

the other three colonies, aided with old combs, and the purchase of three queens I have now twenty-three fairly strong and well supplied with good stores, having fed about 300 lbs. of sugar. Obtained in all about 350 lbs. honey. So far I have not made bee-keeping pay, Dr. and Cr. being about equal, without reckoning labor; however, I believe that bee-keeping will pay, if ready sale can be had for bees and honey, which is doubtful. Wishing success to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, I remain interested in bees and honey.

We do not wonder that you feel a little sore about losing so many colonies, but you see the one that you attended properly came through in good condition, while 58 others out of 60 died. Now the two you got from us must have done moderately well to have helped you up to 20 colonies. The Holy Land colony which you say you got from us, was certainly sent by a great mistake on the part of our shipper, as the queen alone was worth more than the price charged you. Though they may not be great honey producers, they will produce plenty of bees, but the fact of your getting 300 lbs. of honey with the large increase you made, shows that you must have managed them well. The following report shows what Mr. McClure did with 3 colonies. We believe the bees we sold last year gave the best of satisfaction.

#### PROVIDING BEE PASTURAGE.

JOHN MCCLURE.—Being a reader of your BEE JOURNAL, I see a great number of bee-keepers giving their experience and success for the past few years. I only commenced in the spring of 1885 with three colonies of Italians bought of D. A. Jones, Beeton. I will let the readers of the BEE JOURNAL know the success I have had since commencing. I had nine swarms during the season; the first swarm in June went to the bush and I lost it, giving me poor encouragement the first start. The other eight I had no trouble with—got them all safe. I sold one in the fall for \$5, leaving me ten to go into winter quarters with, the 20th November. Having no cellar, I put them in a large dark room upstairs—flat on the floor—the same as they were on the summer stands with seven frames to each colony as I thought well prepared for the winter with stores from the fall yield, with the stovepipe hole in chimney for ventilation. Examined them for the first time on the morning of 22nd March, and found one of my old colonies dead from starvation with plenty of bees and not a single cell of honey. I took on the 21st July, with a Jones' extractor, 81 lbs. extracted honey, and 36 lbs. comb honey in section frames, and sold it all at 12½ cents per lb.

Intending to follow up bee culture, what kind of success do you think I have had so far?

Your success is as gratifying to us, as it must have been pleasing to yourself. Your three colonies, counting the swarm that went to the woods, increased to 12, and you sold over \$19 worth of honey and bees.

Having two acres of ground, I intend to sow buckwheat, so it will bloom about the middle of August, after the extracting season is over, so the bees could gather for winter stores, and seed down with Alsike Clover.

What time would I require to sow it to bloom about that time?

Sow it about 6 weeks before you want it to bloom.

I am going to plant shade trees this spring outside my lot. Which is the best for bees, the American Linden, or the Basswood that C. M. Goodspeed, Thornhill, N. Y., advertises in BEE JOURNAL? In a circular received from Mr. Goodspeed, he says he will supply 50 Basswood, 5 feet high and over, for \$4; American Linden at nurseries the same height, are \$10 per dozen in Ontario.

If you could get basswood that would bloom either earlier or later than our Canadian basswood do so. There are several varieties that bloom at different times; by selecting from these a continuous flow might be kept up for some time.

Is there any duty on such trees crossing the lines to this country? Can you tell how much for fifty?

Woodbridge, March 22nd, 1886.

We think the duty is 20 %, on trees, not enumerated in the tariff, and "Lindens" are not.

#### LOW PRICES KILLING A MARKET.

R. H. S.—What class or grade of honey is meant by "unfinished honey?" A prominent member of the O. B. K. A. has been selling honey to the grocers here in London at six cents a pound, calling it *unfinished* honey, and offering dandelion honey at *less*. The regular wholesale price of first-class extracted honey has been ten cents all the season, but some of the large honey producers have sold at eight, and now it is let down to six or less. It does not seem a very brotherly piece of business, for one who is well able to keep his poor honey and feed it to his bees, to break down a good honey market, and be all the time crying that there will soon be no market for *their* honey, there is no profit in bee and those who cannot keep bees on a large scale should not keep bees at all.

#### WIRING FOUNDATION.

THOS. RAMAGE.—Will you please answer the following questions: