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We will with pleasure send you a sample copy of our **SEMI-MONTHLY CLEANINGS IN BEE CULTURE**, with a descriptive price-list of the latest improvements in HIVES, HONEY EXTRACTORS, COMB FOUNDATION, SECTION HONEY BOXES, all books and journals, and everything pertaining to Bee Culture. Nothing Patented. Simply send your address on a postal card, written plainly

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Settings of Eggs from Pure Black Spanish Fowls, \$1.50 for settings of 13 Eggs. And a few colonies of Italian bees.

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# The Canadian Bee Journal.

D. A. JONES & Co., Publishers.

## OUR OWN APIARY.

**I**AST year we had sometimes seven and sometimes eight bee-farms to attend to, beside three or four on the islands in the Georgian Bay, the latter being devoted to queen-rearing. From the extraordinary demand for bees this year we expect to start with only five apiaries, and fill the others up as our colonies increase. We think it is the duty of those who have bees, to sell all they can possibly spare, and a few more in fact, in order to assist our friends, who lost their bees, to utilize their combs. We have just heard from one of our friends who had 100 colonies, he set fifty out of winter quarters alive, but they had had dysentery badly, and were weak, the unfavorable weather brought on spring dwindling, and to-day he has only three full colonies left. Now, it is a great hardship to one who has labored hard till he had worked up to 100 colonies, and then to be suddenly left with but three live ones. Those extra combs should be utilized. Hundreds are enquiring for bees, with queen, by the pound, and all those who can furnish them, should advertise. From present appearances, there seems to be a bright prospect before us, honey will most certainly bring a good price the coming season, and there is every indication of a bountiful crop for those who are lucky enough to have bees to gather it. The hard sugar maple this year has yielded more honey than we ever recollect its having done before, the tops of the trees being one sea of bloom. The bees have spent over ten days on them already. The golden willow has also yielded well. Fruit bloom has done well, and some varieties are yet furnishing considerable nectar. Dandelion is also yielding

abundantly. In fact, most of the time, at our different yards the bees refuse to touch honey in the yard. The weather has been quite cool at night, but we closed the entrances of many of our hives entirely, in others we allowed but one bee at a time to pass in and out; this assisted much in maintaining an equal temperature night and day, and the brooding is carried on more rapidly. We may here say, that it is perfectly wonderful the amount of brooding that has been done in the last two weeks, considering the strength of the colonies. Another thing we noticed was that the colonies which are well filled, in fact almost over-stocked with stores of both pollen and honey, seem to be brooding most, while those that are more scant of these appear to be economising, although equally strong in bees. The scarcity of stores means less rapidity in brood rearing. Even though the combs may have to be extracted when the honey season is well opened, we think it will pay to have an abundance of food in the hive. Another feature with those with lots of stores, is, that they are less inclined to go to the fields in search of more. When bees are forced to go to the field in search of honey and pollen in early spring from scarcity in the hive, it takes away just so much of the brooding force. Any means to prevent the bees leaving the hive, or any management by which we may keep the entire force occupied in brood rearing, is most desirable with us. Feeding outside the hive is objectionable in early spring, because just as much heat is lost by the bees being outside instead of inside the hive, as if they were off in the fields gathering stores.

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If, when ordering goods of any advertiser in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, our friends would mention that they saw the advertisement in the JOURNAL, it will be doing us a kindness.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

## "DRY FECES."

A VALUABLE ARTICLE FROM PROF. COOK.

**D**EAR SIR,—I have received a beautiful lot of "dry fæces" from our friend, S. Corneil. Many of them are undoubtedly fæces of bees. These for the most part were voided out doors. They contain hardly anything but pollen, and must have been unusually thick and solid when voided, as in many cases they have not stained the substance on which they fell, and they have kept their form remarkably. Some masses are attached to the cloth above the bees; these are full of fibres, which were undoubtedly torn from the cloth by the bees. Some of these masses, perhaps most of them, never went through the bees, I think.

I have examined many and many a bee, some from the hives in winter, some from the hives in the spring, as they first left the hive, and all during the season. Yet I never found any faecal matter as dry and stiff as those must have been. That the faecal mass in bees may become impacted and the bees costive is not improbable. From my numerous examinations, such dried fecal matter is not common. I doubt if it is normal. I have also examined all matter beneath bees in Spring when they had wintered very well, and when all was dry and nice. I never found any that I think was dry fæces. I found wax pellets, often containing pollen, hairs, etc., sand, wood cuttings, mice droppings, etc., etc. One winter I took all matter from bottom board of a hive and had it analysed. Wax was very flinty, sand was found but no nitrogen, nothing that acted like fæces.

Mr. Corneil's painstaking and laborious researches show that bees do sometimes void their fæces in a state of considerable consistency. That this is common all observation denies.

My own researches show that bees may winter with almost no loss, and there may be no feces voided at all. All these matters are complex and time is required to make accurate determination. Such observers as Mr. Corneil must help any cause. Let all watch and report.

I like the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. It starts off grandly.

A. J. COOK.

Agricultural College, Lansing, Mich.

