

anything so wonderful in the art of bee-keeping has, until now, remained undiscovered."

From our knowledge of Mr. Alpaugh's experience in bee-keeping, and straightforward dealings, we have no hesitation in saying that he is quite confident that his system is well worth any sum he may charge for it. While perhaps we might not all agree with reference to the best mode of bringing new inventions before the public, and as there are so many frauds perpetrated on unsuspecting bee-keepers, it might be well for Mr. Alpaugh to submit his plans privately to several experienced bee-keepers in order that they might be able to express an opinion on it; but if it is what we are inclined to believe it is, it is well worth any reasonable charge he may make. How many of our bee-keepers have been experimenting in various ways, and spent hundreds, even thousands of dollars? Take for instance the introduction of queens. See the time and money that has been spent in this line alone; and yet there are many even now who cannot introduce queens successfully every time. We have yet much to learn in bee-keeping, and am much afraid that we are in our A B C's; but one thing is certain—necessity being the mother of invention—it behooves us to devise simpler and easier means of management to enable us, if possible, to produce honey, so that we can compete against the sugar and other sweets, no matter at what price they may be put on the market.

We wish Mr. Alpaugh would put a price on his system, that it may be fully explained to some of our leading bee-keepers. We feel satisfied that it is something in the right direction, from the confident way in which he spoke of it. He seemed so much elated with its success that he at least fancied a new era had dawned upon bee-keepers by which failure could be turned into success, by almost every one engaging in the business. Let us hear from Mr. Alpaugh in this matter. Come, Mr. Alpaugh, step down and tell us what you are prepared to do.

The following question and reply appears in the *B.B.*:

SINFECTING COMBS

"I have quite a number of extracting combs

that have never been bred in, and that contain no pollen, but that may or may not have been used over diseased stocks, and, as I have no wish to destroy them, as I look upon them as the most valuable part of my bee furniture, will you please tell me—1. If they could possibly contain any of the germs of disease—and, if so, can these germs be destroyed without damage to the combs by spraying with carbolic acid or fumigating? I would rather melt them down than run any risk, but should be most sorry to have to do so. 2. Dr. Miller recommends letting frost get to them to destroy wax moth. Do you know if frost would destroy germs of foul brood? If so, how many degrees?—L.H.W."

REPLY.

"1. Combs used in diseased stocks may readily contain the germs of foul brood, but if thoroughly fumigated with the fumes of burning sulphur, they may safely be used again. 2. Frost will not destroy the spores which generate the bacillus known as foul brood."

Now, we have taken foul broody combs and subjected them to the fumes of burning sulphur for a long time. We have hung them up in a small room in which we put a kettle containing sulphur. We burned pound after pound of the sulphur expecting that if we continued the process we might save the combs; but on trying them again we found the disease breaking out, and were forced to melt them into wax. We think this is dangerous advice, as we have never been able to destroy the germs of foul brood in combs by the fumes of burning sulphur, although we have kept up the operation for two days at a time. We have also tried combs with foul broody honey in them, subjected them to the same test, but with the same unsatisfactory results.

As everything at the World's Fair, Chicago, is to be done on such a mammoth scale, why not get up a Mammoth Convention, lasting for one or two weeks, and have all the great bee lights of Europe and America present? Let the bee-keepers of Europe send their brightest and best representatives, with models, photos, and descriptions of everything new in their land. All the good things brought out at the Convention could be compiled in a little pamphlet in as condensed a form as possible, and it would be a mine of information. Dr. Mason