

matter of bees being a nuisance in some cases when bees are kept in a village or near a public road. They are a trouble when being robbed of their honey, but at no other time in my experience have I ever known bees to follow any person to sting them, but when being robbed of their stores they will sometimes go into buildings to sting, and go quite a distance to do so. Three years ago I bought an extractor and I went to a neighbor that kept bees about one quarter of a mile from my place, to get a little information about its use. He was extracting at the time, and when I got near the place where the bees were getting robbed of their honey, I found the air filled with infuriated bees chasing everything that had life to sting. It was with difficulty that I got into the house, which was closed up tight to keep the bees from entering to sting the inmates. Those bees chased and stung everything that came along the road that afternoon; some teams came near getting away from their drivers. When I left the place they chased me clear home, and I saw a man coming down holding his hand on his face inquiring from those he met if they knew what was good for bee stings; and I saw a lady coming down with a horse and buggy driving fast, and when she came into the village she gave a shriek and said she was stung. This man's bees were Italians, Blacks and Hybrids, and kept them in a yard in front of his house and near the road. I have some bees myself that are ten times crosser than these. I don't know what strain they are. I got six queens last year from J. O. Tracey, Tavistock, for Italian queens, but they did not all prove to be Italians. There were two queens in the lot that produced bees that are impossible to handle; it is worth more to get the honey from them than it is worth. There was one of the cross colonies that had three half stories of comb honey in their hive and thought I would never get them off. However, I went at them one afternoon with a determination of getting them off. I got a veil, sewed it on the rim of a good straw hat and an elastic on the other end. I first got on two pair of pants, tied a string around each leg at the bottom, I then put on an overcoat, buttoned it up and turned up the collar, then put on my hat with the veil and got the elastic around my neck outside of the coat collar and had it fastened all around with pins. I then put on a pair of thick woollen mittens and an elastic around each wrist to break the joint. I thought I was now prepared for them. Before leaving the house I told my wife to keep all the doors and windows closed and not let any of the children out until I came in, if they did not

want to get killed. Just as soon as I put my hand on the hive they commenced pouring out they as if were swarming and covered me up from head to foot and every bee was stinging my clothes, and the odor of the stings was something terrible. I had only got one cap off, when I felt their stings piercing. I threw down the cap and retreated to my workshop, thinking they would leave me when I got in the building, but not a leave, they stuck right to me until I killed them, and before I got my clothes off I was badly stung. I had nothing on my premises that they could sting but twenty hens, and I did not think they would sting them, but they did. I looked out of the shop window and saw the hens running and flying in all directions. I was suffering with pain from the stings, but I had to laugh at the performance of the hens, it was the best show I ever saw in my life; they kept at them for over half an hour and I thought they would kill every hen I had. If Mr. Harrison's bees are of this strain I should not wonder if his neighbors had some cause to complain.

A. BRIDGE.

West Brook, Dec. 4th, 1886.

TESTIMONY FROM A BLACKSMITH BEE-KEEPER.

I take pleasure in complying to your request on page 707 of the C. B. J. Let every bee-keeper furnish his experience in this matter; I am a blacksmith and I keep bees, have the German, Italian, Hybrid and Cyprian forty-five colonies; have kept bees five years, the hives (some of them) are only six feet from the shop door, and all within six rods, also about thirty feet from the sidewalk, yet they do not trouble any person passing. I have seen on two or three occasions where teams were driven through a swarm when it was out, and the bees did not sting the horses, and as for bees stinging horses in the shop I never had any trouble with bees in the shop; they come in some times and buzz around but never sting any horses. There is another apiary right in the centre of the village between two blacksmith shops yet none has ever heard of the bees stinging horses, and again one and a half miles west is another blacksmith and a neighbor that keeps bees, and there is no trouble there as I have been acquainted with the parties twelve years. Nor do I believe that Mr. Harrison's bees trouble Mr. McIntosh.

JOHN McKEON.

Dryden, N. Y., Dec 6th., 1886.

Here is the right kind of evidence for this case. This man has had no difficulty with his bees, and they are surely as close as the Plaintiff McIntosh's can be.