Friend Corneil's discoveries are quite new to us, so far as bees voiding dry fæces in the hive is concerned as we never discovered what proved to be dry fæces in the hive, although we frequently imagined we had found it until close ex-

amination proved the contrary. Several times in placing our bees on summer stands in the spring, colonies that had wintered unusually well would sometimes void what could almost be called "dry fæces," and it would even retain its shape and consistency. This year when we placed them on their summer stands in one of the yards we remarked the absence of the specking on surrounding objects which frequently occurs. On examining the bees as they would light we observed that it was with seeming difficulty that they discharged any fæces, the discharge being unusually hard, resembling short pieces of wire. When they would light on our own or other person's hand we would watch them carefully and see the discharge take place. It generally took so long that costiveness rather than dysentery appeared to prevail. The droppings might be noticed around on boards and on the ground retaining their shape perfectly, and if not examined immediately after discharge would be dry, and rubbed between thumb and finger would crumble to powder. Exposure to the sun gave it the appearance of dry fæces but on watching the discharge it was found to be slightly moist though a few minutes sufficed to render them perfectly dry. It appears to us that if the moisture could be removed from the fæces that there would not be any trouble from dysentery, or if the condition of the hive was such as would enable the bees to pass off the excess of moisture leaving the residue in a more solid form, their bodies would not become so distended. We have examined many bees, and their bodies seemed to contain no more residue (if freed from moisture,) than those above referred to. This subject is one which may be studied with interest and profit by many of us. We think it a fortunate thing that we have such a friend as Prof. Cook to keep us all right with his microscopical investigations which are conducted with such accuracy and carefulness. We also feel very proud that

Friend Corneil should be the first to prove the voiding of dry faeces in the hive. We trust this matter will soon be settled to the satisfaction of all by C. C. and Co.

For THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### DUTY ON BEESWAX AND OTHER MATTERS

SEE by the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, of April 29th, that the worthy Secretary of the Listowel Bee-Keepers' Association is becoming unduly excited over the removal of the duty on beeswax. I am at a loss to see why this duty should be removed. It is no doubt that for a short time beginners in bee-keeping will be benefited by it, but it will be to the loss of those who may have all the foundation they require and therefore expect in the near future to have wax to sell. If the duty is taken off it will not be long before those, (if they continue in bee-keeping), who are now so anxious to have it, will wish that the duty had been allowed to remain. Take all those who keep bees in box hives, they will no doubt be the losers by it. If all the wax that is used in Canada was imported, it would be quite different, but as it is, we require protection in this as well as any other article produced in this country. I protest against the removal of this protection. Between 1884-'85 I will have used over 500 lbs. of wax on all of which I have paid 20 per cent. duty. To remove the duty now would not be justice to me, and who can say how many bee-keepers there are in Canada who have a stock of combs and who expect to sell all the wax they can produce. There is good reason for allowing the duty to remain as it is, because there is no small amount of wax that is used for other purposes than making foundation. Every bee-keeper who advocates the removal of the duty should remember that every pound of wax he has to sell will probably be worth just 20 per cent less. I say it will eventually be to the loss of those at present engaged in beekeeping and who look for returns from the sale of wax as well as honey. I would very much like to hear from other beekeepers who are opposed to the removal of this duty on beeswax.

While I am writing I will also take exception to Mr. Chas. Mitchell's article which appeared sometime since in the Beeton WORLD, concerning the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL which was then in prospectus. In the interests of the beekeepers of Canada, I think it is very fortunate that its editor is in the supply business, as I maintain that they are benefited by this. *Gleanings* is a good example of this. I say that *Gleanings* is worth more

than any other journal to-day to any American beekeeper, if for no other reason than such articles as are useful to beekeepers are continually being brought to their notice. It is all nonsense about a bee journal being better apart from a supply business. Its editor is thereby enabled to give better value for the price. In answer to the question of A. I. Root, when in a short editorial giving the reduction in glass, he says: "Now it seems to me, friends, it is a pretty good idea to have a journal that is able to tell you twice a month all about the decline in price of such things as keepers are obliged to buy, more or less. Don't you think so?" I reply, most decidedly. To persons living in Canada there is not so much advantage, but I have often thought that the beekeepers of the United States should be very grateful to A. I. Root, for what he has done and is doing in this way. I might say that every article I have purchased from him has been well worth the price charged. Of course having to pay a heavy duty on some lines, is against us. Now I look upon the C. B. J. as I look upon *Gleanings*, that your position enables you to take the same place in Canada that A. I. Root does in the States, and I am indeed grateful that you have undertaken its publication. I have another protest to make and it is that the editor of the *American Bee Journal* should presume to insist upon changing the name of your journal. It seems to me unreasonable to ask it. I cannot understand how any mistake is likely to occur. I was glad to notice in a late number of the A. B. J. that the editor remarks, "We have none but the kindest feelings for the new paper." But for this I am quite sure that many of his Canadian subscribers would begin to think otherwise. I am more than pleased with the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, and sincerely hope that you will be largely repaid for this extra burden.

G. A. DEADMAN, 55-130.

Brussels, Ont.

We believe, Friend D., that all successful bee journals at the present time are either directly or indirectly interested in the supply business. Those who are not we presume soon will be, and we think all will admit that any person who produces a good 16 page weekly journal, at \$1 per year, will never become a millionaire from that source. We will endeavour to be impartial in respect to supplies, so that all parties may receive justice. There is no doubt that the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL will be of great service in enabling its patrons to know

the prices of goods. What you say about the importation of wax has been thoroughly discussed this season by a number of our friends, and since there has been a great mortality among bees, it appears there is more wax than will be required for this season's use. The removal of the duty on wax this year would scarcely be in the interest of bee-keepers as there appears to be more having wax for sale than there are purchasers of foundation, so many having good combs left from dead stock.

LATER.—Since the above was written, the truth of the statement we made regarding those journals which were not interested in the supply business has been verified, as the *Apiculturist*, edited by S. M. Locke, has found it necessary to connect itself with a supply business, and in an editorial on the subject, the editor states that "two years ago we issued the first number of the *Apiculturist*, with the intention to establish, if possible, an independent bee journal, and one that was in no way connected with the supply business."

