can decide on affiliation at these meetings, and also on the manner in which the grant is to be applied, in lots of time so that when it is disposed of by way of the prizes at the local fairs, ample provision may be made before the publication of the usual prize list. We hope that a larger number of local associations will become affiliated this year than last, as the benefits to be derived are quite material. Already quite a number, we believe, have signified their intention of so doing. It might be well to mention that a fresh application must be made every year so that none of the societies that affiliated last year will neglect to make application in time. The printing committee were authorized to procure affiliation certificates which will be filled up by the secretary and forwarded immediately after the 1st May. These are now being prepared.

No matter what kind of printing you want, it can be done at this office. Visiting cards, bill heads, envelopes, pamphlets, note-heads, anything. Write for figures.

OUR OWN APIARY.

We went into the bee-house to-day (April 8th), hefted the hives, and picked out all that seemed light. We found a number that seemed lighter than they should be, evidently having consumed most of their winter stores.

Leaving the heavy ones in the bee-house, we carried out the light ones and placed them on their summer stands, and none too soon, as we found five had starved to death and as many more would have lived but a few days, as three of them had no honey and several others only had enough to feed them for a day.

Having put some combs away for reservation last fall, we took out some part of the empty combs and replaced them with those filled with sealed honey.

In this way we soon had the starving colonies quite lively, as they seemed to relish their food. One colony was already too weak to fly until they had partaken of the food.

We now are sorry that we did not examine them sooner, as from appearances we might have saved all if they had been looked after in time.

In passing by the hives after the bees had commenced to fly, we noticed drones flying out with the workers from one of the colonies. We called the attention of the foreman to it and said we were sure it was too early for drones in that hive, as it was a weak one; that if he opened and examined it he would find a drone-laying queen. We examined it and found the queen had been superseded. A young queen was occupying the combs and depositing only drone eggs, of course, as she had hatched after being placed in winter quarters.

We will double this colony up with some other weak one when we set our bees out, and destroy the queen, unless some of the boys wish to experiment with her, as we have frequently done.

It is very pleasant to think that we have just saved a colony from starving, not only on account of their value, but when you see the poor little creatures barely able to flutter their wings or make their bodies tremble slightly, from starvation, and by setting in unsealed stores, in half an hour to see them

flying around as lively as ever makes one feel that they have been neglectful not only in not giving them sufficient stores but in looking after their wants earlier in the season. We hope everybody who has any colonies that are at all light in stores will be very attentive, for from appearances in this locality we do not imagine we will have any honey for some weeks to come.

The bees have now been flying nicely for about four or five hours, but it is beginning to cloud up, and we expect that they will all be in the hives soon again.

As soon as they get clustered, and before it gets too cool this evening, we will carry them back into their winter quarters and keep them there until another favorable time for setting them out permanently. This moving about will have the effect of starting them to breed, those that have not already commenced. Many of them, however, have sealed brood and brood in all stages. From appearances thus far we think they are going to come out of the bee-house very strong in number.

THE COMBINATION HIVE.

MESSRS. BLACK AND CARSWELL'S OBJECTIONS CONSIDERED.

THE objections brought forward were very largely dealt with during our experimenting in years past, and it seems that the only difficulty complained of is not having room for the bees to lay up sufficient stores for winter. We tested this matter for a number of seasons, in various sized hives and with various races or strains of races, and we were fully aware of that difficulty when we settled on the eight frame Combination hive. We had taken our twelve deep frame hive and closed the queen up on various numbers from three to eight frames by the use of the perforated metal division board, allowing them to store honey behind it for winter stores or extracting purposes, the queen occupying all the combs in front. We could reach better results with less than eight frames than with more by the tiering up system. It was not an uncommon thing to have the queen to occupy every one of the twelve frames, and we have also had them oc-

cupying the second story as well, when no queen-excluding honey-board was used. Seasons vary and have much to do with the laying power of the queen, according to the food supplied by the workers, and in some seasons whilst filling the eight combs with sufficient stores for winter, in others they would not do it in twelve. Then again we find that during the honey harvest if the bees are allowing too much space for brooding they will consume for that purpose too much of the honey that should form our surplus. We can secure a large surplus by not having too much brooding space after the flow commences, because all the bees that hatch out after the honey season is over become consumers rather than producers, and it is better to curtail the production of bees after the honey season to just the point which is necessary to counterbalance the mortality of the hive and allow them to go into winter quarters fairly strong. It is true it is frequently necessary to save a few combs of sealed stores to slip in the back part of the hive after the honey season is over, but we believe that if the queen was left to her own sweet will with plenty of room, she would not only carry on brooding so largely that these stores would all be consumed, but a much larger amount would be consumed during the autumn season, and additional stores required for winter, whilst the colony would, apparently, be in no better condition in spring. The foreman of one of our yards, after carefully noting the difference in colonies in the spring of the year for a number of seasons, says they build up more rapidly and swarm earlier in the Combination than in a larger hive. They are so compact that they utilise the heat in the hive to more advantage, and are consequently in better shape for the early honey flow.

