

than 2,000 years ago, I fear the "fire" would be extinguished.

The title of our subject savors somewhat of romance and adventure. But there is also a very practical side, as many who have engaged in migratory bee-keeping stand ready and qualified to attest. It is this practical side in which we are more particularly interested; for of all the benign attributes of our cherished vocation, the beloved pursuit of bee-keeping, the dollar which may accrue, is not the least fascinating to the specialist; if, indeed, it is to any, whether engaged in bee culture for profit or pleasure.

As has been demonstrated by innumerable instances, bees may be transported with profit, under favorable conditions, to distant pastures; yet I believe heavy expense in moving for a special flow which is anticipated, is rarely warranted, and many cases may be cited to the discouragement of the practice. The advisability of the procedure in each case can better be determined by the apiarist in charge, whose portion it will be to abide the result. The uncertainty of nectar secretion, even when an abundance of bloom is assured, renders the undertaking more or less hazardous, and especially so when the supply is anticipated from a variable and uncertain source; as, for example, the linden. With the mangrove of the South it is less uncertain, and in favorable seasons the flow is equal in extent to that of the linden under like conditions; hence, with the advantage of natural waterways to facilitate moving, and where the apiary equipment includes a commodious transport, and where, as a result of earlier activity, a powerful force of workers has accumulated, which by enforced idleness, through lack of forage, become consumers instead of producers of honey, all of which tend to lessen the possibility of loss and reduce the chances of failure, there is a strong incentive to action.

Impelled by visions of blooming fields known to exist 50, 100 or 200 miles up the coast, and a realization of the possible achievements of such an adequate force of workers, a move determined upon is very hopefully or confidently undertaken; and in many instances the results have justified the effort; occasionally the bee-keeper is handsomely rewarded for his enterprise. In the history of American bee-keeping, as chronicled in our journals, instances of such successful migration are now on record, to the credit of enterprising apiarists in their operations of 1898. The minor details, with regard to the preparations for moving and handling the product need not be reiterated

further. The importance of ample ventilation, pure air, restricted draft, water supply, subdued light, secure confinement, space for the cluster, careful hauling etc., is well known to every one competent to undertake the management of an apiary, whether permanent or portable. It might be well, however, to consider briefly the objects of migration and the conditions which determine its success or failure. First of the important requisites to success, is a thorough knowledge, not of the care and management of bees, alone, but of our fields of operation as well. With these, irrational moves, incurring heavy expense, will not be made; while, with them, opportunities are occasionally offered to materially increase our product. Failure, to be sure, may and sometimes will, through causes which the apiarist has no control, meet the best of plans. But of what business enterprise may not the same be said?

From personal observation of various parts of the country, I recall but one place the advantages of which I regard as of sufficient to warrant the expense which the undertaking involves; and while a continued practical test might disprove my faith in this field and its possibilities, I beg permission briefly to cite the circumstances and conditions upon which it is founded. Permanently established in a certain locality in the South are apiaries which, for nearly a score of years prior to the freezes of 1894-95, have yielded annually (with but one or two exceptions) an average per colony of not less than 135 lbs. of honey. Here the flow comes in May, June and July. Distant 150 miles, and connected by navigable waterways, good crops are usually harvested each year during the winter and spring months. Other localities, as easily accessible, not unfrequently give a surplus flow through September and October.

If these "staticary" apiaries are a source of profit to their owners, as they evidently are, why may they not be made doubly so through the utilization of such natural advantages?

When through the great primary cause, innate love of our pursuit, which has inspired its true followers in their noble work of founding the UNITED STATES BEE-KEEPERS' UNION, a union that is obviously destined to become the greatest and most powerful organization of bee-keepers on earth, and when through its influence bee-keeping shall have been lifted to its rightful place among the industries of the nation; when our product has become a staple household commodity, and bee-keeping knowledge and methods are