In the same article the following admission is made:—

"We have learned that a bee journal must be either directly or indirectly connected with a well conducted experimental apiary, in order that it may be well supplied with a proper amount and variety of information, valuable alike to the expert and novice, and that such apiary be supplied with all the modern appliances and fixtures necessary for conducting scientific and practical experiments and investigations in apiculture. It is also of vital importance that this bee farm be under the personal supervision of an expert who has mastered every branch of apiculture."

The editor states with regard to the establishment of an apiary in connection with the journal:—

"To organise such an enterprise requires a large investment of capital and this we lacked; again it must be made self-supporting, which makes it necessary so dispose of its productions. This has led us to defer any change until we had given the experiment of publishing an independent journal a fair and thorough trial, which we have done until we have been actually compelled to make a change."

We have had no one to object to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL because of its

connection with the supply business, in fact the knowledge which would be gained through a periodical not so conducted would be, for a great part, more *theoretical* than *practical*, and those who *know*, decide that it requires *practical* knowledge to lead others on to success.

OF THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

### THINGS IN GENERAL.

WHEN I received the first number of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, I exclaimed, "Well, what on earth do we want with another paper devoted to apiculture? Haven't we periodicals enough to cover the whole ground?" But on looking over your JOURNAL I thought your experienced eye and level head was perhaps needed to complete the circle of North American bee literature. That you will give us our money's worth I have no doubt. Your paper will probably fill a place among Canadian bee-keepers which no one South of the line can do. For I suspect that a great many of your people think there is *nothing* produced in the States quite so good as at home? But we can forgive you that bit of egotism, if it exists. So here is our hand and our \$ by way of encouragement. If you "run out" all other American bee papers and occupy the land, all right. Newman, of the *A.B.J.*, and Root, of *Gleanings*, have both been in the harness so long they are probably looking for a place to rest; and your coming into the work fresh, after years of full feed on "bee bread" and the stimulating effects of white clover honey and basswood "methiglen," will "spell" the "boys."

I attended the great Bee Congress at New Orleans last winter. The most interesting thing I saw was the faces of some of the fraternity. But many of the old "stagers" were not there. That cyclopædia of bee knowledge, Friend Doolittle was wanting. Heddon didn't materialize. Poppleton didn't answer to roll call. Jones was conspicuous by his absence. Prof. Cook was present only in spirit, and a host of others whose faces I wanted to study, as I had their writings, did not offer me the opportunity.

One thing I was convinced of, and that was that the South will never successfully compete with the North in producing honey.

Another thing calculated to reconcile a Northern bee-keeper to his "hard lot" in the "frozen North" is the knowledge that we can winter our bees just as easily as they can summer theirs. Their accounts of wholesale robbing, which the most experienced could neither prevent nor stop,

was a new revelation to at least some present. That "august body" — the Congress — spent nearly one day out of the three in discussing the important question, so vital to the interests of all members of the fraternity, both North and South, a question in which future generations must certainly feel a profound interest, that is, whether the "Congress" should have its picture taken! They so deliberated. They so decided. They so sat. And now I hear that the pictures are not satisfactory. What a fund of bee lore will be lost to the world!

I put thirty colonies in the cellar Nov. 24th, and none of them have been yet removed. The temperature has run as low as 26 degrees in the cellar. I somewhat fear the result.

EUGENE SECOR.

Forest City, Iowa, April 16th, 1885.

You are very much mistaken, Friend Secor, if you imagine that we here in Canada look upon American periodicals with disdain. They have been our guiding stars in the past and as we look upon ourselves as their children; it would be very unkind of us to be naughty to our parents now, but we told them we should sustain them, and in advocating apiculture in Canada we are only giving more of our Canadian friends an appetite for bee lore, which will never be satisfied by taking *one* journal, in fact we can hardly call it a CANADIAN Bee Journal in one sense, because many of our ablest writers are in the States. That brotherly love and friendly feeling should exist is the wish, we believe, of all true Canadians. There should be no boundary line between bee-keepers.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### THE GREAT MORTALITY.

AM in receipt of Number 2 of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL and I like it. The objection of the editor of the A. B. J. to its name is not well taken. Canada has as good right to the name of "Bee Journal" as Great Britain or the United States, the prefix clearly designating them. You ask for report, etc. I am not a "professional" bee-keeper *a la* Heddon, Doolittle, and others, as there is as much to be learned from one colony as there is from one hundred. I keep from twenty to thirty colonies, but at the opening of this spring my number is reduced to twelve. Eleven of the twenty-three that went

into winter quarters have gone to that bourn from whence no (bee) traveller returns. This is by far the greatest loss I have ever sustained. On examination I find that starvation was the principal cause. Yet, strange as it may seem, they left plenty of honey in the hives. All but one colony were more or less affected with dysentery. This one is as strong and in as good condition as when put into winter quarters in the fall. I may safely say that 75 per cent. of the bees in Southern Indiana are dead. Many persons who do not protect their bees in winter have lost all, and are now mourning in consequence of their neglect. The same kind of reports come from the North and North Western States. Various causes are given for the great mortality, but it was not pollen nor honey dew that got away with mine. I invariably winter on the summer stands and never before had occasion to mourn the loss of more than three colonies, and that was during the disastrous winter of 80-81. I have not the time now to give you my opinion as to the prime cause of the past winter's disasters, but will do so at some future time. Wishing you much success in your enterprise. I am, yours truly.

W. C. R. KEMP.

Orleans, Ind., U.S., April 17th.