Any one who has not sufficient honey or working for comb honey and has no spare combs of sealed stores, will increase their surplus and yet have sufficient stores for winter by slipping a perforated metal division board in front of three or four frames, thus narrowing down the brooding space in the latter part of the season, and allowing the combs back of this division board to be filled with sealed stores for winter. We

feel confident that our friends will be able to overcome any objections by a system of manipulation which will give them better results and entirely satisfy them on what now appears objectionable points. We shall always be glad to have the opinions of our friends on questions of vital importance.

With the lower story the size we send them out, the eight frames are spaced sufficiently close to force the bees at once up into the sections, and the bees will not occupy the sections so readily with nine frames.

Another point is we have always found better results in wintering on eight frames and less, than on more, and if we have more frames in the hive we should remove them so that the colony would occupy the combs in the hive, and the more compact the stores are the better. There are so many points to be considered that it is very difficult without giving the matter, not only years of consideration, but experiments in various seasons to determine just what will give us the best results.

Our best comb honey producers find small brood chambers increase their crop, and as it is dollars and cents we are after, or best results, we think time will likely prove that we are on the right track.

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

THE Illustrated Home Journal is a bright new monthly issued from the office of the American Bee Journal, Chicago, and edited by Mr. T. G. Newman. It contains interesting serial and short stories, is profusely illustrated with high class engravings; and is packed from cover to cover with most readable and instructive literature. It is printed on high grade paper in the best style of the art, and such a meritorious publication should find its way not only into every American home, but should circulate largely in the Dominion. Readers of the C.B.J. should send 15 cents for a sample copy, or \$1.50 for a year's subscription.

DETROIT. HONEY MARKET.

Prices a trifle lower. Best honey in one pound sections selling at 15 and 16 cts. Extracted 8 and 9 cts. Beeswax 22 and 23 cts. Bell Branch, near Detroit, March 22nd.

HONEY PRODUCERS' EXCHANGE.

THIS association was formed in Utica, at an annual meeting of the N. Y. State Bee-keepers' Association January 1888, and from Mr. W. E. Clark, Oriskany, N. Y. we received the following particulars:

The president is Mr. P. H. Elwood; vice-president, I. L. Scofield; secretary, G. H. Knickerbocker; treasurer, C. G. Dickinson.

Its object is to furnish to its members prompt and reliable information as to the honey crop throughout the United States. Six or more reporters are appointed in every honey producing state, who forward their reports to the Secretary on the first day of May, June, July, August and September. The Secretary compiles these reports from each state (separately), and on the 10th of the month forwards to each member of the "Exchange" the reports from the whole United States.

These statistics embrace the increased or diminished number of swarms going into winter quarters, loss in Winter and Spring, condition of bees at beginning of season, proportion of full of crop honey gathered both white and dark, comb and extracted, the quantity of honey in the different markets remaining unsold, with price, etc., etc.

The advantage of this information is too apparent to require any elaboration here. We would say that if you know the honey crop the market is yours, and you can secure prices in keeping with the amount of honey which you know is on the market. The "Exchange" has met with great favor among bee-keepers. Several members present at Syracuse (Dec. 11-13), and others from abroad, among whom are many of the largest honey producers in the United States, stated that the information furnished by the reports during the past season had been worth many dollars to them in the disposal of their honey, while other prominent bee-keepers pronounced it the best thing that ever came from an association of bee-men. Feeling assured that you will wish to reap your share of the benefits of these statistics, we extend a cordial invitation to you to join the "Exchange" by forwarding your membership fee to the Secretary, G. H. Knickerbocker, Pine Plains, N. Y., which will entitle you to the reports for one year, and also if you attend its meetings to all the advantages of membership in the N. Y. state Bee Keepers' Association, without further expense. The fee is one dollar per year, but it is hoped that enough bee-keepers will join so that the dollar will cover the cost of two year's

reports in which case you will receive the same for that length of time. Each member will also receive with the report sent out May 10th, a list giving the names and address of all the members and reporters. These statistics will not be furnished to the journals for publication but will be sent only to members. We could not meet our expenses were we to make public our reports.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

EARLY DRONES.

I PUT 185 colonies into the cellar about the 20th of last November, which seem to be in fine condition at present. I do not think I have one dead colony yet. I have put out 30 on the summer stands, and they have been bringing in pollen quite lively; I put out the first few colonies on March the 12th, and among them there was one very strong one, from which there were drones flying. Thinking it was queenless I opened it, and to my surprise, I found it contained a good queen, and enough brood in all stages to about fill one frame. When were the drones raised?

Bees that had lots of stores last fall seem to be wintering well in this locality, but there has been a terrible slaughter from starvation. I know of three different parties that lost about 50 colonies each, or in other words, all they had from starvation.

JACOB ALPAUGH.

St. Thomas, March 28th, '89.

