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WHOLE No. 330



WILLIAM COUSE.
STREETSVILLE.

The subject of this sketch was born in the village of Belwood, in the county of Wellington, Ontario, in Feb., 1859. His father was also born in Ontario, and was of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. On the maternal side Mr. Couse is of Irish extraction. His mother was born in Lower Canada, her parents having settled there at an early period of its history, on their arrival from the north of Ireland. He lived with his parents till he attained his majority, working on the farm in summer and attending the village school in winter. In the spring of 1879 he repaired to Beeton and put himself under the able instruction

of D. A. Jones, with the view of perfecting himself in apicultural knowledge. Here he remained during the summer, returning to the parental home in the fall, where he spent the winter at school. The following spring he returned to Beeton, where he remained that and the succeeding year, working in Mr. Jones' beeyard in the summer and renting and running the Beeton skating rink in winter.

Next year Dr. Thorm, of Streetsville, his brother-in-law, (then a prominent bee-keeper, and president of the O. B. A.) entered into an agreement with him to run his apiary on shares, Mr. Couse getting two-fifths of the honey and one half of the increase. That year the honey crop was a failure. When he had comfortably housed the bees for winter, he went to Galt and undertook the outside work in connection with the flour mill there. Most of the time he was engaged in weighing wheat, and looking after the shipping of flour. In the spring he returned to Streetsville and resumed his former connection with Dr. Thorm, under their old agreement. This turned out a prosperous and profitable season for both partners, resulting in two hundred pounds of honey per colony, and one hundred per cent. increase. On winding up the business of that year he repaired to Toronto and spent the winter attending the Commercial Business College, after which he returned and established an out apiary at Meadowville, himself remaining in Streetsville, engaging a competent man to manage the Meadowville yard. At the close of this season he went back to