We shall be pleased to have your proposed article, Friend K. We should like to know what you decided was the cause of the mortality.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### ADVANTAGE OF WIRING FRAMES, AND HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE.

RUN a groove in the top and bottom bars of frame one-thirty-second of an inch deep on the outside. This forms a bed for the wire and prevents its being cut when scraping or cleaning frames. Keep the two outside wires three-eighths of an inch from edge of frames and about two and one-fourth inches apart. Use full sheets of foundation, *i.e.*, let the foundation go to the bottom of frame and be tight at each end. If rightly fastened with the wire it will not sag or bulge, and will always keep the base of cells in the centre of the frame. The advantages are, stronger combs for extracting from; no danger of falling down when large swarms are put on them; the wires are no hindrance to brood rearing and you can always have full frames of combs without using reversible frames. The size of frames I use is 14 long by 8½ deep, (inside measure of frame), and use seven wires to the frame.

D. P. CAMPBELL.

Parkhill, Ont.

There are now a great many in Can-



ada who are beginning to use wire. From the great demand that is springing up, it appears that many who have heretofore done without are commencing to use it. When wire is employed a lighter foundation can be used without danger of breaking down.

## 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.

### HOW SHOULD QUEENS BE REARED ?

QUERY NO. 16.—DELTA, ONT.—Is it advisable to raise queens early by artificial means or to wait until the honey flow and raise them naturally? Are queens thus produced as good as those raised under natural impulses?

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Cannot speak from practical experience.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—To the first I say, wait. To the second I say, no.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY ONT.—I do not know from personal observation.

MARTIN EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—In this section it is an expensive job to raise queens early. I would prefer queens raised in the swarming season.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT.—You will have much better success in raising queens under the swarming impulse, less loss in introducing, and they will be more vigorous.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT.—I have had queenless stocks raise good queens, if weather is favorable previous to swarming season. But in practice I pin my faith to queens raised under the swarming impulse.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I prefer queens raised under the swarming impulse when there is a rush of honey, yet I think the difference not very great, and with proper pains, nearly, or quite as good, queens can be reared out of the season,

DR. A. B. MASON, WAGON WORKS, OHIO.—The advisability of raising queens early by artificial means, will depend upon the facilities one has for doing it. Queens thus raised by me

have proven as good as those raised under the natural impulses.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—Neither one suits my case so well as to wait for honey flow and then raise queens artificially. Properly raised, they are as good as queens raised naturally, with the great advantage of having all queens raised from the best stock. In general queens raised early are not so desirable.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—The artificial or forced queens are inferior to those reared in full colonies on the natural and voluntary method. Good queens can, however, be raised early in the season, and before the honey flow, by feeding the colony to be used for queen rearing liberally and reinforcing it with bees and brood from other colonies, till it gets so strong that it will voluntarily begin the queen cells and perfect them after their most "approved method."

O. O. POPPLETON, WILLIAMSTOWN IOWA.—These are questions I would prefer to ask than answer, but will give my opinions. I find it much cheaper to buy early queens from the extreme south, than to raise them in this climate. The question whether queens are as good when raised artificially as when raised naturally is a vitally important one, and one on which I have been conducting experiments during the past year or two, but have reached no positive conclusion. Am quite strongly inclined to the opinion, however, that *properly raised* are as good as any.

BY THE EDITOR.—We prefer queens raised artificially under the swarming impulse. By having the colonies unusually strong—if they contain bees enough for four colonies so much the better—the larger and stronger the colonies, the larger will be the number of, and the finer the queens raised. But with very strong colonies, to give nature its course, they would swarm out and divide up. When kept together by artificial means superior queens are the result.

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.

We shall be pleased to supply the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL from now till January 1st 1896 for 60 cents, or from No 1, issued April 1st for 75 cents.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

### STORING COMB HONEY.

R. H. JOHNSTON, LYNN, ONT.—How should comb honey be treated after it is taken out of the hive? The best place to store it? What temperature should it be kept in? If you suspect moths, how to get rid of them?

Place it in a warm, dry room, the warmer the better, so long as it is not more than 100°. Comb honey may be ripened by placing it under glass, exposed to the sun, or in warm dry place.

### SPRING DWINDLING.

CHARLES MITCHELL, MOLESWORTH, ONT.—About two-thirds of my colonies are dwindling terribly, caused by a gap of about eight days of no flying. On May 1st of about twenty colonies examined I only found two bees coming out of cells, and will not have much hatching brood this week. It is good weather here now. Spreading brood would be a sad business just now. What will the end be do you think?

Keep them closed up warmly, thereby assisting them, by protection from the cold, in proportion to their requirement. We think this will be a remarkably good season for honey, the indications thus far being very favorable.

### QUEEN REARING.

FRED. TRIGG, OSHAWA, ONT.—I write to ask you about raising some queens from the colony I got from you in the spring of 1884. It is a Holy Land and Italian and it has come through all right so far. I placed it along with four other colonies in the cellar on the 5th Nov. I think I put them in too soon, a third swarm died. In the *Beeton World*, of June 5th, 1884, there is an article on "queen rearing," I have it now and think I will follow the directions given there. In one part of it says "When you have secured one lot of queens you put the old queen back into the hive." What I want to know is this, do you need to introduce the old queen into the hive, she was taken from, in the same manner as if you were introducing a strange queen, or will it be safe to put her right on to the combs? When I have secured enough queens for all my colonies will I introduce them at once? Do you think I would need a queen nursery to raise about twelve queens or could I do without it? I like the C. B. J. very much and will be a subscriber as long as I keep bees. Do you think bee-candy as good as liquid food for stimulating brood rearing in the Spring.