From the American Rural Home.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

IN this, as in all other business, it is far easier to supply a demand than create one.

I have never seen a bee-hive yet that I could not find a good point about, nor one that I could not find a bad one also.

During the summer a queenless colony will hardly ever have any trouble in uniting with a colony that has been hived but a day or two; but if it tries to do so with a colony having plenty of stores during the busy season, they are shown no mercy, but are killed at once.

If increase is wanted, by driving swarms, it is better to leave the old colony, and remove the swarm. As it will be a small one, if done in this way, build it up with the brood from the parent colony, or what is better, from some other one, and make three from two.

When you have hard work to get the bees out of the sections, it is probable that the case has been left on too long, or at any rate, the bees were not doing much in the surplus department, and it was being used as a stow-away for young bees that had never been out of the hive, or at most, only a few feet from it.

Doolittle's method of removing the sections as soon as they are filled, although it may be more work, has the merits of obtaining more white honey, and always gives the bees plenty of business; also one never loses any young bees, as is frequently the case where the whole of the sections are removed at once.

As I had heard much guessing on the weight of a swarm of bees, and wishing to ascertain the facts, I weighed the hiving staff, and after getting a swarm clustered on it which was a medium-sized one, I found its weight to be 10½ pounds.

It is always best if you find that a colony has nearly finished a case of sections, and then have done but very little for two or three days, to remove it at once and give them a case of empty sections, as they might not finish it in several days. If a new one is given them, they usually go to work at once. The unfinished sections may be placed in the next case, or even given away, rather than let a colony lose so much time.

It is no use to disguise the fact that small sections sell the best. The two-pound sections mus. go. The small sizes will contain only about half a pound in a few years. The most of mine at present will average about ¾ of a pound, and it is very much less trouble to dispose of them. If I should make any new cases this season, they would be arranged for half-pound sections, perhaps two stories of sections in one case.

By planting the red raspberry, bee-keepers would have the best bee-pasturage known, and a crop of fruit also. Raspberry has never failed to furnish honey here. Last season we had an abundance of white clover, but not a drop of early honey from it. But for the raspberry, my crop would have been slim. Indeed, I count it the richest and best honey in the world, and red clover is second best.

With a natural swarm of bees it works well to remove the whole colony to a new stand and hive the new one on the old, as the parent colony usually contains much sealed brood that will hatch in a few days. But suppose a swarm is driven, and the old colony removed without making an examination. It might be that the colony contained but very little sealed brood,

and much in the larval stage. The consequence would be, that nearly all of the bees would return to the new swarm, not leaving enough for housekeeping, and the colony would be ruined, or at all events worthless for the season, unless built up from other colonies. It is an easy matter to see how this might happen through loss of a queen, and after the young one commenced laying there would be nothing but larvae and eggs in the hive.

Lookwook, N. Y.

H. ANDRE.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Wintering Outdoors.

IN THE COMBINATION HIVE.

YOU will remember I got three of your Combination hives last season as the description of them in the C.B.J. told me that they would suit me for I wanted to get a hive which was best adapted for comb honey. Previously I had been using the old "Thomas hive," but found it a complete failure. Then I tried the Jones hive. I found it very good for wintering, but better adapted for the English bee-keeper, as the honey season is longer there, and they are mostly wintered on summer stands. Now I believe the "Combination" is going to suit me. I got a first and a second swarm in them. I am trying to winter them on their summer stands, packed in boxes four inches larger each way, in chaff, with a quilt and six inches of chaff on top. The bottom entrance is stopped, and one made on top through the chaff box, something on the principle of the patent of Mr. Marshall, a neighbor of mine.

Yours truly,

ED. DICKENSON, Sr.

North Glanford, April 6, 1889.

Will you give us particulars as to how your bees wintered. Note all the points, number of bees on bottom board, amount of brood, stores consumed, if they have dysentery, size of entrance, how made and how protected. We had a Mr. Bruce in this neighborhood who wintered very successfully by packing in chaff all around, closing entrance and inserting a small tube at the top for ventilation.

TO THE DEAF.—A person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 177 McDougal Street, New York.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A FEW THOUGHTS AND TRIALS. .

