

the financial stature of a man, but most men do, and all should, arise from such greater in all that is good, noble, pure, and elevating—illustrating the old axiom that "Knowledge is power."

Mr. Holmes with commendable frankness admits that reverses came in the shape of winter losses reducing his number to ten colonies. Happily in this case it was no disaster, simply a reverse, as it could not affect him financially. This happened in 1889-90. He began building up again on the nucleus system, and now has thirty colonies in winter quarters.

I would here beg leave to differ with Mr. Holmes as to the causes in part of his loss. I attribute it in a measure to theories long advocated and in practice at that date by quite a number of prominent apiarists who were also in the field when he began.

Some of the great discoveries long since made by the Rev. Dr. Langstroth, especially the Standard Form and Standard Size of a Hive, although these were obscured for a time by the clouds and smoke of funded opposition, in the United States, the Doctor's views have with irresistible force been all these years gravitating to the front, and now as they emerge from temporary obscurity shine with greater lustre, ever moving triumphantly onward in a grand line from Atlantic to Pacific. Mr. Holmes has been testing this matter and has changed his views materially, and believes there is a form and size of hive which approaches nearer the inclination of the bee than many others, and that Dr. Langstroth has worked nearer to a natural standard than any other inventor.

And now, Mr. Editor, I submit it, had all the correspondents of this journal (as a few did) for the last ten years, with equal candor with Mr. Holmes, confessed their losses promptly and given an honest opinion as to the cause, and abandoned favorite and cherished practices for more simple and rational mode, would not such a move have inspired nobler emulation, given a warm impulse and imparted universal confidence in apiarists and apiculture which has been felt by many to be wanting? Such

sincerity and truth would make this journal a necessity in more homes than it now is. I know beekeepers in many localities in Ontario whose bump of self-esteem and vanity is so high that they would sooner tell of doing a mean thing than admit a blunder or loss in bee matters. Their example is pernicious.

Mr. Holmes has a farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres, four of which are under orchard, with commodious buildings; on one side a view of Upper Delta Lake, on the other may be seen a low range of Laurentian hills with dark ravines, a pleasant country home. He owns and lives in a good brick residence in the handsome and thriving village of Athens. A vein of humor is noticeable in his communications. He is superintendent of the fine Sabbath school here, an exemplary class leader; he took a leading part in organizing the B. K. A. here, of which he is president; he is also a contributor to the Canadian honey exhibit at the World's Fair; he is a member of the village council, and enjoys the favorable opinion of all who know him.

W. S. H.

Athens, Ont., Dec. 1893.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

BRUCE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Bruce beekeepers Association was held in the Town Hall, Walkerton, on the 15th ult., when the business usually transacted was attended to and the following officers were elected for the incoming year:—President, Andrew Rowand; Vice President, Fred Penton; Directors, John Harkley, Abram Rowand, Frank Ernst, W. H. Moffat, R. Rivers, A. E. Sherrington; Sec. Treas., Arch Tolton; Auditors, Abram Rowand, John Harkley. The Association affiliated with the O. B. K. A. as usual, and a committee was appointed to look after the interests of the O. B. K. A. which will meet in the County Council chamber, Walkerton, on Jan. 10th to 12th, 1893.