

sible. I put them in on Dec. 1 this winter, and there was very mild weather for two weeks, and the bees raised the mercury to 52° and it remained at that for two weeks, notwithstanding the window was open night and day. I found them going too fast for the window at that temperature and I partly darkened the window until winter set in in earnest. My belief is that in less than five years all bee-keepers will be wintering their bees in a light cellar. I am perfectly satisfied that they are as quiet in a light cellar as in a dark one. Last fall I boarded the walls of my cellar with rough boards, leaving a small space between the stone walls and the boards, then I lined the board walls with building paper and laid a board floor on the bottom of the cellar, leaving a two-inch space between the bottom and the floor. This makes the cellar very dry and warm; no frost can possibly get in. We have had two weeks of the coldest weather here that I ever recollect seeing. The mercury has been as low as 30° below zero, and the mercury has been from 40° to 43° in the cellar, with no heat but that from the bees. I think this inside wall will prove to be a good investment, for I never could have kept the frost out during such a cold spell without artificial heat. I would just say to those who intend to try my plan of wintering in a light cellar, that they will find it necessary to partly darken the window after the 1st of March if the weather is mild, as the bees generally begin to get uneasy about that date.

I suppose I might send you an article occasionally that might be of some benefit to my brother bee-keepers, but you will see at a glance that I am not competent to get up an article for the press. My education is a very limited one and it keeps me from writing for the press. There is another thing that we must not lose sight of. That is, we cannot afford to spend all our time on bee-keeping or any other wordly pursuit. We are all pilgrims in this world and we are traveling to a world from which no traveller has ever returned. The good Book tells us that to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.—Rom. viii-5. We must not not overlook in our knowledge of bee-keeping that we have a soul that needs daily food as well as our bodies.

I have got familiar with the names of quite a number of our able bee-keepers by reading the bee journals. It is not likely that I will meet with many of them in this world, but I am in hopes of meeting with some of them, at least, in the better land.

A. BRIDGE, P.M.

West Brook, P.O., Co. Frontenac, Ont.

We thank you for so promptly

answering our request, and for the information you have given us. It does begin to look as though we have been *too particular* about having the repository "pitch dark" all the time, but even yet we must be "slow to make haste" until we have yet more positive assurance. Let us know in spring just how your bees come out, and how they stand the first few weeks. The effect of these weeks in spring when the colonies are liable to "spring dwindle" should be carefully noted. We have printed your letter pretty much as it was received, just to let our friends see that you are thoroughly capable for writing for the press, and we hope that you may help us a little more by your letters than you have in the past. You know how to write *understandingly* and that is what we want. High-flown verbiage is all right in its place, but some of our best writers use very simple language, and their articles are always looked for eagerly on this account.

#### OHIO BEE-KEEPERS.

Written for the Canadian Bee Journal by F. A. Eaton.

THE convention was held at Columbus, Ohio., on Jan. 10th and 11th, 1888, and opened at 9 a.m. President E. R. Root in the chair.

After the routine business of reading the report of the last meeting, and the reports of the officers, the first topic was announced for discussion, viz :

#### BEE-CONVENTIONS, HOW TO MAKE THEM A SUCCESS AND THEIR VALUE TO BEE-KEEPERS.

A. I. Root—It pays to hold and attend conventions. It has been hard work to get me out. I owe a debt of gratitude to Prof Cook and others for getting me started; it does me good and I am thankful that I have been induced to attend conventions. I learned of a new 5-cent comb honey package at Manistee by going to the Michigan convention and getting out among folks last month. He spoke of the joint meeting of the horticulturists and bee-keepers of Michigan; of a two-hours' address by a professor—but when it came to the bee-keepers' time they were up and alive, speaking briefly and to the point, and they had lots of intelligent fun.

Dr. Mason—It does not pay me in dollars and cents for we can get the best thoughts and the valuable suggestions of our best men who attend the conventions, in the published reports of the meetings, but it pays socially.

Dr. Besse—It pays me by learning of new appliances, getting new ideas, mental culture, etc. I have got my pay already, and the convention has only just started.

H. R. Boardman—It pays the specialist financially, and always pays all socially.