THINK if bees are taken out of cellar too early this spring much loss will be the result. Breeding stopped early last fall and bees that are alive now are much older than we at first suppose, and if we expose them to the cold winds too early there might be more spring dwindling than we have had for many years. I ain't troubled with spring dwindling. Thought I would be in fashion one spring some years ago and do as some others did, so bought a lot of cotton cloth and cut it up and put a nice square piece on top of hives to hold in the heat. Something kept coming up and telling me I was a little off my base, but thought other folks must know what they were talking about, so do it I would and do it I did, and then watched and waited. Didn't have to wait long for next day most every bee that come out of the hive offered me a piece of the cotton; thought it 'was about time to open my bee factories and look after my cotton industries. Well, I did, but the cotton had most all been shipped and they seemed to be waiting for more, but they did not get it. As luck would have it I didn't put cotton on all the hives so had quite a stack of little square pieces left, but they were used for other household purposes than puttin on bee hives. Wal to cut a long story short.—for I hate long ones, I han't fed my bees no more cotton. Thought next id'e try contracting the brood nest early in the spring, I'd herd tell of it and thought I orto keep up with the times so at it I went, and contract one I did, or purty near did it, but it was a larger contract than I had bargained for, so I just let that hive expand back again to its original equilibrium and went to the house and made a contract with my wife that if she would extract all of the bee-stingers out of my several localities and put soda and butter on all the places I'd never more believe any of their greases goose oily, or peper gram cubby house calculations. And from that day to this I've kinder been on my own hook like, and studied out a number of things about bees. Keepin bees from swarmin has occupied my mind on and off for a number of years. Don't know how I'le make it on that point though if my calculations turns up kinder sound like in any given direction I'le let you no.

Jingo! You fellers ain't more than out of one muss afore your into another. Now here comes a long prosy apostolic benediction on changes effected in syrup and nectar by the secretions of the bee. It ain't the change in nectar your after disoussin, and you own it

ain't; its a horse of a different color. Its sugar you want changed to honey so that all them good sweet tempered, lovin' honest bee-keepers weve herd tell about so much can go ahead and do three times worse than Wiley ever thought of sayin' we done. Gosh all hemlocks, don't cuss Wiley ennymore. You're even coating him in your article as a hi authority & evidently want him ass one of the boys now. What did you sa about him a while ago. How we do change. Wal when you put it in the power of evry bee-keeper too make honey from sugar, ho have we to thank foor thee invention. The wa youre going on will make Wiley hold up his hed and say:—didn't I tell you so. Suppose the Government would tri to help all the poor people of the land by giving each poor person a set of moles & authority too make dollars out of brass. How wood it work? Wood the poor people be all that wood use the privaleg. Now suppose you give all that haint sense enough to keep their bees in a condition that will warent them too always bee provided with natural stores, the privaleg & nolage off converting sugar into honey, for thats the horse of the hole subject. Doo yo suppose they will bee the only ones that would take advantage of the opening? Would they 'be the only ones that wood use the moles? Don't you really pity that person ho advocates changing sugar into honey, & thinks bi itt' he is doing apiculture a servis? Wal in one sense he is serving it, he is serving it an all-fired mean triok.

UNCLE JOHN.

Ovid, Erie Co., Pa.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

MEL SANIT OMNIA.

MESSRS. Editors.—I don't know why "Amateur Expert" should say that "Dr Mason cannot let me alone." I don't remember that I've touched him since I shook hands with him, metaphorically, while he was standing on the dock looking modestly after another "shilling" as that party of tourists was leaving "perfidious Albion".

In speaking of me on page 887 he says: "He does not like 'Observers', A. E.'s nor such like, nor will he be talked back to." That is always the way with big people. Now every word of that is (I don't just like to say it, but it is so), untrue. New Mr. A. E., (I've found out you are not a Miss nor Mrs.) don't "get off your base" and fly at me because you are not "big." It seems to be a sort of characteristic of your people to state things in just a little different shape from the original and so convey a wrong

impression, but I'm not afraid of you if you have worked in the Woolwich Arsenal with "12,000 men and boys"; and instead of being an Englishman or Irish. I do like "Observers," A. E.'s etc., but I don't like such names hitched on to such readable articles, and I most gratefully acknowledge the kindly compliment he pays me as president, and it sets me to wondering if he can't make it convenient to be at the next meeting of the International American Bee Association at Brantford, so that we can shake him by the hand "in spirit and in truth."

If he'll come he need not bring his knife, for every thing shall be cut ready for him, so he needn't waste any time in that business, and he being an Amateur will only make us feel the more anxious to make his visit both pleasant and profitable.

If I should go to Paris to the exhibition I should most assuredly try to avail myself of the use of "a bed and a knife and a fork" under the roof that covers A. E.

I am glad indeed to have him let me know that he always reads what I say about him, but that isn't enough to satisfy him, he must mix me up in a cartoon with Mr. McKnight, "and a very dear old friend for Scotland. (What's the name please?) and John Bull, and put the said John Bull in the wrong place, and "put the wrong words in my mouth." It is all right to have Canada "cartooned" as claiming to have the best honey in the world I suppose, and I believe they claim what is true when they claim "Linden honey is the best in the world!" for that is produced in the U. S. and Canada; and I am pleased to add A. E.—to my list of witnesses that some persons beside Mr. Pettit did so claim, notwithstanding Mr. McKnight's assertion to the contrary.

I notice on page 1005 of the C. B. J. for Mar. 18th that Amateur Expert asks: "What's the matter with Dr. Mason and 'Nom de Plumes'?" Please inform him that Dr. Mason's "all right" with the exception of occasional attacks of rheumatism that make him put on as much "style" as any "blasted Englishman" would dare attempt to put on, and that if he wants anything of the Dr. just have him make his wants known, but to do it with the "modesty" characteristic of his countrymen.

