

properly and rest assured that they will not die from eating too much pollen. How nicely bees could be fed by these in warm climates during the long hot season when there is no honey flow! They could be filled indoors, carried out and set on without causing any excitement among the bees. These feeders may be made very cheaply in large quantities, or may be cut out and shipped in the "flat," similar to hives in the "flat," and being light the freight would be a very small consideration. Should they prove to be a good way to winter colonies that are diseased with foul brood no one need be surprised, as the consumption of sugar stores for some time would prevent the probability of their carrying the disease when given brood combs or foundation in spring. There are other points in connection with this subject, which we wish to mention, but as this article is already too long, we will defer further remarks until some future issue.

BEE-KEEPING IN MUSKOKA.

EARLY every reader, into whose hands the new CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL will come, has probably heard of the district of Muskoka. Of its rocks, its swamps, pine groves, grazing capacity, buckwheat and rye, and I expect some of them, when they see the heading of this article, will smile and say: "Can any good come out of Nazareth?" Well, I shall show them, in a few lines, what honey resources we have, and how bee-keeping is conducted here, as far as it has come under my observation. As in every newly settled district the axe of the chopper has not had sufficient time to destroy all the valuable honey producing forest trees. Vast tracts of them are yet left which furnish abundant bee-pasturage, and in that line we can compare very favorably with other localities. We have here the willow, poplar, soft and hard maple, elm, basswood, ironwood, wild cherry, sumach, etc., which are all excellent honey producers. The higher, or rocky portions, which the forest fires have run over, are literally strewn with berry bushes, which bloom all summer, and not a small amount of honey is gathered from them. Small flowers too, such as dandelion, mullein, aster and golden rod are here in abund-

ance. Alsike and other clovers are cultivated by the settlers and last, but not least, we have the Canadian thistle, which seems to follow the agriculturist wherever he goes. These are our main honey resources. From the time the bees once gather enough honey for brood rearing, there is an almost continuous flow till frost nips the flowers, and bee-keepers here can well dispense with feeding their bees during the summer. The only drawback here is the short season. Early frosts cut the crop short, but as far as my experience goes, an intelligent bee-keeper may safely count on 100 lbs. surplus per colony. I had in 1883, the first year of my bee-keeping, 100 lbs., and in 1884 160 lbs. surplus per colony, spring count. It will therefore be seen that the district of Muskoka is not altogether bare of honey resources; all it needs is more intelligent bee-keepers. Up to the time when I started bee-keeping, I had not known a single person who kept even one colony. There were, however, some wild bees here, and occasionally a beetrace would be found by settlers in the process of clearing. These wild bees must have come from the land whence the good negroes came, for in color they resemble the latter most accurately. During last summer I got acquainted with a person who kept a couple of colonies of those blacks in the old fashioned box-hives, which moved from place to place, as he would find employment. Sometimes he would use an odd kind of a sleigh, (jumper), sometimes he would use a half wagon. Finally, when they were moved the fifth time in the one season, the half-wagon capsized. Two of the colonies remained whole, or nearly so, the rest were squashed. What honey could be picked up was saved by the owner, and the bees left to their fate. Of course what honey was picked up at the time of the wreck was all the surplus the man had. The two remaining colonies are now in the hands of another party on shares, who has adopted the Jones' hive, and subscribed for THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, so, no doubt, he will have better success. Another friend, some 20 miles distant, bought one colony of bees in a box hive, in spring 1883, got one swarm, but not an ounce of surplus honey. In spring 1884 he ordered some Jones' hives. They were sent to him, with lids fastened to half stories with small tin strips; he left them so. When swarms issued they were put in the Jones hives, but the bees did not care much about the movable frames. They commenced to build from the lid down, (there were no quilts in the hives), and thus transformed the movable frame hives into immovable ones. Again no surplus, and in order to get some honey our friend had to butcher one colony. But