Introduce her just the same as a strange queen. She might be accepted in the way you mention but it would not be safe as a rule. It would pay you to have a queen nursery, as you then could take time and dispose of the surplus queens at your leisure and in all probability you could sell enough over and above what you require for yourself to more than pay for the nursery. Liquid food is the best to stimulate brood rearing in the Spring but there is the liability of encouraging robbing, but bee-candy properly made and arranged in one of the winter feeders described on page 34, would prevent robbing and stimulate the bees to brooding as much as would be necessary.

### FERTILE WORKERS.

JOHN P. SHAW, PORT PERRY, ONT.—I received the *CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL* all right, and like it very much, it will be gladly received by me each week, and contents perused, as I am a novice in Apiculture, and am anxious to get all the information I can on the subject. Although I am taking the *American Bee Journal*, still I think two bee papers none too many for an apiarist to take. I presume you will gladly answer the following question through your *JOURNAL*. In looking over my colonies of bees this Spring I came across a colony that contained, as I supposed, a fertile worker, there were eggs and larvæ deposited in worker cells and capped up the same as drone cells. The eggs were placed in all positions; against side of cell, in bottom, and other positions, and sometimes two or three in a cell. There was no proper worker brood in hive. You will no doubt say the colony contained a fertile worker. Well, of course I concluded the colony was of no use as it was, and intended to try and introduce a queen, having saved one from a colony that died. I proceeded to lift frames from hive, and placed them in another, and carried them a short distance from their old hive, lifted frames out and shook bees off and supposed they would all go back to their original hive, but to my sorrow they nearly all went into another hive standing close by, so I had my queen on my hands and said colony broke up. In looking on the ground close by the original fertile worker colony, I found a queen, but very small. She was nevertheless a queen, as I showed her to apiarists having more experience than myself, and they pronounced her a queen

all right. Well, what I wish to ask is, whether you think that queen would eventually have proved all right, and again if it is usual for a queen to lay eggs in worker cells? If so, how can a person determine whether it is the work of a fertile worker, or that of a queen? You will confer a favor by answering the above question. I presume you will give it the proper "fixing" before allowing it to appear in print. I will later on send you a short article on the experience I have had with bees hibernating—"Clark Theory."

Your first description of the eggs being deposited on the sides of the cells and in such numbers, led us to believe that it was the work of fertile workers, the description you give being a very good one; but, if you found a queen she was, no doubt, hatched late in the Fall, or during the Winter, and was unfertile. She would now be too old to be of any use. We think it a good thing that the bees went into another hive, as in all probabilities they would be of more value in another colony than by themselves, such colonies are usually very weak and worth very little. You should put your combs in a dry place. It is a common occurrence for queens that are not fertilized to lay drone eggs in worker cells; we have kept such queens from late Fall raising to lay drone eggs in early Spring, in order to breed early drones, but have never succeeded in accomplishing much. If there was a queen in the hive, they were laid by her,

## SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

GEO. COTTLE, WHITECHURCH, ONT.—Bees are nearly all dead around here this spring. I have eight left out of thirty-eight; wintered in chaff hives. Am pleased with your JOURNAL.

W. B. TERRY, KESWICK, ONT.—I have seven that are active out of nine put up for winter—one destroyed by mice, and one starved. My neighbor, Joel Draper, has 12 out of 16 that he put into his bee-house.

J. E. POND JR., FOXBORO, MASS.—I have received copies of your BEE JOURNAL, and find the same well edited and feel that it will become a valuable addition to our Bee literature. You

may well be proud of your "baby" and I hope its growth may be as rapid as its merits demand which, if you keep it up to the initial numbers will be large. There is ample room for us all and in the race for fortune, my motto is "may the best man win."

JOHN CHRISTIE, KEMPTVILLE, ONT.—I am pleased with the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL so far, and have no doubt but it will become more interesting as it becomes older and better known. I am in too much of a hurry to give you a full account of our bee business but will just say that we put thirty stocks in one cellar, a very warm one, and lost one; the rest are in splendid condition and look as strong as when placed in cellar. Put sixty-four in another cellar not quite so warm or well ventilated; lost seven. The rest are in fair condition.

N. A. BLAKE, BEEBE PLAINS VT.—I commenced last spring with three colonies and two neuclei. Two colonies were in box hives; transferred these into the "L" frame as soon as taken from the cellar. I bought one Albino queen of W. W. Cary, and increased during the season to eighteen colonies, took 260 pounds of comb honey in one pound boxes and in frames. On the 10th of September I placed each colony on four to six frames using division board on each side, placed 2 bent sticks over top of frames and six inches of chaff top of quilts; all were tucked up in good shape. Each colony had from 15 to 25 pounds. On the 18th of November I placed all in the cellar, on barrels and on the 28th of April all were brought up and each colony lifted out, placed into new hives and left the same as in the cellar. All were in good shape, dry and bright. We were nearly out of stores, three had none, the others had not consumed more than one half of theirs. Some had brood in their combs. They commenced on Alders the next day. I stimulate in spring by placing maple sugar under quilts once a week.

D. TYRELL, M. D., TOULON, STARK CO., ILL.—The last honey season was so poor here I did not keep any account of honey &c. I had five swarms last fall, but two had so little honey I united them with two others and put one hive in a very damp cellar, with potatoes, apples, onions, cabbage, squashes, pumpkins, beets, parsnips, etc., at a temperature of from 33 to 46 degrees. Bees were not disturbed, remained quiet, and not a handful died, but young bees were gnawing out of cells when I carried the hive out of the cellar the last of March. But very few died since. One hive, on summer stand was packed with dry leaves outside division board and chaff

inside and on top of honey cloth, then a few thicknesses of army blanket and newspapers. The others had similar packing on the inside, only a wind break outside; the hive cover was left off the one in cellar. The only ventilation to cellar was a good draught up chimney. Entrances to all were left wide open. All wintered well and are springing well. The most of beekeepers about here have lost all, though a few lost only about three quarters of their swarms.

