

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

By a York County Bee-Keeper.

### Cuban Competition in the Honey Market.

While Mr. W. K. Morrison and other prominent writers have scouted the idea of Cuban honey ever being a serious factor in the American and Canadian markets, conditions at present seem to be disproving their arguments. It is said that W. L. Coggeshall was asked why he was putting so many bees in Cuba. He replied that he "wanted to be on the other side of the fence when the rabbit got out." Editor Hill of "American Bee-Keeper," commenting on this, thinks the "rabbit" is now out, and in support of his contentions refers to the very low price of extracted honey in the different markets of the Union. He gives as an example the case of a correspondent who this season produced about 80,000 pounds of honey, and who made a trip of over 1,000 miles to New York only to hear Cuban honey talk on all sides, the largest buyer in the city being at the time in Cuba investigating the honey situation. With Cuban honey being quoted at the present time at 26 cents per gallon at Havana, and this, too, in a poor season, to the writer it seems a foregone conclusion that Cuba is bound to be a serious menace to our bee-keeping friends over the line, and to a lesser extent to we Canucks as well. Just last week a representative of one of our large confectioners informed me that they use large quantities of Cuban honey. Another extensive manufacturer of a different line of goods told me they didn't want any more Cuban honey. To use his own words: "It is too dirty, always

full of dead bees and other trash." One would think there would be but a very small margin of profit to the producer after the freight, and duty of three cents per pound was paid. However, there is no doubt, that even in the face of all this, considerable of their honey finds its way into Canada.

### Outyards: How Far From Home Should They Be?

Mr Townsend, of Michigan, who is writing a series of excellent articles for "The Review," thinks it advisable to have the different yards on different kinds of pasturage, even if one has to go quite a distance to have these conditions. For instance, he has one yard in a white clover, and fall flowers district; one in an alsike and basswood locality, and another in a raspberry location; not much chance of an entire failure in all three yards! Not all of us are so fortunate in our surroundings. However, I am quite sure that the bees are much better scattered in smaller apiaries, even a few miles away, than to have them all grouped at home in one yard as advocated by Mr. Alexander of New York. This year my crop would have been extremely slim if all my bees had been at home, as each of the two outyards, one eight miles and the other only three and a half miles away, produced more than double the amount per colony than the home bees. In each yard the pasture was identical to all appearances.

### That Artificial Comb Honey Canard.

Some things die hard, even after receiving many knockout blows. One of the most tenacious bits of falsehood that bee-keepers have to contend with is the "scientific pleasantries" that Prof. Wiley gave to the public some years ago, and although the artificial comb honey yarn has been proven false again and again, it keeps popping up occasionally in different papers throughout the country. In view of this a corre-

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