

est esteem by all who knew her.

Mr. Howard is well known in bee-keeping circles in Ontario, is a bee-keeper of considerable experience: fifteen years ago in 1888, he reared and distributed the premium queens for members of the O. B. K. A. in a very satisfactory manner. Since then he had a large experience with foul brood losing his whole apiary in 1893. He now has a nice yard of a hundred colonies.

We are sure that the bee-keeping friends will well feel great sympathy with Mr. Howard in his bereavement.

Communications

Editor C. B. J.—

Dear Sir,

Taking advantage of the recent cold, blustery weather I have been doing up a few odd jobs indoors and among other things have been reading the C. B. J. for the past five or six months which previously had only been lightly scanned.

One thing I came across in the July number which particularly interested me, It was a partial report of the Chicago and North Western Convention copied from American Bee Journal entitled "Foul Brood"—"Its cause and cure," on page 283; Mr. France, in answer to the question regarding the disposal of diseased combs tells how he ran 2000 combs through that wax-press the first day, the wax-press referred to being known as the German wax-press. Now, Mr. Editor, I want to get one of those machines and I am prepared to pay a good price for it providing anything less than a locomotive can supply the necessary steam and power to work it. I am pleased to say I don't require it to melt dis-

eased combs but I do need it to melt up old superannuated brood combs, pollen laden combs, etc.

I was formerly imbued with the idea that every little bit of a comb was valuable to the bees, that it paid to prune out patches of drone comb and "graft" worker comb in its place, that "valuable" pollen-laden combs could be "saved" by soaking them in water and then throwing the resulting "porridge" out with the honey extractor, Bah! I got over these notions several years ago. Every fall after the bees are prepared for winter I cull over all spare combs and heavy pollen-laden ones (usually from queenless colonies) whether new or old; defective combs which could only be made suitable for the brood chamber by patching and very black and heavy worker combs no matter how perfect otherwise are all condemned to the "melting pot."

This year I have nearly 500 to melt up and expect that with the trimming up of the frames, so they can be used again, and attending to the various and numerous jobs constantly demanding attention around a home, that that number will keep me in recreation for a month.

If I had 2000 to melt I should feel perfectly justified in declining to accept any other contract during the winter.

But if I had one of those German wax-presses, I could offer to do all melting for the bee-keepers of Dufferin County. In four months all the wax from the brood combs of 25000, 8 frame hives could be placed on the market and the press could rest in Sundays too. That 500 of mine would be a mere bagatelle; by a little exertion in getting up early some bright morning they might be run through before breakfast, before the real labor of the day would commence. If the Goold, Shapley &