

merside.

Quebec—H. F. Hunt, Quebec.
Rhode Island—Wm. J. Tracy, Burrillville.
South Carolina—S. C. Boylston, Charleston.
Tennessee—W. P. Henderson, Murfreesboro.
Texas—W. H. Andrews, McKinney.
Utah—O. H. Morgan, Salt Lake City.
Virginia—J. W. Porter, Charlottesville.
Vermont—A. E. Manum, Bristol.
West Virginia—A. W. Cheney, Kanawha Falls.
Wisconsin—Christopher Grimm, Jefferson.
Wyoming—James Fields, Fort Laramie.
Washington—H. A. Marsh, Fidalgo.

[CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.]

BEE PLANTS.

THE bee plant which Mr. Geo. Hilton, of Fremont, Michigan, exhibited at Detroit and the beautiful honey from which he also showed, proves to be *Galium triflorum*.

The common name is Sweet Scented Bed-Straw. It is abundant northward. Michigan has nine species of this genus. All are probably good honey plants. *Galium aparine* is another which has a suggestive name. It is known as Cleavers or Goose Grass. These belong to the Family Rubiaceæ or Madder family, which includes Button bush, Partridge berry and other well-known bee-plants.

Dr. Beal informs me that the other plant, the one exhibited by Mr. Chapman, of N.Y., is such a famous honey plant coming just after bass-wood, and giving an excellent quality of honey is *Echinops Sphærocephalus*, a native of Central France. It is a composite and may well be investigated.

A. J. COOK.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 15, 1885.

The last named honey plant exhibited by Mr. Chapman at Detroit created considerable interest; he is, we believe, propagating it for sale; he has promised us some plants in the spring and we expect to have it in bloom in our home apiary during the summer and shall be able to publish any remarkable features in connection with it.

KIND WORDS.

REV. E. T. ARNOTT.—You are making a good paper out of the JOURNAL and I hope you may have a large list.

St. Joseph, Mo. Dec. 7th, 1885.

ALLEN PRINGLE.—The "Binder" for the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL is received, and it certainly fills the bill as a beautiful *beau idéal* bon ami of a bee-binder. Now just please bear in

mind this alliteration is not to be taken in any figurative or poetical sense, but in the literal sense for all it is worth. Every subscriber without a single exception ought to procure a "Binder" and thus preserve the C. B. J. as a legacy to his descendants who will in consequence hold him in still kinder remembrance for his thoughtful frugality. The utility of the "Binder" will, however, be first realized by himself, as by keeping reference memoranda he can at any time refer to any facts, information or data he may require. Bind and preserve your JOURNALS by all means.

Selby, Dec. 12th, '85.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

TRYING SEVERAL KINDS OF CUSHIONS.

JNO. MONTGOMERY.—I have four kinds of cushions on my hives as I wish to see which is the best—one sawdust, one chaff, one planings of wood, and one of oat seed (that is oat hulls which come off when hulled for meal.) They are perfectly dry. I think that the latter will prove the best, they do not pack tightly, they are always dry and are good absorbents of dampness or moisture. I know this as I am a miller by trade. The wood however seems to keep the most heat in the hive.

Appleton, Dec. 11th, 1885.

SIZE OF FRAME—OVERSTOCKING.

CAMILLE LEGARE.—What is the best size of a brood frame for Canada? Is it a deep or a shallow frame for wintering out-doors? (2) What number of colonies may be kept in the same yard without fear of over-stocking and what do you think of the overstocking idea?

There are a great many opinions about what should be the right size, everybody thinking his own size the best. We believe it is generally admitted that bees winter better on deep frames, but many use the shallow ones. The frame we use is about 10½ by 12½ inside measure and probably there are more of this size in use in Canada than any other. No difference what size of frame is used, strong colonies should be kept, weak colonies or nuclei mean failure and disappointment. (2.) We do not think that over-stocking is likely to occur very much in Canada. We have kept from one to three hundred colonies in a yard and could not see any difference be-