#### THE BEE AT ITS BEST.

MUCH TALKED ABOUT AND SOMETIMES REALIZED.

**M**AKING the bee as we look at it flitting from flower to flower, it has no special significance beyond a hundred insects we could name, either in beauty, size, or general appearance. In fact, the bee is rather an ordinary looking insect, and stripped of its glorious record it has made for itself as a producer of an article of commerce which ranks as among the delectable and choicest productions drawn from nature's laboratory,—if we let it alone and don't presume to trifle with its free agency very essentially,—it would pass for rather an ordinary, sober kind of an animal, rather stirring in its habits, to be sure, but possessing no very marked peculiarities.

#### BEST AT HOME.

But the bee needs to be seen at home to see it at its best. When we view a few quarts of our shiny black fellows or the golden banded Italians busily carrying for their thousands of young larvæ, preparatory to laying in a store of the choicest nectar ere the May-flowers turn brown and the apple blossoms unfold their petals, then we see the bee in one of its most inspiring aspects.

Hence, the question introduces itself, when is the bee at its best? And in answer to that question we must say, that depends upon what period of its existence the question relates. If I induce my bees to breed up late in autumn and then put them into winter quarters where they keep quiet till March heralds the approach of opening spring, and not much brood rearing has been carried on during the interim from going into winter quarters, many of us would say the bee was at its best under such conditions. That would have been the

judgment of the writer a few months ago, but some things of late, point to that condition of things as a

#### LITTLE MOONSHINY.

Our bees we know did not breed after September 25th last fall, unless in one swarm the queen commenced to lay again in November, which we strongly suspect she did do, and unless this were the case the main part of the bees which braved the rigors of our past cold winter were mainly bees hatched in August and before; but they came through the winter bright, and apparently as strong as in the fall.

#### WAS IT THE BEST CONDITION.

Here is another point which came to my notice a few days ago, which shows that bees may and do breed in winter. Mr. Pike of Livermore Falls, a few days ago informed me that late in November last, he superseded a back queen in a good stock, giving it an Italian queen of his own rearing in exchange.

At the time of her introduction there was no brood in the hive. He placed the swarm in the cellar with others. His cellar was kept at a temperature ranging from 31 to 37 degrees, the average being about 35 degrees. This spring on setting out the bees upon the summer stands, this hive with the Italian queen introduced to black bees in November was found to have fully one-third of its bees pure Italians, and the colony in good shape and strong. The question well may be asked, are bees wintered in the cellar at so low a temperature as 35 degrees at their best?

#### A BEE AT ITS BEST

There is one point I am fully convinced is conducive to putting the bee at its best, and that is, to put each swarm to be wintered in proper shape for wintering at latest by the middle of October, or at any rate when the weather is warm enough so the bees will cap in the syrup it is best to feed them on for their winter stores. I am so well satisfied on the point of wintering on sugar syrup, that I do not hesitate to proclaim that the bee is only at its best when it sets down to its table in winter to an exclusive diet of pure granulated sugar syrup.

Another essential point is that the colony be fed sufficient to insure a full supply

of stores to carry it through all contingencies till the first of May, at last. Because I do not consider the bee at its best unless it can calmly, with smiling countenance, feel beyond the reach of possible contingency of lack of stores to foster its young during the coquetting of April winter; enabling it to keep at home and snap its fingers at the weather till May wakes the willows and maple.

## DOUBTFUL

I don't believe it best to disturb the bees by feeding for stimulation, as it is termed, very much before May frogs peep and the swallows fly; nor then, if cold rain storms are on the docket and the wind is tempered from snow-clad hills. Cover the bees up warm in the fall—with chaff hives, if possible—and give them a thick covering of dry material above the bars and don't disturb them, only when absolutely necessary, till the swallows come. Thus, for the time of year, I believe, the bee will be at its best.

## IGNORANCE IS BLISS.

Bees fed at any season means accelerated activity. A little honey clandestinely obtained sets the whole colony in an uproar. When bees are fed in the evening, if the air is frosty, numbers will sally out of the entrance to make believe they are bringing in stores from the fields. Nor do they forget the good luck when the morning comes. Numbers fly out and in unpropitious weather become chilled, and on the whole, I am of the opinion as a rule, feeding in April to stimulate to broodrearing, does not result in gain but often is the means of a positive loss, as the increase of young bees no more than balance the loss of the old ones which come to an untimely end by the exercise of an unwise ambition.

## LET THE BEE BE.

Hence, I believe the bee is best left alone, to keep it at its best through the critical period of our changeable spring weather. But when May opens with warm nights as well as days, give all the feed they need, even if a little accumulates in the combs.

It is a bad sign to see immature brood carried out in the night and lying about the entrance. That is a pretty sure sign the stores are short. This condition of things should not be allowed to occur

but be sure and feed so that the contingency of long storms may be provided for in giving an abundance of feed at once.—*Lewiston Journal.*

D. A. JONES.

F. H. MACPHERSON

## D. A. JONES &amp; CO.,

EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.  
BEETON, ONTARIO.

WEEKLY, \$1.00 per Year, Postpaid.

BEETON, ONTARIO, JUNE 3RD, 1885.

