

our botanist, on examining the tree found that portions of the trunk were in full vigor while other parts were just beginning to decay. The branches springing from the vigorous parts of the trunk matured their fruit in due season, while the blossoms on the less vigorous branches were only struggling into existence. His explanation seems satisfactory.

Mr. Dunn asks "Will the trees blossom next spring?" Well, it is a hard question just now. We would much rather answer it next June but we venture to say, that while the trees will not blossom next year so profusely as they probably would do under ordinary circumstances, there may be a considerable number of blossoms in the spring, from birds not far enough advanced to have participated in the abnormal display this fall.

From the Bee-Keepers' Guide.

HONEY MARKETS.

Of these, there are two; the home and foreign. The home market is either local, about one's apiary, or distant, at some commercial city center. In most cases, bee-keepers fail to do justice to their home local market, which needs working up in a variety of ways: such as publishing thoroughly the fact that there is honey for sale; taking care that only a first-class article is offered; and circulating information about the qualities of honey as food and medicine, also as to rates and values in honey. To the ignorant, it is with honey as with the flower of which the poet speaks:

"The primrose by the river's brim,
A yellow primrose is to him,
And it is nothing more."

Honey is honey. But there is a vast difference between the article that has been strained out of a general mash of old comb, brood in all stages and honey of various kinds and ages, and a prime sample of extracted. To many buyers of honey extracted is strained, and strained extracted,—it's all the same, and the price of the meanest and most worthless mess of strained must set the figure for the clearest and brightest nectar that can be produced. Bee-keepers should take the pains to teach that dull scholar, the public, how to discriminate in regard to this product, as well as other. You can't fool people about commodities with which they are familiar. Make them familiar with honey in its various grades and qualities, then they will not be so absurd as to expect all samples to be sold at the same price, and that, the lowest for which any can be got.

A person may be a good bee-keeper, but a poor salesman. There are some merchants who can sell goods "whether or no." You go into their store without remotest idea of buying anything, and the first thing you know, you have made a purchase. There has been no coaxing or persuasion, but only a certain way of showing goods which has awakened the desire to buy. It is the same with bee-keepers. I know two who raise equally good honey, the one has no difficulty in selling his product, the other finds it left on his hands though he only raises half as much as the other.

Reference is made in the Notes Department of last *Guide* to bee-keepers underselling one another, and it is remarked that there is no such competition among farmers when they bring wheat, corn or oats to market. This is because there is a foreign demand by which values are fixed. If it were not for the outlet abroad we should have the same trouble in selling grain, beef and cheese, that we have in selling honey. We, Canadians, are making a great effort the present season to secure the advantages of foreign market for our honey-producers.

We are showing a large and attractive display of honey at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition which is now in full blast at Kensington, near London, England. No fewer than thirty-five of our leading bee-keepers have sent samples of honey put up in the most attractive forms, and we have four commissioners present in person to look after the exhibit, and see that it is not shoved into a corner. The Provincial Government of Ontario must have the credit of this stroke of enterprise. It would not have been attempted by private parties or by the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association. But a grant from the public chest of \$1,000 furnished sufficient encouragement for our bee-keepers to undertake to make an exhibit. Besides the grant of money, the government pays freight and sundry other expenses incurred in connection with the undertaking. We are hoping that the result of this measure will be the creation of a demand for Canadian honey such as will stiffen our market, and keep the prices up to a fairly remunerative standard. Honey has, until recently, been a costly luxury in Great Britain, hence the demand for it has been limited. It is believed that by cheapening and popularizing this product, it will be brought into more general consumption, and called for in far larger quantities than heretofore.

W. F. CLARKE.

Guelph, Ont.