

are put through lubricated type rollers which makes the base of the cell, with a little wax remaining for the construction of the cell, from which the bees by means of their mandibles pinch up or draw out as it were the length of the cell. The thickness of the wall of the cell being one-one hundred and eightieth part of an inch which could not be done by machinery. Just here let me explain the need of this foundation comb. Beeswax is made by the bees and not gathered. They require to eat twenty pounds of honey in order to secrete, through their wax glands, one pound of beeswax which is taken from their body with their feet and chewed with saliva and welded into comb. As it requires twenty pounds of honey to make one pound of wax you may observe the large price it would cost the apiarist for comb. If we can buy beeswax at twenty-five cents per pound and put it in such a shape that the bees may make it into comb we are that much ahead and ready for the honey harvest, besides assuring us of straight building in our comb frames (paraffine would not do for wax as it would melt at too low a temperature and ruin our colony.) I will leave a sample of the artificial foundation comb at your office made by myself on the most improved machine.

And now, Mr. Editor, if the *Philadelphia Times*, or the editor of any other medium, or other private individual will prove the fact of that statement that comb is completed and filled by machinery without the aid of the bees, the bee men have offered the sum of \$1,500. This offer, I believe, has been represented to the *Philadelphia Times*, but it has failed to prove such a statement. I am sorry to say that such misrepresentations have been made by editors to whom we feel it honest to appeal, either to prove the fact or make reparation for the injury they have done to a class of honest and hard working people. The representation too of honey being adulterated is no doubt mostly a fabrication. In fact I have offered a reward of \$25 to any party or parties finding adulteration in honey produced by myself, this offer still stands open for the future but the honey must be bought directly from me, and must not go through other parties' hands. The other article in the same column entitled "bees in India" is very true and the bees if fed in this country on sugar or syrup in the honey season will become idlers and the bee-keepers will not only lose a part of the honey harvest but lose their reputation.

C. HUMPHREY,

Wallaceburg, Jan. 25th

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear each week, Queries and Replies; the former may be propounded by any subscriber and will be replied to by prominent bee-keepers, through, out Canada and the United States who can answer from experience, as well as by the Editor. This Department will be reserved for the more important questions, others will be answered in another place.

WHICH PAYS BEST—COMB OR EXTRACTED HONEY.

QUERY No. 59.—Is it more profitable to produce comb or extracted honey and why?

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT. — A great deal depends on the locality. Experience will be the best teacher.

P. H. ELWOOD, ESQ., STARKVILLE, N. Y. — It depends on the price. At present prices I should say extracted honey.

DR. J. C. THOM, STREETSVILLE, ONT. — Extracted honey. Three times as much extracted honey can be obtained as of comb honey.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y. — Comb. Because it sells more readily and at better paying figures. I speak of my own experience, not for others.

H. COUSE, THE GRANGE, ONT. — Much depends upon demand and price received for honey. I prefer to produce both, as the consumer's particular taste or fancy has to be considered.

DR. DUNCAN, EMBRO, ONT. — I find it more profitable to extract, because I can get double the quantity of extracted every 5 or 6 days when there is a good flow of honey.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT. — Extracted honey at present prices, because at least two pounds of extracted can be produced to one of comb. It is well to have both. The one helps the sale of other.

JUDGE W. H. ANDREWS, MCKINNIE, COLLIN Co., TEXAS. — Yes, because it is expensive to produce wax, and, in my market, the disparity in the prices of the two classes is not so great by half as in Northern markets. We sell comb lower and extracted higher.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH. — With me, comb honey. "Why?" Because it sells more readily, gives better satisfaction to the customers and the market, for the comb honey is already made. Page after page can be written by the advocates of each system, and you will not get a satisfactory answer.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL. — A thoroughly practical question, but not possible to be answered by an unconditional reply. Under some circumstances, for some persons, for some