

The Practical Bee-Keeper.

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The American Bee Journal in its new dress is vastly improved—typographically. As for any other improvement we fear that is impossible as it seems now so near the beau-ideal of a real live bee-keeper. May its shadow never grow less.

For some time we have felt that the reports of the Michigan Experimental Apiary should be submitted to the "boiling down" process. The reports fairly bristle with figures, and as examples of apianian statistics are no doubt valuable. But the greater number of bee-keepers feel that life is too short to experiment along the same lines themselves and their thanks will be due the Rev. W. F. Clarke who in the American Bee Journal has so happily furnished bee-keepers with a digest which contains the salient features of the reports. We publish his extracts on another page.

We will send "The Practical Bee-Keeper," twelve months free to one bee keeper in each locality where bees are kept who will send us the names of at least fifteen of his acquaintances who are bona-fide bee-keepers. Our object in this is to send a sample copy of our journal to every bee-keeper in Canada, with a view to getting his subscription. You can help us in this and at the same time secure your own subscription free. The first to comply with this request in each locality will be credited with a full twelve months' subscription. Write plainly and give the post-office in each case.

Notes from Florida, an interesting article on bee culture in the Sunny South, by Mr. C. D. Duvall, is crowded out this month.

Mr. T. E. Abbott in the "Review" advocates the representation of bee-keepers at Farmers' Institutes. In Missouri the State furnishes the speakers at these Institutes, a certain number of which are held annually at different points throughout the State. These speakers of course, are thoroughly poetted in their respective subjects and are supposed to answer all proper questions asked by the audiences they address. Mr. Abbott's idea is that the bee-keepers as a body should try by every means in their power to have the importance of apiculture brought before these Institutes and should secure some good man to represent the industry at all Farmers' Institutes. It may be said 'en passant' that these Institutes are not attended by farmers only, but as they are generally held in some centrally located town and village a large number of the citizens attend. That this is true we know for we have ourselves attended the meetings of Farmers' Institutes where the farmers were in the minority. Failing the appointment by the government of a speaker on apiculture—for he should be a government appointee and receive a salary. Mr. Abbott suggests that local bee-keepers in each community where institutes are held, attend all of its meetings, and when an opportunity offer, talk bees the best he or she knows. Here is proper subject for thought and above all action on the part of Canadian bee-keepers.