

BEE JOURNAL. I believe that such houses are a good deal used in England. Any information you can give me on this point will oblige.

S. McG.

Lefroy, April 1, '90.

We can give you very little information of a practical nature in the direction you desire, and we cannot at the present time, think of any beekeeper in Canada who uses a house apiary, but there are doubtless some. If this item should catch the eye of any of those who have one, we would be glad of a description of the house in use, and how it suits. In England they are, as you say, a good deal used. The last number of the British Bee Journal contains a description of one which seems simple, and yet would, perhaps, be very effective.

"Each house, it will be seen, holds four hives. Entrances are placed as far apart as possible, and the hives can be worked on either the storifying or combination principle. The roof is hinged to lift up, the back opens outwards in two doors, thus giving plenty of 'elbow-room.' The inside is simply two long trough-like frame hives, and each stock is kept apart by division-boards. To those who do not wish to go to greater expense, I would recommend these houses, which, for the price of materials, do not exceed the cost of a weather proof single-frame hive. Size of each is 4 ft. long by 4 ft. high by 20 in. wide. Materials required to make one are: four corner-posts, 2 x 2, cross-beams 4 x 2, bottom and centre shelves—strictly speaking, the floor-boards—of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. jointed flooring: four boards, 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and 4 ft. long for hive sides. All the other wood of $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. jointed and beaded lining, with roof covered with canvas, and painted, to make all secure."

For THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Destroying Surplus Bees.

GENTLEMEN of bee destroying propensities, I am ashamed of you. Twenty years ago you hollered till you split your throats, in favor of saving the lives of the dear little bees, the darling pets, the precious, darling, sweet, lovely, beautiful, little striped honey comugets. You called the man that killed bees in old gums, a mean, low, penurious, ignorant fool. You ridiculed him without stint, and nothing was too bad for him, and now, like the assassin, after gaining a friend in the little busy bee, you are ready to take his earnings and stab him in the back. You simply make me tired, in trying to justify yourselves by

comparing the murder of bees with that of animals. A calf never worked early and late, and not only fed itself, but you as well. Even the ox and horse who do work have to be compelled to do it, and be fed from your hand besides, and sometimes are balky at that, but the bee—Oh! aint you ashamed—the busy bee which toils from early morn—even while you are in bed—till the canopy of Heaven is enshrouded in darkness, I say the faithful bee that is the emblem of faith and hope, that is a living example worthy of your imitation, the bee, after it has earned your living for a whole year ahead, and its own as well, you, like a covetous coward, while the bee is nestled in the hive in the enjoyment of its own, you want even its life. If you can go out and brimstone these faithful little workers, and then come in to dinner and eat bread that they earned, I say if you can do it, I can't. And I don't call bees pets either. In fact there is no sense in your getting over-stocked with bees. A man that is worthy of being called a beekeeper knows how to keep his stocks down to the number he wants, and to do it in a way that will let the bees enjoy their full length of life and liberty, and he at the same time will reap more profit twice over than by killing them. In fact, the apiary is not to be compared to the dairy—the multiplication of stock is not a necessity in the apiary as in a dairy, but will tend to diminish the yield of honey every time.

JOHN F. GATES.

Ovid, Erie Co. Pa., April 24, '90.

For THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Bee-keeping in N. W. T.

DISCLAIMERS FROM MR. KNOWLES AND MR. BRIDGMAN.

IN the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, of January 29, page 1016, you publish a discouraging report of bee-keeping in the North-West, which would lead very many to think that Grenfell was the same as the rest of the Territories. The place above mentioned is at least (in an air line) 500 miles from here, and in an entirely different location. We, here, are in a park-like country; timber and prairie interspersed; plenty of tree-bloom, sunflower, golden rod, willow herb, and numberless prairie flowers in all kinds of seasons, either wet or dry. Still, there are locations in this district where bees would starve to death, and so there are in Ontario. All parts of the country are not adapted for bee culture; that is certain.

You ask for the amount per colony that my bees gave. This I cannot answer correctly, as I was working for bees and not honey the last year. I made the strong work for the weak, in