

whole of my letter to a bee-paper, only the bee-report, and I don't care an acorn whether you send that or not. Well, we had an extra honey yield this year. So far, we have a second top on them all now and believe they will fill them full. You asked me the way they used honey as food, and as a medicine. Well, we use it in Johnny cake and then use it with the cakes. We use it with buckwheat too; we use it with dried meat; we use it with spruce to make beer which is a grand drink in summer. We use it for preserving fruit we gather. As for medicine we boil a weed I used to know as hoarhound, strain and simmer down till very strong then add honey about equal. Take it cold, little and often. It will cure the worst cold on the lungs. Sometimes we use hemlock boughs instead of the weed, not ground hemlock; we use it with cherry bark too. Now, there is one thing I would like to ask you about. We have used so much honey we have a great quantity of wax. We made a wigwam to store it in; we used some of it in fat for light but it has accumulated until I think we have twenty pony loads of it; a pony will carry 300 lbs. a long journey, that will be 6,000 pounds. We would have to carry it with pony 150 miles to the railway. It would cost us about 6 cents a pound to bring it out. Now, if we could get 9 or 10 cents a pound for it we would bring it out, I mean without peddling about. Get that in a lump in silver, half dollars and quarters. That is the only thing I wish to ask you. One of your questions I nearly forgot. Did we ever have foul brood? and if so, had we any cure? Well, I don't know it by that name, but have had hives diseased. Dead brood in the combs, a bad smell. When they got bad the bees seemed not to work and make a doleful sound. We had several five years ago, and only for old man Muskeegron's skill we would have likely suffered heavily. He said he thought they wanted something bitter and puckering. He took the bark of prickly ash and high bush cranberry, made a tea of it and sweetened it with honey. It cured them very soon. We use it now all the time when taking off and putting on top hives. We are not troubled with the disease now at all. Well, I will not be able to write you again this year, but hope to hear from you in November, as Young Beaver Tail will be out about the middle of the month, but I cannot reply until the spring. Tell me about the wax. I don't want to know nor hear what any of the bee men say about me and my bee-talk. It is nothing to us. I don't care to tell them any more about our bees. In fact I haven't let my people know that I told what I did last winter, White men may stick to their theories I have

done my duty to them and that is all I have to say. We are all well and happy hoping you and your friends are the same.

I am, Yours very truly

DANIEL MCFADDEN.

P.S.—Tell me how you liked the bone pens I sent you. My little boy made them. They are made out of the shin of a moose.

Raven's Peak we may suppose to be about four or five hundred miles north of Beeton, and winter must have fully set in there very early, as 150 miles north of here sleighing was good on the 25th of October. Yet Hudson's Bay has a tendency no doubt to moderate the temperature, also James' Bay extending as it does from Hudson's Bay down into this territory. In reference to bees not being damp we are satisfied that bees should have their abdomens well filled with stores if we expect them to survive a long time. It is not very difficult for any of us to understand that without food for nature to draw on they would not be able to survive nearly so long as if they had their honey sacs filled. It would be very easy for them to take from that storehouse from time to time what food they might require. We are satisfied that dry bees will live much longer than damp ones, and some careful experiments have satisfied us also that bees will winter better in a dry than in a damp atmosphere. We had some experience last year in England and Scotland in a damp atmosphere, and felt the cold very much more, although more warmly clad than ever in this country, and yet at times the atmosphere was above the freezing point, in fact one feels the cold more with the temperature above freezing in a damp atmosphere than when the temperature is below zero in Canada. A person can stand more heat or more cold in a dry atmosphere than he can in a damp one. In a perfectly dry atmosphere a person can stand a temperature about equal to boiling water whereas a much lower temperature would scald him if it were damp. If the bees were lying just in that peculiar state that they did not consume any air, no doubt a circulation of air would be objectionable and then when no air could get to them, or very little, it would be absolutely necessary that they should be very dry and the air around them too, or they