I don't know why he should put "Nom de Plumes" in the same sentence with me, for I am not acquainted with the gentleman. I've seen his name in the bee journals and have taken him to be "vain and egotistical", and share the usual opinions of Americans (that includes Canada I believe) and look upon him as Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, says "as a coward—as one who

has not the courage to put his signature to what he has written—as a sort of a sneak." If A. E., Observer, and A. Hallamshire Bee-keeper are this kind of men we would like to know who they are so as to know just how much of credence to give to their statements. I feel quite confident that A. E., is all right on these points, but his "free trade" notions are "too thin" to hold water" and I may touch up his free trade notions "a bit" so he won't be so "free". But how about Observer, "and a Hallamshire bee-keeper; as he has no objection to all the world knowing his name", just for short let's call him "John Hewitt", and ask what his standing is among British bee-keepers? Will some one tell us in the C. B. J., and if any body cares tell us who A. E. is, who lives so near the Tweed; and if, as I've sometimes thought, Observer's sayings are tinged with that which "does—inebriate" I shall feel inclined to give him another name ere long.

I wonder if it was him who at Toronto about two years ago said that the contention at the Colonial exhibition in London, about the "superiority of Canadian honey was all rot," and that "these statements were made in England for a purpose, but when we come home we should get down to rock bottom, our people should know the truth."

"Ye editors," I had it in my mind to request you to keep O's, A. E.'s, etc., from being too hard on me, but when I saw that O. had advised you to lick Dr. Mason because he objects to fictitious writers when writing on bee culture, and then a little farther on goes farther than I ever did, and says, "we want to know who the writer is, and we have a right to know." I thought you might just let him "waggle." "He's no 'count any how; contradicts himself within nine lines, but then I "read between the lines" as he does.

If you have one or more correspondents anywhere on this earth who think I can be so "licked," or have the fun so shaken out of me that I am not ready for another licking or more fun, let him put in an appearance.

Yes, there! I've put my foot in it again and have wasted four pages of time and an hour of paper to go in the waste basket. See what the editor says in the last paragraph on page 826. "In our opinion, when one of these gentlemen who, under an alias, gets into a controversy with one who uses his own name, the discussion loses all interest, for the first man is an irresponsible non-entity, who strikes his opponent in the back on behind the *nom de plume* wall." Now just look at that. It's a good deal harder on "them air fellers" than I've been, and may be they have given "ye editors" fits, and the fits fell into the

waste basket. On the next page they got another rap "Modesty is a term misapplied to the users of *nom de plumes*." Ha! Ha! Oh my!! Oh my!!! That's just what I thought. Mr. A. E. has laid claim to modesty as characteristic of the English, and our good editor says these *nom de plumes* are "an irresponsible non-entity," and "modesty is a term misapplied" in their case.

I wish to make an apology about uncut leaves in the C.B.J. that I stirred up. Last week I was informed that the reason of the one or two uncut leaves being so left was to save postage. My informant stating that magazines, etc., with uncut leaves go in the Canadian and English mails at a lower rate of postage than when cut. Had I have known that such was the case I should not have said anything about it, and if such is the case I take back all I said about it, and so far as I'm concerned will willingly use my knife again.

A. B. MASON.

Auberndale.

P. S. Since writing the above I have received a letter from a personal acquaintance of Amateur Expert which among other things says: "He is genuine good fellow, and should you go over and call on him you would find that the invitation that there was a knife, and fork and plate for you would materialize very agreeably. * * He takes an active part in temperance and Y. M. C. A. work. * * You will make no mistake in setting him down for a decent, sharp, jolly good fellow." The whole letter is about A. E., and it is just what we might expect, and I feel proud to know that I have "crossed swords" with such a man. Active, earnest christian people are, and have a right to be, the happiest people on earth.

But I'm in a fix. How am I to call on A. E. when I don't know who he is or where he lives? Who'll tell me in the C.B.J.? I could make a big show of hospitality by inviting bee friends to call on me and stay a week at a time without any inconvenience, if they didn't know my name and where my domicile is.

A. B. M.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Heddon's Contraction System—Large Entrances.

HAVE practiced the Heddon contraction system for the past two seasons and think well of it. I also tried Hutchinson's plan of hiving swarms on small starters last season; it proved so successful with me that I intend to work on that plan altogether the coming summer.

I like a large entrance to hives; the hive I use has an entrance half inch deep and full

width of hive. I found the ordinary shaped entrance blocks would not do for this as they would overbalance when parted an inch or two; unless I turned the large end toward the centre which I did not like. To overcome this difficulty I make the block tapering from the centre to each end. Perhaps you will think this hardly worth writing about, but despise not the day of small things. My bees appear to be doing well so far, wintering in bee-house.

GEORGE WOOD.

Monticello, Ont.

THE SHOLZ OR GOOD CANDY.

