

## The Taking Of Comb Honey.

**T**HIS is a subject says R. F. Holtermann in April 1st. issue of C. B. J. that I have been anxious to learn about. Rambler in Gleanings recently gave a very good way to take it all the paraphernalia necessary is a common table fork with which to carry it to your mouth. Allan Pringle says it is good used with buckwheat pancakes. Any one stopping at our place would learn to eat it three times a day, but no doubt Mr. H. like ourselves has long ago learned to take it this way. We notice Mr. Gemmill assists Mr. H. in upholding the use of separators, he says it is amusing to note the different stands some of our best authorities have taken during the last few years. I am surprised to find some now who favor separators having supposed they were something of the past. I find in my locality I can produce a better article without them. I have used tin but find the bees will build brace combs to them and consequently sections thus attached are spoilt and the bees are also more reluctant to enter the sections. Certainly a great deal depends upon the strength of the colony but select two colonies, similar in strength and honey gatherers, place on each a super one with and the other without separators, the bees will enter the latter and go right to work while the others are considering it. If they are a little rough on the surface they are nice and white and No. 1 honey in them, and I can get a No. 1 price for them.

Expulsion of bee keepers from Ontario is a subject which has been occupying the minds of some lately. We observe in May 15th. issue a severe criticism on an article from Mr. Hall but why should this be. It may be that in Ontario the drug business has not as yet proved a success but this does not signify it may never be a success.

While reading the criticism I could not but exclaim "Oh, consistency thou art a jewel," and on looking up some of the late C. B. J.'s found on page twenty-nine, April 15th issue, these words: "If Mr. A. think me worthy of such a trial, and his figures not too high, I would be pleased to test his method," referring to the Alpaugh system. Now, why any individual should so severely criticise one man because he has something to sell and hold up another is more than I can tell, especially when the article sold by one is of as much importance to the bee-keeping world as the other. Our American cousins have lately been accused of having a ring formed. Gentle reader does this not give them a chance to retaliate by saying "such is the case among Canadian bee keepers."

J. R. KITCHIN:

Weidmann, May 27, 92.

## Management of Bees.

**A**LL the leading facts regarding the breeding of bees ought to be as familiar to the apiarist as the rearing of animals is to the stock breeder. A few notions, however satisfactory to the old-fashioned bee-keeper will no longer meet the wants of those who desire to conduct an apiary on an extended and profitable system. Practical bee-keeping in this country is in a very depressed condition, being neglected by the masses most favorably situated for the pursuit. Multitudes have abandoned the pursuit in disgust on account of some poor seasons we have had during the last few years. Many have lost their bees purely by neglect or bad management. Bee-keepers who want to make bee-keeping a success now-a-days must take some pains with their apiaries. To do so, he or she must try to have all the colonies as strong in bees as possible by the time of the honey flow for there is more money in one colony well populated with bees than a dozen with only a few in each. A number of bee keepers make the pursuit a failure through a desire to have a large quantity of bees. First they get one colony and in a short time they get carried away with the idea that they understand all about bee-keeping and must have a dozen more. Of course they would not be bee-keepers unless they had lots of honey for the table (so they think). Now this is where the mistake is made. If they would keep down increase and unite all small colonies they would have better success and more bees in the end of a few years and with less expense.

D. ANGLISH.

Southwold, Ont.

## Report from Beekeepers.

MR. BATTRAM, of Brigden, writes: Under date June 6th, Mr. Barnes had a swarm on 29th May also 2nd June. A number in this neighborhood have lost heavily during the last season our prospects are good for a large honey yield.

MR. D. CHALMERS, of Poole, writes us: Bees have built up very rapidly during apple bloom and the weather of late has been very favorable for clover; have already seen a few little "white heads." Basswood is going to be very good in this part and if we are favored with suitable weather I think we will have a return of 1888. Some of my colonies had eggs in the queen-cells over a week ago but they are not likely to swarm until the clover comes as these cold days seem to cause them to change their mind occasionally on the swarming question.

MR. T. J. COLE, Bowmanville, writes us: I consider the C. B. J. invaluable not only to the