

brought about? And where are the funds to come from? What is to be the admission, or is it to be free? etc. To be sure, these things are to be considered; but to me they are in no way difficult of solution. In the meantime, I would suggest that no convention be held in a place where some one cannot be found who will take sufficient interest to at least assist in carrying out such a measure. Again, while not condemning the way in which the association funds are being applied, I feel assured, never heard of such a course was followed, that it would not be out of place to use a portion of the Government grant for the furtherance of this or any other legitimate means for securing a better market for our production.

In concluding, it does appear to me that instead of a convention meeting and adjoining, with that kindness the Press, the Mayor and corporation may show us while assembled, and little else to remind the inhabitants that such took place, something should still linger in their memories relative to the value of one of Canada's most healthful articles of consumption.

F. A. GEMMILL.

Stratford, Jun. 27, '93.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.
THE "REVIEW" AND THE "SUGAR HONEY" QUESTION.

I am disappointed in our American friend, Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, of the *Bee-keepers' Review*. In the first place, I thought he had more judgment and sense of right than he has displayed on this "sugar honey" question, hatched in his paper; and, in the second place, I thought he had more courage and back-bone than to be afraid of a little friendly criticism and wholesome advice, especially when he professed to be open to, if not anxious for, both.

It was, I think, in the November number of his *Review* that he invited articles for his December number on what the beekeepers should do to "better their condition," and the correspondent, "Ire," this time, to write the "best articles they ever wrote." Thinking I could give our

American friends some good advice on this subject as to how "to better their condition," or at any rate, how not to *worse* it, I wrote Mr. Hutchinson as follows for his *Review*:—

"Your invitation to write an article on the above subject for the December *Review* is no doubt in earnest and all right; but when you tell us to 'write the best article we ever wrote,' that is probably a joke.

"My dear sir, that subject is not great enough to give birth to the best article we ever wrote. For my own part, I shall not attempt to do that in the few minutes I have to spare, and on such a subject; but I shall merely give you some plain though earnest thoughts on the proposed subject, which earnest thoughts, after reading so much about 'sugar honey' in the last *Review*, are fairly clamoring for utterance. When the pot of thought is boiling hot, and the ideas—big or little, good or bad—are bubbling up and running over, that is the time to reach for the quill and open the ink bottle. But, alas! the hand is so much slower than the head that many of them (not always the worst ones) are clean gone before they 'materialize' on the paper. A few of those left behind shall endeavour to get down in black and white.

"It seems to me that instead of telling the backkeepers what to do next, and how to do it, they ought to be told what *not* to do next and how *not* to do it! They are going along pretty fast at present already—some of them extra fast. They have, in the past, found out a great many things and inventions—useful inventions, and some of them not so useful—and they know a great deal. It is just possible, however, that they are getting to know a little too much for their own good. It is possible to have that kind of knowledge. Only a few people can stand it to know too much. They are almost sure to make a wrong use of the surplus information. At any rate, I have a private opinion, which must now be publicly expressed, that some of our American cousins—some of our beekeeping friends on the other side of the line (which most unfortunately divides us)—are actually getting to know too much for their own good, and for our good. 'Tis true, 't is pity, and pity 't is 't is true.' Now, I myself, am greatly in favor of knowledge, of progress, of science, invention, experiment, induction, deduction, and all that, and that. So true is this that I have managed—right or wrong—to get ahead of a good many people on a good many subjects in my life time. But, 'I swan,' I have a job to keep up to some of those Yankees, let alone getting ahead of them.