

mon counsel; I strove to avert this to the best of my ability, and to the extent of my opportunities. Furthermore, our people have been honored with the highest position in the gift of the members of the North American. For three years of its life a Canadian presided over its deliberations—one of them acted as its Secretary for a year. I myself declined the proffered honor of Treasurer at the Brantford meeting, and, as you justly say, there was a disposition to elect Mr. Corneil President at Albany. In the face of these facts it is absurd to suppose we could have any desire or any motives to excite bad feelings against the bee-keepers of the United States—a crime with which we are charged by Bro. Newman and darkly hinted at by yourself,—but which I shall dismiss as unworthy of further notice.

It was in view of these facts that we spoke, voted, and wrote to avert the threatened rupture, and to maintain our fraternal relationship as it had existed for so long. But since incorporation has been effected in the way it is, in the face of our protests—isolating us I believe from the body corporate,—the Committee saw no way open to it consistent with self-respect (this sentiment may be sneered at by whom it may) but to recommend withdrawal.

You say in your comment "we greatly regret that the two members (Mr. Clarke and myself) who were present at Keokuk should misunderstand the purpose of incorporation." I am sure your regret will be accepted as genuine; but are you really certain we did not understand the purposes of incorporation? Is it your candid belief that we did not understand these as well as any member at that meeting? Will you assert that the purposes of incorporation were never stated by any of its advocates at Keokuk? Will you not admit that Capt. Hethrington was the first man among you to mention these, when at Albany he stated them to be "the power to hold property, to sue and be sued"—privileges which the merest tyro knows are enjoyed by incorporated bodies the world over. But what advantages can or will accrue from these to the North American? I can understand that a State Association incorporated under State laws might make use of their privileges and be benefited by them; but I fail to see, and never could see any advantage which incorporation will bring the North American.

You admit "*Gleanings* was one of the leading publications designated that is said to have suppressed one of the communications." In saying so we were but stating a truth. Your apology now is "the matter was not available." I confess I do not understand the phrase, "not

available," as here employed, unless it is a phrase peculiar to printing offices, it means nothing. While the letter was in your hands, your pigeon hole, or your waste basket, it was surely "available." You add, by way of excuse, that you "thought it useless to stir up discord or partizan feeling over misconception or misunderstanding." I submit that in the use of this language you do the writer an injustice, as there was not one word in the letter that could possibly stir up discord or wound the feelings of any one. Nor were its contents begotten in ignorance, or misconception. It was "partisan" in so far as it expressed the views of one of the parties concerned and no further. Moreover, you would not have been troubled with it or any other letter from me on the matter, had not Dr. Miller, in the previous issue of your paper, written on the same subject and invited discussion. It was in response to that call from the Dr. I wrote the letter. If any others responded as I did their communications were treated as mine was, because henceforward not a syllable on incorporation appeared in your paper. It was this fact, in conjunction with others, that led our Committee to believe there was a mutual understanding between two of the leading bee papers of the United States "to stifle discussion, and prevent the subject from being ventilated." I should like to treat the subject more fully, but as I have a few words to say upon the comments of your confrere the editor the A.B.J., space forbids. I shall close by subscribing myself

Yours fraternally,
R. MCKNIGHT,
Chairman of Com. on Affiliation.

To the Editor of the American Bee Journal:

SIR,—I have already adverted to the review of the editor of *Gleanings*, re the withdrawal of the O.B.A. from affiliation with the N.A.B.A. I now purpose saying a few words anent your own comments thereon. Your remarks appear a little ill natured, are not over courteous, or consistent with themselves. You pay the members of the Special Committee a sorry compliment when you say "some of that Canadian quartette have no confidence in one another, but likely the one who wrote the Report through base intrigue induced them to sign it."

Let me assure you that all the members of that Committee are ex-Presidents of our Association, and men of at least ordinary intelligence, that intrigue on the part of any one of them would not be likely to escape the notice of the others, or fail to be treated by them as intrigue deserves to be treated, that if all four conspired to hoodwink their fellow members of the Association, or attempted to cause them to endorse a report the