

retaining heat. Such covers must be covered with some non-conductor of heat.

Geo. H. Ashby said it make no difference if the cellar were damp, if the temperature were high enough.

R. L. Taylor had several times tried wintering bees out of doors, and they had never wintered so well as in the cellar. He had bees in two cellars. One cellar is made under his house. There is a furnace in it, and the cellar is dry. The other is under the barn, and has a cistern, and is damp. He could see no difference in the wintering of the bees in the two cellars. There is just this much about it: In a damp cellar, the temperature must be kept higher.

Adjourned to meet at 7:30 p. m.

#### EVENING SESSION.

At 7:30 P.M. President Mason called the meeting to order, and invited the quartette of the previous evening, to open the proceedings with the singing of the bee keepers' songs, which have appeared from time to time.

The question drawer was then opened and the following questions asked.

SHOULD BEE-KEEPING BE ALLIED WITH ANY OTHER BUSINESS? IF SO WHAT OTHER BUSINESS?

R. L. Taylor.—The greatest success in every business depends on one putting all his energies into it and life is not too long to perfect any one occupation. If to one money making occupation another with the same end in view be added the two will not be as successful as if either were followed out by itself. My nature rebels against putting my whole soul into any one business. I like to do other things as well as keep bees and I have sacrificed my love of money for the pleasure of having more than one pursuit. Any pursuit which is to go with bee keeping, must be one that will require but little attention during the summer months. Small fruit growing is often mentioned but is a very poor adjunct to bee keeping. Grape growing and the raising of pears and plums will in many places work very well with bee keeping but if bee keeping is so profitable why not keep more bees or if it is not profitable why follow it at all.

In answer to a question Mr. Taylor

said that a man who would do his work in the winter as he ought to should be able to care for 300 colonies.

#### HONEY PACKAGES.

Mr. R. McKnight showed a line of English and French honey packages of his own importation, there being none like them manufactured in this country. There were screw-tops and tie-overs, the latter having a cork with parchment tied over the top. The packages held from one half to three pounds and were very strong. In explaining his mode of putting his honey on the market Mr. McKnight showed the packages to be almost unbreakable, by kicking them around the platform and knocking them from the table. A bottle filled with honey in 1888 was exhibited still in its liquid state, never having granulated.

The following essay was then read.—

#### Shipping Queens.

THE most that I can say on this subject will probably not be new to the majority of you, but as I shall detail the system practiced in our own apiary there may be some points which may interest even the older heads who have perhaps had a great deal more experience than myself.

I take it that the point in the queen breeder's work where my subject shall properly commence is when he has his queens mated and ready to forward in fulfilment of the various orders received or expected.

The three principal items for consideration are:—

- The cage,
- The food, and
- The mode of caging.

and I shall discuss these in the order in which I have named them as it appears to be their natural sequence.

#### THE CAGE

requires to be light, strong, and free from absorbent qualities. We have made them from pine, cedar, balsam, spruce, and basswood and like them in the order named. Pine seems to conform to all the requirements named better than any of the others; cedar is light but not so strong, balsam is light, soft, not liable to split, and a good non-absorbent but with us is not easily obtainable; basswood is strong and less liable to split, but it has the disadvantage of absorbing moisture and will soon become sour unless kept in a dry atmosphere, spruce is light, but it is usually hard and flinty and is very liable to crack.