

am quite ready to accept Mr. Havinds' explanation of Mr. Young's remarks. The truth is, I felt all along that a good translation would put the whole matter in its proper light. The idea of charging such men as Heddon, Hutchinson, Newman, Cook and Jones with combining to fraud!! Preposterous!!

Don't you feel bad that you did not join the O. B. K. A. this year and get one of those nice queens sent to every member of the Association. You really get your membership for nothing, at least that's how it looks to me. I can imagine that there will be a big increase in next year's membership.

I almost think it time that the Messrs. Dadant had that revision of Langstroth's ready. I am expecting one and I'd like to have it before the next annual meeting. It seems to me they have had lots of time now, to get it out. Perhaps Mr. McKnight has some fresh information for us concerning it.

I noticed in a late number of the JOURNAL that some move was on foot to get up a programme for the annual meeting of O.B.K.A. in January. Has nothing been done? It will soon be time to get special rates over the railways and complete arrangements.

When Mr. Blow comes to Canada, I will be glad to have him come and see me, and I hope Mr. Editor that you will see to it, that he times his visit so as to be with us during the O.B.K.A. convention. It would be a pleasant meeting for us, and he would thus meet many of Canada's apiarists that he will otherwise be unable to call on.

In your issue of Oct. 17—page 388, you have a good letter from Mr. Gemmell. For outside packing, I second pretty much all that he has said. He gets at the true principle of safe wintering, to my mind, when he puts his bees away early and leaves them late, making provision always for allowing them a cleansing flight when opportunity offers.

OBSERVER.

A STAUNCH McFADDENIST.

AND HIS OPINION OF BROTHER CLARKE'S
HIBERNATION THEORY.

AS promised, we publish a Texan letter sent to Mr. Watson, of Alliston, who is the medium through whom Mr. Daniel McFadden communicates with the world in general, omitting the signature at Mr. Watson's request:

I am the more interested in Mr. McFadden's plan, in his letter and in the man because I know that what he says is true. I also learned it from the Indians—not that those I knew adopted it as a method of bee-keeping, but when they would cut a bee-tree at about the beginning of snow-fall they would often secure the bees in this way until spring. W. F. Clarke, of your Province, seems to think yourself and Friend McFadden either fools or members of a "ring of impostors." I am glad I have not Mr. C. for a neighbor. My family have kept bees for years, and have had them for months in a state of suspended animation—not dead—and have often examined them while in that state and always found them revive on thawing out. Death means substantially dissolution, disintegration—a disbursement of protoplasm I should say, to be gathered up again in some other form, according to the unvarying processes of evolution. Hence if a bee is hard frozen his constitutional elements will undergo disintegration on thawing. But when animation is suspended by such a perfect balancing of atmospheric pressure as renders life's functions dormant, life will thus remain, in my opinion, so long as the conditions remain unchanged. Mr. Clarke may justly pride himself on his ignorance of the conditions governing the hibernation of bees. I suppose that Indian would be thought idiotic who would suppose that a bear came out in the spring poorer than when he "holed up." To the uninitiated this may seem absurd, but it is nevertheless true, the only appreciable difference being in the complete inanition of the intestines. Indeed, I am strongly impressed to believe that, could a human being be subjected to complete anesthesia, and that condition of suspended animation be maintained indefinitely, life would be prolonged as in a profound sleep, almost, if not quite, indefinitely. It may seem rash venturing on such ground, but then we do positively know that these are anesthetic conditions which seem to hold life suspended indefinitely, and maybe, some day, we shall be wiser in our day.

When ready to put your bees away be careful to get them thoroughly chilled. Do not shut them in so long as you can see a leg or an antenna moving; they will feel cold as clay to the fingers but they will be limber, not rigid by any means. Now, if kept in this condition, and your winter should continue through a period of ten years, your bees will come out all right in the first thaw of the eleventh. There is your next care—getting them out just at the proper time, but by following out friend McFadden's plan carefully you will succeed, never fear.

We have been here three years. Bees store every month in the year, yet I consider it a sorry bee-country. If one gets an average of 40 lbs. per colony year by year, he is in luck. They have all the year to make it and abundant leisure to eat it. May suggest an idea anon. Please accept kind regards, and believe me truly by friend.

W. A. J. B.