

NOTES AND COMMENTS

By a York County Bee-Keeper.

What is the Egg-Laying Capacity of the "Best" Queens?

In a recent issue of *Gleanings* Mr. Doolittle makes the statement that 9 Gallup frames, the equivalent of 6 3-4 Langstroth frames, are enough to "entertain the best queen to her full capacity as to egg-laying." Dr. Miller in a "Straw" reminds Mr. D. of his claim that a queen lays as high as 5,000 eggs in a day, and yet if what Mr. D. says is correct as to size of hive, if only 3-4 of a frame is allowed for pollen and honey the queen would only have to lay a trifle over 2,000 eggs in a day to keep the rest of the hive full of brood.

Doubtless anything this "noter" might offer by way of differing with Mr. D. would be much in line with the fable of the gnat and the ox. Nevertheless we wish to make the positive statement that for our locality, hives and queens, Mr. Doolittle's estimate is "way out." With my large 12-frame Quinby hives, it is quite a common thing to find 10 frames solid with brood, barring a small strip of honey along the topbar, and with small patches of brood in the two outside frames. Indeed, I remember in one instance of finding 11 of these combs nearly solid with brood with a small quantity in the 12th frame. A bee-keeper of some prominence was with me at the time and I think he would vouch for the correctness of my statement. These figures are not given by way of argument in favor of extra large hives, neither do I claim that our queens are better than the ordinary, as they were for the most part crosses

of Carniolans and Blacks. Might say that quantity of brood mentioned was in the hives early enough to be of use in the clover flow of June and July.

Bee-Stings—a Panacea for Many Ills.

One of the sacred writers informs us that "there is no new thing under the sun." If such is the case we are very slow in attaining to all the knowledge of our forefathers. For years we have heard of the virtues of bee-stings as a remedial agent in curing rheumatism, and in October *Gleanings* Mr. Root tells us that they are used in different solutions for curing diphtheria as well. But to cap the climax just listen to what Mr. Root says further, as to another use for the "ticklers": "We have sold from our New York office two pounds of bees that are to be put in a preparation for restoring the growth of hair on bald heads." We are not told as to methods of application, whether they are to be "transplanted," or otherwise; anyway, the fraternity owe this enterprising benefactor a vote of thanks for his discovery. Certainly no bee-keeper will now need to carry a bald pate and be subjected to freezings, scorchings, flies and other petty annoyances incidental to this infirmity.

Manufactured Comb Honey at St. Louis.

For the past few months the "manufactured comb honey" canard has been pretty actively circulated among the different American papers. Naturally, the bee-keepers were much incensed over the matter and the convention at St. Louis was looked to as an opportune time to throttle and bury the lie for good and all.

Accordingly, after the leading lights of beedom gathered from 'Dan to Beersheba,' had in solemn conclave deliberated long and earnestly over the question, a committee was appointed to prepare a statement for the press and have same inserted in the leading