## FOUNTAIN PUMP.

We will illustrate the new fountain pump next week. It is a good thing.

## PRICES CURRENT.

By reference to 'prices current,' it will be seen that wax has dropped to  $3\frac{7}{8}$  cents per pound, as we are receiving rather more than will warrant continuing the price at 40 cents.

## BEES.

We have sold out all the eight-dollar colonies we have and the lowest price now will be ten dollars, subject to the discount of 5 per cent, which we offered as a rebate to all sufferers who wish to replenish their apiaries with fresh colonies.

## THE WESTERN FARMER.

The above journal comes out in a great deal nicer shape now than formerly, and its departments are well-conducted by practical men. Dr. J. W. Vance, Madison, Wis., edits the department headed, "Apiculture." Terms \$1.50 per year. Address, "Western Farmer Pub. Co.," Madison, Wis.

## ENGLAND'S HONEY IMPORTS.

The *British Bee Journal* publishes a return from the English customs department whereby it is seen that the honey imported into the United Kingdom for the month of March, 1885, amounted to £5404—in dollars and cents \$26,317.48. Quite a considerable amount is it not?

## THE POULTRY MONTHLY.

This journal, published by Ferris & Co., of Albany, N.Y., is invaluable to poultry fanciers. It is overflowing with practical information and is gotten up in a style which stamps the proprietor as a first-class printer. \$1.25 per annum.

## SHIPPING BEESWAX.

It seems to us that a little advice about how to ship beeswax or anything else that you may

wish to ship, will not be out of place, for those who have not had much experience in the business. Just at the present time there are two ~~by three~~ shipments of wax lying here awaiting ~~the~~ means of identification. We haven't any idea from whence it has come, and can do nothing with it till we hear from whoever sent it. Now all the delay and trouble which is caused in matters of this kind could be overcome if each shipper would just write on a card his name and address, and the number of pounds of wax. Then tack it on the corner of the box, and when it gets here we know just whose it is. When a customer writes us saying he has shipped us some wax, we at once enter in our "Wax Book," the name and address of sender, the number of packages and the number of pounds they say they have sent, how sent, (freight or express) and what disposition they wish made of it, (whether to be made into foundation, for sale, or in exchange for other goods). Then when the shipment arrives, the clerk who weighs up the wax, looks at the box, sees whose it is, and turns to the page in the wax book, where the particulars are to be found. No time is lost hunting up whose weight it corresponds with, and a lot of such like trouble—and all because the name and address of shipper is not on the box or boxes in which the wax is sent.

#### SENDING BEES C.O.D.

Several friends have written for bees and said, "send them C.O.D." We write back and refer them to our circular on page five, of which we say: "Perishable property, as bees, queens, etc., will not be sent as express, C.O.D., but cash must accompany order. This is imperative." The reason why we make this rule cannot be explained in any better language than that used by Friend Root in the last issue of *Gleanings*:—"This C.O.D. is a bad business anyway, for the reason that there are always more or less people who will be short of money, or change their minds when the goods get to their stations. Bees are perishable property, and it is a good deal of work to put them up ready for shipment, to say nothing of express charges both ways. Certain kinds of goods can be sent C.O.D. without much difficulty, especially where there is considerable value in very small compass. A watch, for instance, may be sent to the purchaser, and he may be allowed to examine it before paying; but to think of doing the same thing with a swarm of bees is out of the question. The shipper ought to have the cash in his pocket, or an order from some good reliable man, before he even puts them up." As a general thing it is only new customers who ask to have bees sent in

this way, and it is because they do not understand the business we presume.

#### RATES OF POSTAGE.

A friend in the United States has asked us to give him the rates of postage from the United States into Canada on small packages by mail. We are sorry that we cannot accommodate him from any official document. We imagine that parcels cannot be sent *at all* between the two countries. We know that *parcels* cannot be sent by post to any place *beyond* the Dominion of Canada, and regarding patterns or samples of merchandise the Canadian "Official Guide" says: "Patterns, or samples of merchandise, or of goods for sale, including grains, seeds, and bulbs in parcels not exceeding eight ounces in weight, may be posted in Canada for transmission to the United States on prepayment by postage stamps of a rate of ten cents each packet." Under this clause queens have been forwarded to the United States, and they have also been sent at full letter rates. When for breeding purposes bees and queens are not liable to duty. Only a day or two ago we received from a queen-breeder in the Southern States five packages of queens, (each package weighing less than eight ounces) and on which the sender had put stamps to the value of three cents each. On arrival here, however, each packet was labelled "seven cents to pay," making ten cents postage on each package. So that it seems queens may be sent by mail into Canada at ten cents per package, of less than eight ounces. Books may be sent from Canada to the United States for private use, and when not exceeding one dollar in value, at book rates of postage (one cent each four ounces) and duty free. We have written a friend over the lines for information as to "rates to Canada" and will likely have them soon. But we should think, on application to any post office in the United States the rates could be ascertained.

While reading in a recent number of the "CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL" the varied opinions of a number of correspondents in answer to the question "How high above the ground do you prefer to have your hives?" we are reminded that the peculiar construction of a Kansas zephyr is such that the safety of a bee hive depends solely on the proximity of its bottom board to the ground. Some weeks since while placing one of Dr. Tinker's "Victor Hives" in position, (which by the way is perched upon legs 8 or 10 inches above the ground), a friend remarked, that if we expected to find the hive on

our return we had better sink about 8 inches of those legs into the ground. We said no, it looks well the way it is. A few days afterward the "Victor" did some lofty tumbling across the yard strewing bees and comb as it went. In reply to a letter giving an account of the Victor's adventure, the Dr. writes: "You must have terrible winds out there that would overturn a hive if set up a little from the ground. The "Victor" has dispensed with its legs and now occupies a position no higher up in the world than its neighbors.—*Kansas Bee Keeper.*

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 20th, 1885. — There is no new feature in the market. Our regular customers only are buyers at present. There is almost no outside demand and low figures are no inducement. We quote extracted honey from five to eight cents on arrival, and comb honey from nine to twelve cents. Beeswax is in very good demand and arrivals are plentiful, we quote twenty-four to twenty-eight cents for good yellow on arrival. CHAS. F. MUTH.

