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Mr. Smith—They carried them on their heads down the mountain. They carry them for 25 cents a hive, and they would weigh about forty pounds.

Mr. Laing—Another disadvantage is wintering. What? you say, wintering in the Island of Jamaica? I thought they had no winter there. But, you know, "Distant fields look green." I do not need to tell the difficulties we have to contend with here, but in Jamaica we understood that the bees gathered honey every day in the year, and that we might expect colonies to be strong and increasing at all times. I found, however, after taking charge about the 17th of October, that from that time on for two or three months, the bees seemed to be going down, down, down, every day and at first I could hardly understand it, and I do not know whether I thoroughly understand it yet. But it seemed to be because there was little honey coming in. It was not sufficient to stimulate the queen, and the result was that instead of lying dormant and preserving their strength they were flying around, and they were wearing themselves out, and the result was they kept going down. We doubled up to keep the moths from totally destroying them. We have the moths constantly. It is different there from here, for there the moths are good and lively at all times, and if the colonies get a little weak they soon close in and your colony is gone. I had to place the combs on top of the stronger colonies to save them, otherwise they would have been ruined.

The next point I may speak about is the question of ants. There are red ants, duck ants, little ants, big ants, and all the ants, uncles and nieces and the whole family, and I do not know but that there are a few more. (Laughter.) You can stand anywhere where chance might find you, and look first one way and then another; and, I believe you could count anywhere from

ten to a thousand ant nests. They are on the gate posts; they are on the roofs of your buildings. You will find them underneath the hive. They are on the trees, and they are half way up the trees and all over the trees, and practically all over. They are quite a size, and they look as if they were made of wood. They seem to stand the water at any rate.

With reference to these red ants. (I had a notion to bring back quite a number of them with me. I think I could have done well with them. I had five colonies of bees and they were in pretty good shape, too. I let them run along for two or three weeks and they did not seem to be getting ahead very rapidly. Finally I looked into one of them, and it seemed all right, but when I went back a few days after a lot of bees seemed to be in the bottom of the hive, and there was a good strong colony of red ants. I tried another, and I found the same condition again. They were all dead in the bottom of the hive, and the ants were good and lively. They say that on occasions some of these red ants will even tackle good strong colonies and destroy them. Then next the duck ants. These ants seem to be perfectly harmless so far as biting is concerned, but you want to make your hives of cast-iron or steel, otherwise they will likely be eaten up. They will build a covered runway along the hive, and they honeycomb the wood so that in a short time it is rotten and worthless. Nearly all the hives down there are made from the coal oil boxes used on the railroads. They are desperately hard, but this kind of material does not seem to bother the duck ants. They are very destructive so far as the hives are concerned, and are a great nuisance.

The next item, and the last one which I wish to speak of is the marketing. I do not intend to take up a great deal of time. Now in reference to the price of