THERE seems to be some doubt about the "Good" candy having been described previous to the discovery made by Mr. Good. There is no doubt but that Mr. Good re-discovered and re-described this, with no knowledge that it had already been successfully used.

If the reader will refer to Mr. Langstroth's excellent work, "The Hive and Honey Bee," 3rd edition, page 274, he will find the following:

"The Rev. Mr. Sholz, of Silesia, recommends the following as a substitute for sugar candy in feeding bees:

"Take one pint of honey and four pounds of pounded lump sugar, heat the honey without adding water, and mix it with the sugar, working it together to a stiff, doughy mass. When thus thoroughly incorporated, cut it into slices, or form it into cakes or lumps, and wrap them in a piece of coarse linen, and place them in the frames. Thin slices enclosed in linen may be pushed down between the combs. The plasticity of the mass enables the apiarist to apply the food in any manner he may desire. The bees have less difficulty in appropriating this kind of food than where candy is used; and there is no waste."

As I have said, there is no doubt but that Mr. Good re-discovered this excellent method of preparing candy, and made it applicable to shipping, thus doing away with the bottle of water. So we still may keep his name. Can we afford to call it the "Good-Sholz" candy?"

—PROFESSOR A. J. COOK in A. B. J.

SEASON OF 1888.

HONEY AS DIGESTED NECTAR, AND SOWING ALSIKE CLOVER.

THE spring and early summer of 1888 opened with many auspicious omens, calculated to inspire new zeal and rekindle hope in the minds of a multitude of discouraged

bee-keepers in this part of the honey-producing world, who emerged with dampened ardor from the conflicts of the preceding unpropitious season.

There was ample nectar in the early bloom to promote brood-rearing, and bees never bred up better, in my recollection. Everything looked bright and encouraging. Colonies were populous and in good condition for business at the proper time; but alas! in spite of all the rosy promises, the harvest time came and went, and we were left with very little surplus to gladden our hearts, and what little we did manage to squeeze out was not of the best quality.

The natural outcome of a season like the one just passed, is too much swarming and too little surplus. Bees seemed to get just honey enough to keep up brood-rearing. My berry business demanded much of my time about then, so that my bees were allowed to do too much swarming; the result was, 30 swarms and 400 pounds of surplus comb honey from 40 colonies, spring count.

A few of the swarms were a little late, and quit housekeeping before buckwheat bloom was fairly over; others I doubled up, fed 250 pounds of sugar and honey, and finally, with many misgivings, I put 59 colonies into winter quarters, many of them not overburdened with winter stores, and a few rather short for the winter campaign. Forty-two colonies having the least stores, I placed in a bee-cellar improvised for the occasion, but the temperature runs too low, and a few colonies have already gone the way of all the earth; but more about this when we "get out of the wilderness."

DIGESTED NECTAR.

While Prof. Cook is undoubtedly correct in a scientific point of view, in defining honey as "digested nectar," yet it impresses me as being about as inelegant as it is scientific. It would be equally correct to say that mutton was digested grass, yet a good many of us would hardly fancy that way of expressing it, because for want of taste and symmetry in the expression it might lead to reflections that would be more productive of ill than good effects.

PLANTING FOR HONEY.

While general, or extensive, planting especially for honey may be neither profitable nor desirable, it is quite clear to my mind that we can do something in the line of planting, that will ultimately prove profitable. Several years' experience with alsike-clover has demonstrated clearly to me, that it pays the apiarist to cultivate it. With me it is a surer source of honey than white clover, and aside from that, it makes

an abundance of most excellent hay, for which purpose I prefer it to red clover.

I never saw bees work on white clover like they did on alsike last season; the only trouble was, there was not enough of it.

I also plant raspberries for commercial purposes, as well as for the early nectar that they furnish my bees, and I find them very profitable in this way. They help early brood-rearing wonderfully, and have never failed me in all my past experience.

The planting of basswood (linden) can be made a source of profit, as well as a world of pleasure, whether planted in waste places, fence-corners, or as timber belts. It is easy to transplant, grows rapidly, makes valuable timber, and in time yields honey abundantly, besides exerting a beneficial climatic influence.

—SAMUEL RAU, in American Bee Journal.

QUERIES AND REPLEIS.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

WORKING FOR HONEY.

QUERY 227.—We have 34 strong colonies and don't care for increase so much as honey. Would you advise us to put on second and third stories? We use the Jones hive.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—Yes.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BOBODINO, N. Y.—Yes, if working for extracted honey.

W. M. BARNUM, ANGELICA, N. Y.—Yes. "Give them plenty of room."

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—Certainly, put on the top story.

A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE, OHIO.—Certainly. Give room just a little before it is needed.

