

skilful and energetic, succeed. We will try and keep you posted on the latest improvements in regard to all appliances used in apicultural pursuits.

MODERN BEE-KEEPING IN TUNIS.

THE reader will call to mind the cry of the Roman orator which rung out so clearly and forcibly in the Senate: *Carthage must be destroyed* then the news which followed: *Delendo est Carthago*. Nearly on the site of the ancient city stands Tunis, the capital of the province by the same name. Extensive ruins, which cover the country for many miles about, form a strange contrast to the modern industrial undertakings that are springing up here and there. If we let old Carthage represent the prejudices and errors of bee-keeping in Tunis we can almost apply in this direction the sentences of the old time Romans. To be sure these prejudices and errors are not wholly destroyed. They exist still, and will continue to do so for some time. But a good strong blow has been dealt them through the establishment of a model apiary of forty hives, to be conducted on modern methods. The name chosen is "The Kassartyr Apiary," the estate to which it adds a pleasing feature being known by the name "Kassartyr." On page four allusion has been made to this undertaking, and all will be interested in knowing something of its success, which I feel is an assured thing. The movable comb hives were not all in place and the stocks in suitable condition to take full advantage of the first yield of honey—that from wild rosemary blossoms, but some surplus has been obtained and many combs have been constructed, so that when the jujube blossoms open next month an excellent harvest may be safely counted upon. The rosemary yields wonderfully, and as thousands of acres are covered with its pale blue blossoms during January, February and March it will be a great dependence. A medium stock transferred the last day of February has yielded up to date over forty pounds of extracted honey, besides building out several frames of foundation. The rosemary is the plant from which the famous Narbonne honey of France is gathered, and the Kassartyr

honey is most excellent in quality. Some of it is quite transparent, very thick and possesses a pleasing aromatic taste. Altogether the proprietors of "The Kassartyr Apiary" have every reason to feel encouraged in the work they have undertaken, and it has already begun to have its influence, as two other apiaries on the same plan are soon to be established in the province, and several enterprising parties are talking or introducing the culture of bees on their estates.

A few words about the bees of Tunis. They are dark—even darker than our common black bees, but strange to say, possess nearly the qualities of Syrian bees, and show, except in color, very little resemblance to the black or German bees. Like Cyprians and Syrians they are somewhat smaller-bodied than are the common bees, adhere very well to the combs when handled, but can be shaken off readily. They are also active energetic workers, but unlike Cyprians and Syrians, they are liable to fly at one and sting him when he approaches the apiary and yet does not molest the hives. They bear smoke rather better than other Oriental races: queens show a tinge of bronze color and are very prolific. On the whole Tunisian bees are not to be despised even if they are true Africans in color. I've been wondering how this race of bees got here, and have only been able to offer the following explanation: Early Greek colonists must have brought Hymettus bees with them. History might lead us to this conclusion and it is indicated by their color, qualities, etc., and particularly their disposition to submit to smoke, as well as by the fact that other Mediterranean countries from which bees might have been brought here at an early date all have as their general types yellow races of bees.—*Frank Benton's Bees.*

A. PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—We were naturally anxious to see the first number of our new JOURNAL. It came at last, and we were not disappointed. It is convenient and neat in form, the paper is good, the matter good, and the whole mechanical get up is excellent. You certainly deserve much credit for bringing forth so fine an offspring after so short travail. May the youngster thrive abundantly, and grow and ultimately "survive" as the "fittest."