

CAPPINGS.

CUT FROM A VARIETY OF COMBS.

HONEY-DEW SCARCE IN A WET SEASON.

This question was up for discussion at the Ontario, and the statement was made and confirmed by several, that honey-dew was most plentiful in hot, dry weather. This view is confirmed by the following experience of Mr. E. W. Powers, Tennessee, as it appears in *A. B. J.*

"In the spring of 1888, we had a great deal of wet weather. About April 15 it cleared up, and it was fine for about six weeks, with but an occasional shower; the temperature ranging from 80° to 85° during the day and below 65° or 70° at night, with a gentle breeze from the south west. On April 15, honey-dew could be seen, this being earlier than common for it to make its appearance, and by May 10, the forest growth, such as oak, poplar, hickory, linden, etc., was actually shining with it. About June 10, a heavy rain washed it all from the trees, but within 48 hours it could be seen accumulating again. In three or four days the temperature changed, going up to 90°, and again it rained, and the honey dew disappeared for that season."

HOW BUSY BEES IMPROVE THEIR SHINING HOURS.

Some wag writes as follows in the *Toronto World*.

"The busy bees, bumble bees, bustling bees, wasps and butterflies are all laid up at winter quarters in the city. Their temporary winter quarters are in the hay now, under Mr. Shaftesbury's barn. The busy bees have a benefit society for members who may get lost in country orchards, poisoned in the garden or lamed in the clover fields, while in search of honey. At the annual meeting the other day several wasps crept under the barn and made things pretty lively. The queen bee, several bumble bees and butterflies were alarmed that the bees would sting and prevent them going calling on New Year's Day. The busy bees' benefit society is run on the mutual system. The ballot is a primrose which they enclose in a tiny envelope made out of a leaf of pink clover. This is handed to the queen bee, who stays under the barn all the year round, except a couple of months at Saratoga or the Pacific Coast. The queen keeps several pretty butterflies to see that the honey the bees bring in from the country is kept cool and fresh and sweet. The wasps are kicking—like the wasps in separate schools—they want secret voting by ballot. The bumble bees, who stay at home and help the queen eat honey, don't want any such thing. The queen was so angry at one wasp, that she threatened to throw him out into the snow to die. He had charged the queen with extravagance and keeping too many butterflies to look after the honey.

For every dollar's worth of honey given to the families of the working bees who get lost in the woods or die, the queen and the butterflies, who stay at home and have a good time, keep 23 cents' worth. Those wasps are a great nuisance—they sting and say unpleasant things. However, they were all voted down, and the old queen still reigns. The butterflies are all right for another year. The bumble bees can laugh and grow fat, while the working bees have to pack their grips, rustle around the country barns and wait for the flowers that bloom in the spring. A. KING B."

HONEY AS A TAPE WORM REMEDY.

The *Medical Brief* says, The most successful pumpkin-seed remedy is made as follows:

Peeled pumpkin-seeds.....3 ounces.
Honey.....2 "
Water.....8 "

Make an emulsion. Take half, fasting, in the morning, remainder half an hour later. In three hours time two ounces castor oil should be administered. Used with great success.

SEPARATORS.

This is the special subject for discussion in the February issue of the *Review*, and of all the articles I think R. L. Taylor comes about as near to the actual facts of the case as any of them. We have never been large producers of comb honey here at Beeton, but sufficient to enable us to decide clearly enough for ourselves, as to which is the best—the use or non-use of separators. The whole question resolves itself into one of profit to the bee-keeper. If more honey can be obtained without the use of separators, and I am of the opinion that such is the case, then separators will not be largely used. There is no doubt but that nicer, straighter combs may be obtained with separators, and they will probably be of a more even weight, which would be an advantage to any one selling sections "by the piece," but if the drawback here in Canada is the same as it is in the United States, where, according to Mr. Taylor, he can "discover no appreciable difference to wholesale selling price," the beauties of nice straight combs and even weight will not count for much. The experience of some of our leading comb-honey producers here in Ontario would make interesting reading. In summing up the whole matter Mr. Taylor Says:

"For profit alone, use no separators; if straighter combs are desired use the *L* separator with separators; if the eye and the taste are to