

In some respects bee-keeping is like other businesses, some succeed—some fail. As a rule the unsuccessful bee-man is an enemy to the industry. He sells his surplus honey at almost any price thus injuring the market for the large producer. If through his unsuccessful handling his bees fail to produce a surplus while his more practical neighbor has secured a good crop, straightway he raises the cry "adulterated honey." Almost everything depends on proper management, and it is easily seen how the careless or ignorant bee-man may blacken the character of his more successful because more practical neighbor.

"Who steals my purse, steals trash; 'tis something, nothing;

'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands;

But he that filches from me my good name,

Robs me of that which not enriches him,

And makes me poor indeed."

Cottam, Ont.

The Stratford Meeting.

C. A. OUELLETTE.

Our mail frequently contains requests from our subscribers for a few words from the publisher of "The Practical Bee-Keeper." For various reasons I have hitherto refrained from writing but since my return from the O. B. K. A. meeting in Stratford I have been literally forced to offer a few comments thereon.

Thanks to Mr. Gemmel we were hospitably received and our days and evenings were spent both profitably and pleasantly.

This being the first meeting of the O. B. K. A. which it has been my pleasure to attend I am not in a position to compare it with its predecessors in this very important association, but from all reports it seems to have been one of the

largest and most representative in the history of the Association. Either the location was more favorable or the interest in the assemblies is on the increase. I trust the latter is the true reason.

The "brotherly" element was out in force. This may or may not be all right but it certainly looks queer from a business standpoint. It seems to me that business should be conducted along business lines. It is not my business to call Brown a brother simply because he is growing a field of wheat across the fence from my own. He is my neighbor, he may be an acquaintance or even a friend, but he certainly is not my brother. Of course these marks of mine must be taken 'cum grano salis,' I am not a brother bee-keeper. I am a business man.

I regretted to see signs of discord among the directorate and to find that the best and most prominent men were in the minority. What is the cause of this? Drive away the best men from a community or organization and what is the result? True, I admit you must give the young and new aspirants a chance to advance but this should be done cautiously and not so as to act as a detriment to said community or organization.

In corporations, organizations, societies and associations we find plenty willing to assist who have not the ability, and others who have the ability will not act, but when we find men of acknowledged ability who are willing to act then the best interests of such community or association are preserved by causing such men if possible to retain their positions. Personal feeling should give way to the good of the association.

Among the papers read was one on "Education" by Allen Pringle. It is quite likely that this paper will be ignored by the bee-journals—the Review is just to hand and never mentions it. It will be ignored not because it was