H. F. HUNT, VILLA MASTAI, QUE.—Yes, but the third story only on strong colonies.

R. McKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND.—Putting on the upper storeys will materially lessen swarming, and to prevent swarming is to increase your honey crop.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—I do not know just how your hive is arranged, but cer-

tainly I would keep on plenty of surplus room.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—If the bees would fill them, I'd put on 17 stories and use guy ropes to keep them from blowing over.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, VT.—Not knowing anything of the locality and surroundings, or experience of the party, I cannot answer. In my own case I should use upper story.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Never having the pleasure of an acquaintance with the "Jones" hive I cannot say. But with the hive we use tier up (excuse me, "storey") two or three high.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—Yes. Also let them swarm. Catch and kill queen, and before swarm returns or before eight days pass destroy all but one queen cell—the best. This is a good way. Of course the queen's wing is clipped, or must be.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—Yes, if you want extracted honey. If comb honey is the object I would supply plenty of sections just before they get the swarming fever. If properly managed they do not all swarm with me, but when I do get one it is a large one. Then I try to prevent all after swarms.

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE, ONT.—This is a question for bee-masters instead of bee-keepers. I have come to the conclusion that I can get more honey by letting the bees swarm than by trying to prevent them. Have had very little experience in storyfying to prevent swarming, and what little I did try did not prevent worth a cent.

G. W. DEMAREE CHRISTIANSBURG, KY.—Yes, tier up the hives as fast as the bees can utilize the room. First put on one story, and when it is pretty well filled with unsealed honey, raise it and put another under it. If you keep this up, doing it at the right time, you will have but few swarms except when the queens are old or otherwise unsatisfactory to the bees. In these cases nothing will hinder swarming.

J. F. DUNN, RIDGEWAY, ONT.—If you have have all the colonies you want I would advise you to tier up your top storys, and do not be too slow in putting them on or you will get swarms where you do not expect them. I now work about one-half my bees for extracted honey and during the last three seasons almost entirely prevented swarming by adding top

storys at the right time. To tell just when the right time is would take more space than I feel warranted in taking up in this department.

WM. McEVoy, WOODBURN, ONT.—Yes. When second story is nearly full raise it up and put another one in between. You will find it a good plan if you try it, as it will let you go on with your other work in the honey season, and in the all you will find the second and third storys full of sealed honey, which will be so dead ripe that it will be very choice in flavor, that is, if the colonies have been good ones and the season an average one. In the fall save out six combs of solid sealed honey and with division board crowd your bees on these six combs of solid sealed honey, which will be plenty for your bees to winter on. All the rest of the combs you will take into a very warm room and spread apart in racks for the purpose. After they have been in the room about eight hours you can extract the honey. If done in September eight hours will do, if later, longer time.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS, ONT.—I prefer a larger hive, and extracting, than to having a second story the height of Jones hive. If you use a second one-half or one-third the height of Jones hive you would prevent increase to a limited extent. Give the bees all the room you can, but keep the queen in subjection (on say not more than eight frames after June 1st) and if they swarm then, why just let them do so, and confine the queen still more—or else the one to take her place in the old hive—and then unite in the fall. In uniting in the fall it is better to remove the bees and queen from the swarm, as any honey in the hive has been all gathered since swarming time, and the queen is the older one.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

M. EMON.—Bees have wintered nicely so far. Holbrook, April 5th, 1889

R. KNECHTEL.—Your present "papers" are a good feature. They have the impress of experience and good judgment. Walton, Ont., April 1st 1889.

ARTHUR WILSON.—We have had fine weather nearly all this month. The bees have been flying most all the time and have been carrying in pollen for about a week and soft maple is all in bloom now.

Essex Centre, Mar. 28th 1899.

NOPE SPRINGS RETRANAL.

GEO. F. BRACH.—Bees are wintering well thus far. I have 42 swarms in the cellar all

alive to date. Last year was very poor with us, we got no honey at all but are living in hopes of a better season.

Meddows, N. B. Mar. 28th 1889.

J. GEIGER.—I have found pleasure and profit in the perusal of the Canadian Bee Journal for the past 4 years. I commenced with the first number of the first volume and I wish to continue it right along.

North Dansville, N. T. Mar. 22nd 1889.

LOST IN 25.

A COOTTS.—I renew my subscription to the C. B. J. with great pleasure as I have received much profit from reading it. My report was sent to you from Mount Forest convention. Of the 25 colonies which I packed in clamps, 2 have died thus far, the rest of them are in a very good condition.

Edgerton, Mar. 28th 1889.

WORTH A DOLLAR.

J. C. McDONALD.—Enclosed find subscription for JOURNAL. I do not think I could do without it. My bees are all right. I winter them on summer stands; they have had a fly every month this winter, even February, and I am sure there are no more dead bees than if they had not had a fly at all, for I could tell by the snow if there was. The JOURNAL is worth the dollar itself without any premium.

Nicol, April 4, 1889.

CORRECTIONS.

G. A. DEADMAN.—Re-article in C. B. J.—In illustration you have blocks turned the wrong way and the rows are too close to look well. It would be about right with the center row out. When blocks are set right way the bees when heavily laden walk up them into the hive but as you have it they would go under—besides when uniting you could not place the hive in the four ends of the blocks, as described. On the 9th line from bottom of page 8, 1st column, "should read side *not* spile—and "with" instead of without in page 7, 2nd column. Possibly the last two corrections may be deemed unnecessary.

