

short time until information regarding foul brood may be in the hands of every bee keeper, if the readers of the Canadian Bee Journal will do the plain duty of the moment promptly and cheerfully, as mentioned editorially, viz: prepare and send to this office a complete list of names of all bee-keepers known to them.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Observations.

I am not well. I've had the grippe, and it's left me with a beautiful legacy in the way of an influenza. In my spavined condition I know that what I write won't be sense, especially since I've seen the editor's remark that he guessed I was able to take care of myself. I really ought to be in the hospital. I sit here with my pen in one hand, and a handkerchief in the other, and the hand that is engaged in transcribing my noble thoughts has much less to do than the handkerchief one, so if you should slide down the column that you pay me for—in goodwill—and don't stub your toe on one idea, please believe that for this time all my ideas have gone off to the wash.

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I observe that some fellow who styles himself "Number Two" is writing for the C. B. J. now. Who is he, and what right has he to encroach on my territory of writing under a *nom-de-plume*? Isn't he trying to manufacture under my "patent," and haven't I as much right to "kick" as Henry Alley had on page 1063-4, Vol. 5, where he goes for me because I innocently remarked that the "principle" of his self-swarmers was "as old as the hills."

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I've read the *Apiculturist* a good deal, and I've always been of the opinion that a man had better never fall foul of any subject which Mr. A. claimed the credit of originating—if he wanted to live at peace with him. What did I say any way? Simply that the "principle" was "old." Nothing about perforated metal, wire cloth, or anything of the sort—Why, then, all this fuss? I only hope it will work out successfully, but I have my doubts.

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I've attended a fair or two in my time, and I must confess I am not partial to the one-judge system. What a chance there is at connivance between the judge and the superintendant of the department, if either or both were so inclined. An awful tale was told me by a man who was a large exhibitor at various fairs, of

how at one fair he attended and exhibited at, there was such a connivance as I have mentioned. How a superintendent in one department got a superintendent from another department to show certain exhibits in the name of the latter (though owned by the former), and then how the judge was given a "pointer" and acted on it. And the curious part of it was that the last named superintendent wasn't in that line of business at all, and thus the thing leaked out. There would be no chance of anything like this, where there was a trio of judges—unless they were all "utterly bad."

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Did it ever strike you that bee-keeping is further advanced in this province of Ontario, than in any other country on the face of the globe? I do not mean by this that we are ahead of all others in our methods of production, but that the business is looked upon as a standard of industry by the government. I know of no other country where a bee-keeper's association is recognized by, and subsidised by the Legislature of the country, nor of any association which is more efficiently conducted than our own. What are the aims and objects of other similar societies? Perhaps much the same as our own, but there are none which have the power to act or the influence to further any scheme, having for its object the interest of the bee-keeping community, such as we have. Truly the bee-keepers of this province have cause to be thankful.

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If Mr. Alley will let me live you'll hear from me again.

OBSERVER.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Some Friendly Criticisms.

THE young man, Locke, in his efforts to establish the *American Apiculturist*, conceived and put in to practice the "Query" plan in apicultural journalism. As the plan has been developed by the *American Bee Journal*, and the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, it has become a central feature as an educational factor in bee journalism. Numerous answers to a very simple question must necessarily suggest a valuable thought. I know this to be true from the letters I have received touching matters drawn out by these queries, I having contributed to these departments from the beginning. These queries go out to numerous bee-keepers and apicultural writers for answers and each must rely on his own knowledge and experience to answer them. He must answer without any suggestion from any other source.