

pitches into the president of the *Ontario Bee-Keepers Association* for a service which Mr. Alley ought to be thankful for. If our cousins over there know so well how to rid themselves of foul brood in a manner so "easy, cheap and expeditious," as Mr. Alley says, I would like to ask why do they not do so? Perhaps Mr. Alley can tell us why the "easy, cheap, and expeditious" method is not put into practice over there. One has but to read their own journals to see that the *Api* in this matter is simply on canter of brag and bluster. He says "Americans want no remedies for foul brood from any one." Now, it is generally the case that ignorance knows it all and wants no further light from any body. In this case, however, I think it would be well for Mr. Alley to simply speak for himself instead of all "Americans." Some of them, I know for a certainty would like to get a little more light on the foul brood question—even such deservedly esteemed men as Prof. Cook. And several American bee-keepers have written me for our foul brood bulletin since its issue, who it seems were unable to "rid their hives" of the pest by that "easy, cheap, and expeditious" method known so well to Mr. Alley, but apparently to nobody else over there. He says our remedy is "worse than the disease." Our course now is clear—we must give it up and suppress it—not the disease, but the remedy. My advice to Mr. Alley is to cool off (not too suddenly) and look soberly and sensibly into this matter or it may cost him, and his countrymen who sell bees and queens, more than they anticipate.

Now, were I disposed to talk "bunkum," too, I would answer Henry Alley in this way: "All right, if you don't want advice or anything else from us we want nothing from you, and we shall stop your queens, bees, and foul brood from coming into this country. We will have a negative reciprocity on this point at least. At the last annual meeting of the *Ontario Bee-Keepers Association* I, with one or two others, was appointed by the meeting to interview the Dominion Government and look after this matter, in order to protect ourselves from the importation of foul brood. I shall therefore have your queens and bees prohibited from coming here. You may do the same with ours if you like." That is the way I might talk back, but I forbear, for although a blunderhead here and there among our apiarian cousins over the line may go off into a tangent of gasconade once in a while, that is no good reason why all of them should be punished, especially as that sort of thing does them good and does us no harm.

I have no doubt that should Canadian bee-

keepers, through the O. B. K. A., ask the government to prohibit the importation of bees and queens to protect us from foul brood the thing would be done. We do not, however, intend to go as far as that at present, but we do intend to quarantine the foreign importation. Our American friends need take no offence at this. It is prompted by no unfriendly or un-neighbourly feeling. It is purely a measure of self-protection. Were they all Henry Alleys the proper thing for us to do in the premises would be to cut off the wolf's tail just behind his ears and make a job of it the first stroke. With compliments to our American friends, and kind regards to Brother Alley, I am still theirs and his so far as practicable.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, Ont., March 18th, 1891.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Bee-Keeping for Profit.

THIS is the title of Query No. 287 in C. B. J. of March 1st. The question is, "What amount of honey do you consider each colony should yield, taking one year with another, to make bee-keeping give a fair profit for the money and time expended, estimating increase at 50 per cent.?" Some of the replies are certainly unsatisfactory. This is not a question of how much you can "coax out of the bees," (see Doolittle) or what other fellows consider a fair profit, (see Heddon); but what do you consider each colony should, etc. Should there be any difficulty in answering this question? Every bee-keeper should surely know what he considers a profitable yield for the money and time expended. The querist, however, to get much benefit from the replies, should know the average price that each receives for his honey, and in addition thereto the money value that each estimates his time worth. Even then, he will form a better estimate of the men, and their management, than he will of what he should expect as a profitable yield. For instance one prefers handling hives rather than frames, and maintains it is a saving in time. Another, however, makes choice of handling frames. If the former method is such an economy in time, those who adopt it should be satisfied with a less yield per colony. After all, however, it is not known to the querist, whether their estimates are based upon \$500 or \$1,000, whether it is due to good or bad management, or to the speed or otherwise of the operator. We all must know, that some men can accomplish nearly double what others can in a given time, so that, other things being equal, the fast worker would be satisfied with a smaller yield