Brussels, March 30th, 1889.

POLLEN MARCH 17.

JOHN NEIL.—I wintered 18 colonies packed in chaff all of which came out in good shape. I first saw them bringing in pollen on the 17th March. Last season was a very poor one for honey. I took 52 lbs per colony of extracted honey. I am very much pleased with the C. B. J. and would not be without it.

Lieury P. O., Mar. 26th 1889.

We do not think you have any reason to complain if you succeeded in obtaining 52 lbs per colony spring count last season. There are but few bee-keepers in the county who succeeded so well.

IN THE GREAT NORTH WEST.

J. KNOWLES.—My bees are doing finely, gave them a fly on 21st Feb. The temperature 60° above zero all day. I placed them in the cellar

the same evening where they have remained quiet ever since. The temperature in the cellar is 35° to 40° and is very dry. No snow at all, the ground dry and dusty with no extreme cold weather. Cattle feeding on the prairies every day; no storms of any kind. How will this do for the north pole which is so much threatened with cold and storms.

Edmonton, Alberta, N. W. T.

PROSPECTS NOT ENCOURAGING.

THOMAS RAMAGE.—It is with much pleasure that I renew my subscription to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. As long as the bees last I cannot do without it. Last year was the worst year that I have seen and the present year I do not expect to be up to the average, because there is not much alsike clover in this part. It did not succeed last year on account of the drought, and basswood bloomed abundantly last year. The bloom will be light this year and the white clover was badly hurt; so all things considered the honey harvest will not be large in this part. I put 21 colonies into winter quarters; I cannot say as yet how matters may turn out, but I will report my luck in three or four weeks.

Richview, April 3rd, '89.

WINTERING IN AIR-TIGHT HIVES.

J. P. COCKBURN.—The three colonies which I had wintered so successfully last year, gave me about 350 lbs. of comb honey (no extracted), and increased to seven. I packed all away in an air tight case, double wall, packed four inches with fresh damp sawdust, top the same. I do not expect to see them this year till they can gather pollen, as I put them into winter quarters, in Jones' hives, weighing 90 lbs., with airtight packing over the top, leaving the entrance to the hive only open, but no external opening into the box. This keeping the thermometer at 45° is with my experience a very great mistake, but I will know all about it as soon as I see my bees opened up, and will report. I clipped my queens last year and found it a great advantage, as my wife or children could generally secure the queen and telephone for my assistance.

Gravenhurst, March 20, 1889.

MOISTURE AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE HIVE

W. F. MACPHERSON.—What is the cause of water being at the front of the hive of bees near the entrance during the winter months.

Prescott, March 26th, 1889.

It is because the temperature in the hive is too low. The moisture that escapes from the bees condenses and forms little pools of water on the bottom board, frequently running out at the entrance of the hive. If the temperature in the bee house were raised this moisture would be driven off. Where the bees do not generate sufficient heat to keep the temperature inside of the hive sufficient to prevent the condensation of moisture, it may be raised by the addition of a few hot bricks placed on the top of the hive.

CARNIOLANS.

WM. GLENNON.—I write desiring some information concerning Carniolan bees, and believing you to be acquainted with that race I think you can answer my questions satisfactorily. Do you breed from imported queens? Of what color are queens?—also workers? Are they inclined to swarm to death? Will they enter surplus department readily? Do they winter well? In fact, all things considered, do you think them equal or superior to Italians? I am disgusted with black bees and if I cannot find a better race I will quit bee-keeping. In looking over my library I find but little concerning Carniolans. I think some confound the Holy Land with the Carniolans and describe them as having white bands. If the Carniolans are what I think they are I will get some queens this season and introduce them to my black stocks and next season can test them. Hoping you will give my questions your attention and reply as soon as convenient.

Antioch, Mo., March 25, 1889.

If our friend will refer to No. 35 of the last volume he will find all his questions answered.

WINTERED SPLENDIDLY.

REV. J. FRAZER.—I have 9 colonies of bees in good condition, full of bees and plenty of stores. I winter in summer stands. They had a fly on 6th Jan. and several good ones this month, and though there is still snow on the ground not many have perished. They seem to be strong and hearty. Last year I got about 200 lbs of extracted honey from 7 colonies and had three swarms; two of these however, went together making my present number 9. I use a hive of my own combination, double walled on the plan of "Roots simplicity". Packed front and rear and bottom with dry sawdust and with a movable division board on each side, section frames for sides and supers for section frames or extractor frames under the cap. I use the excluders and like them. Your JOURNAL is appreciated very much.

Sutton West, Mar. 21st 1889.

In renewing his own subscription Mr. Frazer sends us another for which we are very thankful. If all our subscribers would do this, and but very little effort would be required on their part, our subscription list would soon increase so that we could make the JOURNAL even better than it is.

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