

proceeds; on the other hand, if he meets with a loss through his own stupidity or mismanagement he keeps it to himself.

Advertising bee-feeders and advocating and giving methods of feeding sugar syrup for winter stores has done more to injure beekeeping than it has ever done good to those that practiced it. Twenty years ago I could sell honey, pollen, brood and all, out of the old box hives, after the bees had been sulphured, readily for a shilling per. pound. Now it is difficult to get that for the best honey, simply because the big producers brag of big yields, and the small producers grumble and get jealous of them, and attribute their success to the free use of the sugar barrel, nearly every bee book teaching the advantage of using sugar, and the proper way to do it. Is it any wonder that the public think that we make the comb and fill it with sugar syrup? I took four prizes out of five at our fair last fall, and as I was handling the honey a rich farmer came up to me and asked the price, I told him I could give him a good article at 10 cents. He replied that he used to like honey well, but of late years since people had got to making honey he did not eat much of it. And there are thousands just like him, and it is useless to try to teach them otherwise so long as they can refer to bee books and papers to back them up. I used to throw my bee-papers around so that any one coming in could see them, but I found out that several of my neighbors were noticing the sugar feeding articles and quit buying honey from me. Some remarked that it was easy to get a lot of honey by feeding syrup, and it is worse than useless to try to convince them otherwise. There are plenty of better subjects to write on, for the public eye. I could stretch this out ten yards long, but I have said enough for you to see the point.

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We didn't get a report, which was what we asked for, but we got an article a good deal longer than reports generally are, and it contains some thoughts worthy of attention. We have seen protests just as vigorous as friend Lawrence's before, and are just as willing to give space to such expostulations, as we were to the sugar feeding articles. Will our friend tell us what he would do in case he *had* to feed and had no honey to do it with? Perhaps let his bees die like Mr. J. B. Jones proposed to do. By the way, we had contemplated asking friend Jones whether he intended to carry out in practice what he had promulgated in theory? We only

saw him for a moment at Toronto during the exhibition, and had no chance to chat with him. But to get back to the subject. If there is no honey to be had—or if the beekeeper who wants to feed has none, or is unable to pay the figure for it, when sugar can be obtained for two-thirds the price.—What are you going to do about it? Perhaps there has been too much said about it, but it certainly has been a necessary evil to some extent. For ourselves we have never had any difficulty in persuading people to give up their beliefs respecting sugar-syrup honey after a little chat on the subject. As a last resort we have offered to give them a dollar per pound for every pound of such honey they could ever find as coming from our hands. And people know that a respectable person or firm will not make such an offer if they are not sure of what they are saying. We will tell you what causes a great deal more trouble than all these articles about sugar feeding which you find fault with, and that is the pernicious habit so many beekeepers have of selling or exhibiting their extracted honey in a "half and-half" state. There is nothing in our opinion that will raise distrust in the mind of a customer so quickly as to offer him a jar or tin of honey half granulated and half liquid. It looks bad, and to our notion tastes worse. It has a sort of sugary taste, that to the amateur in honey eating, gives the thing right away. We have found that more people ground their charges of adulteration upon this fact than upon all others combined. Merchants who offer honey to the public would do well to keep their supply in the back ground while it is in a state of semi-granulation. If they would keep a certain portion of their stock always in a liquid state it would also be a great help. Another thing which causes trouble is, that beekeepers are careless when they sell honey in not explaining to the merchant about the system of granulation through which all extracted honey passes, so that he may in turn give the necessary information to his customers. And all this would be saved if apiarists would only use labels on their cans and jars. Thousands of pounds of honey are sold annually, and never a word is said about any change being likely to take