

In another place we give a list of some of the principal honey plants in Iowa, the names of which are familiar to every body. There are still others, not so well known, that are frequented by the bees, proving that they yield nectar or pollen in abundance.

THE HONEY RESOURCES OF IOWA.

If one takes the time to observe and the trouble to enumerate them, he will be astonished at the almost endless variety of honey yielding plants within the state. It would require a skilled botanist to name them all. The All-wise Father has provided nearly all plants and trees with either honey or pollen, to attract the insect world. He spreads a continual feast for the bee, that the important object, perfect fertilization, may be the more certainly attained. The bee that slips from flower to flower, rollicking in the golden dust among the new borranthers, playing hide and seek in the opening corollars is performing a work of untold value in the wise economy of nature. The honey secreted by the blossom is for the purpose of inviting cross fertilization, and to prevent in and in breeding. If no insect is there to utilize the drop of nectar, it is evaporated and scattered to the four winds of heaven. No one is richer for the ungathered sweets, and no one is the poorer whose fields are searched by the tireless little worker, whose instincts lead it to garner the evanescent riches, which of a truth, "take to themselves wings and fly away." From the earliest Easter flower that peeps out of the snow on some hillside, to the last frost flower in autumn, there is a continual succession of honey bearing plants whose wealth of nectar ought to be utilized as one of the sure resources of this grand state. California may occasionally astonish us by her magnificent honey crop, but in Iowa, where "the early and latter rains" are not only promised, but sent, we are always confident of a reasonable surplus. The pastures and road sides are covered with white clover which yields the finest honey in the world. The rivers and lakes are generally skirted by basswood timber, one of the best honey producing trees in America, yielding largely a nectar that is prized for its beautiful amber color and aromatic flavor. Every fence corner and neglected field is planted by the hand of Nature, as though she were trying in some way to counteract man's shiftlessness, by making the earth bring forth abundantly some of the good things of life. Goldenrod, artichokes, thistles, spanish needles and even burdocks are made to contribute to the general good by furnishing delicious hydromel for the "busy bee."

EUGENE SECOR.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE HONEY MARKET.

I WAS much pleased with friend Holterman's article on page 755. I think he is entirely in earnest. If we sell our extracted honey we have got to "get up and dust." Friend Holterman must be a regular old *duster*, if he sold about 2,000 lbs. at 10 cts. per lb. without losing 4 hours time. There is just *one* little thing, however, that puzzles me, in fact, always puzzles me, when I hear a man tell how *easy* it is for him to sell his honey, and that *his*, *he never wants to buy any more honey to sell again.*

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Rogersville, Genesee Co., Mich.

THE CONVENTION OF CANADIAN BEE-KEEPERS AT BRANTFORD.

THE meeting of Canadian bee-keepers held at Brantford on the 24th and 25th ult., was a decided success as far as interesting discussions and papers were concerned. A very large gathering was expected, but only some forty bee-keepers attended the meeting. A large number of Brant bee-keepers were absent, who intended being present, on account of the heavy rains during the second day.

The mixed diet of papers and discussions upon them appeared to have a very beneficial effect upon the meeting, giving more aim and concentration upon topics and therefore a more thorough discussion upon these topics as they came up.

Mr. F. Malcolm, of Innerkip, occupied the chair during the first session, after that the Rev. W. F. Clarke.

The wintering subject was taken up first by the reading of a paper by W. McEvoy entitled, "February Management." He spoke of the danger of disturbing colonies, starving, and advocated putting sections in wide frames, having some on each side of the cluster. This was a very interesting topic as many colonies are already found short of stores. The majority were in favor of some form of candy to be placed on top of the frames.

Mr. F. Malcolm read a paper next which took up wintering and bee-keeping generally. He is a very successful bee-keeper and is recognized as one of the best dairymen in Canada. He served on the agricultural commission some years ago. He winters in cellar, average temperature 48°. He never removes top cloths in fall but leaves them adhering. By middle of September his bees are ready for winter. In spring, he sets his bees out as late as their condition will permit, he again only touches those requiring it by external indications.

A very interesting discussion now took place