

they proved to be a new article to everybody; but the earliest results obtained from them were so good that they soon became a subject of general conversation and of articles in the press. Several bee-keepers adopted our hives as soon as they had seen the advantages they offered and the results we had obtained from them."

Since writing the above, Mr. Andreu has considerably enlarged his apiary and done much to popularise bee-keeping. In December of last year his home apiary had increased to thirty hives, and he had started another in the interior of the island of about fifty more, which it was his purpose to increase to a hundred in the spring of this year. This he accomplished by transferring some ninety old-fashioned cylinder hives into forty-five bar-frames.

Lewiston Journal.

THE PROFITS OF BEE-KEEPING.

DO the farmers of Maine fully understand the profit that can be made from a few colonies of bees intelligently kept, and that will accrue from a very small outlay?

It is a well proven fact that the State of Maine possesses equal advantages with any other State in the Union for the gathering of honey. The natural flora of the State is certainly equal if not superior to any State in New England, and from statistics, nearly up to the State of California in this respect. One thing I will say, however: If any one expects to obtain a profit from bees without devoting any time to their care, he will miss the mark decidedly; but a small amount of attention given at the right time is all that is needed, and will most certainly pay a larger proportion of profit than can be gained from any other portion of the farm, in proportion to amount of capital invested and time expended.

I speak from experience in this matter. I have kept bees for more than twenty years, and know how much and how little time is needed to give them to produce good results. I am a busy man, engaged in a profession that occupies a large portion of my time, but I have found that one half-hour night and morning, for four or five months in the year, was all that was needed by myself to care for twenty-five or thirty colonies, and the yield therefrom was, in one ordinary season, at least 50 pounds of surplus honey per colony, which I could sell at the yard for twenty cents per pound. To be sure I have devoted considerable time to study of theories, and also to experiments, but it must be remembered also that I began that study at a time when but little was known of bee-keeping as a science, and that a study of one or two text books, and some one

or more of the bee journals now published, will teach a person more now, in a year, than could have been learned fifteen years ago by several years' hard work. The fact is that in the State of Maine thousands of pounds of honey go to waste each year for want of bees to gather and save it. If every farmer in the State would keep from five to ten colonies only, much of this could be utilized and made profitable. The wives and children can do all the work, and will, I am sure, take great pleasure therein, and derive such physical advantages therefrom, in the way of exercise, and exercise too, that possibly may be a real necessity and advantage. Now, in writing the above, I am not anxious to add to the number of bee-keepers in the State for any ulterior purpose of my own. I have no bees to sell, and no hives or supplies either; neither have I any interest whatever in the matter of bees or hives, except so far as my belief that any farmer in the State can add to his revenues, and to his physical health and comfort, by engaging in the business of keeping a few colonies of bees; and even if he don't sell a pound of honey, it certainly should be a pleasure to have a nice slice of comb or a nice jar of extracted honey, with which to regale the family or a visitor, with the further satisfaction of saying: "I raised this myself."

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From the American Bee Journal.

FINDING QUEENS.

HOW TO PROCEED WHEN LOOKING FOR THE QUEEN.

MANY seem to be troubled in finding the queen not a few writing me to that effect. and asking how I proceed in that work. One of the most important things to be remembered in looking for a black or hybrid queen is, not to use too much smoke so as to get the bees "crazy," so that they will run pell-mell all over the hive, and even outside of it; for with such a state of affairs no one is very likely to find the queen, and the hive might as well be shut up without trying.

Go to the hive and remove the cover as quietly as possible, so as not to disturb the bees the least bit, if you can do so. Now as the quilt is raised, blow the least bit of smoke under it, and after it is removed, keep for a moment or so, blowing just a little smoke on the guards as they poke their heads up over the tops of the frames—just enough to turn them about again, and no more. In this way you will soon have all quiet and nice, no running or anything of the kind. Having thus brought them into subjection, you are ready to proceed; but before doing so I wish to say that there is a proper time of day to do this hunting for the queen, and that time is governed by the way the hive is placed, or faces. As my hives are all placed south, we will suppose that we are in my bee-yard, and in