ONTARIO BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION, at Toronto, during the Industrial Exhibition, between September 10 and 20, 1885: Exact dates will be given hereafter. Jacob Spence, Sec., Toronto; Ont.

THE WILLIAMITE VALLEY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION will hold its second annual meeting in the Court House, Lafayette, Oregon, June 16th, 1885. Frank S. Harding, President; E. J. Hadley, Secretary.

NORFOLK BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION will meet in convention in Waterford, on June 10th, at 10 a. m.

MICHIGAN STATE CONVENTION, at Detroit, Mich., on December 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1885. H. D. Cutting, Sec., Clinton, Mich.

EAST ELGIN BEE-KEEPER'S ASSOCIATION, at St. Thomas, at the Hutchison House, on the first Saturday in June—6th—at one o'clock. John Yoder, Sec., Springfield P. O.

THE WATERLOO COUNTY BEE-KEEPER'S ASSOCIATION will meet at Berlin, on Saturday, Sept. 5th 1885. Anson Groh, Secretary.

NORTH AMERICAN BEE-KEEPERS' SOCIETY, at Detroit, Mich., on December 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1885. W. Z. Hutchinson, Sec., Rogersville, Genesee Co., Mich.

## PRICES CURRENT.

### BEE SWAX

;Beeton, June 3 1885.

We pay 40c. in cash or 42c. in trade for good pure Bees wax, delivered at Beeton, at this date, sediment, (if any), deducted. American customers must remember that there is a duty of 25 per cent on Wax coming into Canada.

### FOUNDATION.

Brood Foundation, cut to "Jones' size" per pound...	53c.
Section " " " to other sizes " " " " " "	56c.
Section " " in sheets per pound.....	70c.
Section Foundation cut to fit 3 1/4 x 4 1/2 and 4 1/4 x 4 1/2, per lb...	75c.
Brood Foundation, starters, being wide enough for Frames, but only three to ten inches deep.....	53c.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

### WARRANTED ITALIAN QUEENS

No Cyprian or Syrian bees ever introduced into this locality, one Queen in June \$1.25, six for \$6. After July 1st, six for \$5. Send for 45 page illustrated Catalogue, describing everything needed by Bee-Keepers.

Address, J. B. MASON, Mechanic Falls, Me.

### 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.

### DIXON AND DILLON,

Farrish, Franklin Co., Illinois,

Manufacturer of and dealers in all kinds of

### APIARIAN SUPPLIES

at the lowest prices. Also pure Italian Bees and Queens. No other bees kept in our yards. For further information, send for price list.

**BEEES FOR SALE.** Will sell thirty good strong colonies bees, in Jones' hive. Twelve frames in each colony. Price \$9 each. Liberal discount to anyone taking a number. Colonies with eight frames at reduced rates.

ALPINE MCGREGOR, Inglewood, P. O.

BAILEY'S SWARM CATCHER. Enclose stamp for circulars to Box 22. J. W. Bailey, Ripon, Wis.

### The Apiculturist Experimental Bee Farm

MR. HENRY ALLEY, SUPERINTENDENT.

Will be devoted to rearing the best queens for honey producing purposes and wintering qualities that can be produced.

We have purchased from Mr. Alley, among other stock, 25 colonies of Orange Yellow Bees, for breeding purposes, and they are

### BEEES THAT WILL WINTER.

They have come through the past winter in fine shape notwithstanding they were confined to the hives for 120 days. They have shown no signs of Spring dwindling and are building up rapidly.

Until June 20th we will send the "American Apiculturist" for one year, commencing with the June number, and one of our choice Queens, of either race, all for \$1.50!

Why! The Queen alone is worth \$1.50!

We guarantee that these Queens shall be first-class in every respect. No Queens shipped until the first week in June.

Our (enlarged) "Bee-Keepers' Companion" (sent free) contains our Circular and Price List; a likeness of Mr. Henry Alley, the veteran Queen breeder, and much other valuable matter.

It also contains a number of valuable club offers, equal to the one above, which expire by June 20th.

If you want a first class Queen and a good Journal, cheap, send your order AT ONCE.

Make all money orders and postal notes payable at Salem, Mass., Post Office. Address

SILAS M. LOCKE & CO.

(Successors to Henry Alley.)

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### 80 COLONIES BEES FOR SALE

ITALIANS AND HYBRID, (Heddon) All strong and healthy, in Richardson hive, (the best hive for comb honey). \$8.00 per colony will buy this choice variety. Not necessarily all cash down. A rare chance. Address April 20, '85. 5-8 Elias Mott, Norwich, Ont.

### W. E. CLARK,

### SUCCESSOR TO L. C. ROOT.

Dealer in all kinds of **Apianian Supplies**; the Quinby **Sawzer**—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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#### FLAT-BOTTOM COMB FOUNDATION.

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

### J. VAN DEUSEN & SONS,

SOLE MANUFACTURERS,

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## DADANTS FOUNDATION

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.

- A. H. NEWMAN, Chicago, Ill.,
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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.

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