

again do we find the same old arguments and quotations from Math Cheshire & Co., told and retold here as they were not long ago in Canada and the United States. In New Zealand, especially, we find even "advanced" bee-keepers who, having drafted an admirable Bill for presentation to their House of Representatives, strangle the good of the whole measure by tacking onto it the "remedies recommended"—the very treatment that has been proved time without number to be only so much lost time as far as radical cure is concerned. It would be a boon to those here who advocate the "Jones starvation cure" if you would reproduce in your JOURNAL one or two startling facts that have occurred in Canada where the "starvation" plan has succeeded after the "acid cure" has been given up as a bad job. It seems such a pity that here, where foul brood has taken a hold, and a willing Agricultural Department of the government, ready to extend a helping hand, that we are to be put back because some or all of us differ as to proper treatment infested stocks ought to be subjected to so as to effect a radical cure. With very few exceptions, we have no winter problem to work out. We are blessed with a climate eminently suited to bee keeping, and a flora second to none in the world for the production of a honey equalled it may be, but certainly nowhere surpassed. It seems such a pity that a firm hand is not once put to the throat of foul brood, and strangled in the first act.

Yours,
J. PATTEN.

New South Wales, 9th July, 1891.

Bees and Rheumatism

IN a letter from a customer of ours referring to a shipment of bees, the following amusing incident is related:

The evening I was putting your bees in a hive a gentleman drove along with another man very stiff with Rheumatism, who wanted to get stung with the bees. His faith was very strong and I took the frame to him and brushed three or four inside his pants. He buttoned up, waited awhile, one fellow began to jag a little, he wanted more, and said these were only half alive. He crawled along on his crutches and got before a very strong swarm, wanting to irritate them, with pants opened. I could hardly convince him to leave the hive, although I explained what would follow. So I took cover off a hive and carried it to him with a lot of bees on under side. His pants were loose and turned down. With a feather I brushed six or seven inside his pants. He closed them up quickly. Five bees stung him before he left. I gave him

a box of bees, or rather one of Alley's queen cages full, for him to use at home. If he is cured, I will let you know.—Yours Truly, Roy McLellan.

Be sure and let us know friend Mc. what effect this heroic treatment had upon your rheumatic neighbor.

Bees and Honey.

The following report on bees and honey is taken from the Crop Report, just issued from the Ontario Department of Agricultural.

The past season has not been a particularly favorable one for bees. A scarcity of nectar in the early summer and a consequent lack of food for brood rearing retarded swarming very materially. As a general rule swarming was not nearly so frequent as usual. There has not been an abundant supply of nectar from any source, and the yield of honey is not likely to average more than between 30 and 40 pounds per hive, although the season is not yet over. Foul brood is said to be on the increase in Perth, but very little disease is reported on the whole, and bees are now in good condition.

Bumble-bees are a great benefit to farmers as they encourage the growth of clover, one of the farm's best plant. Some folks even believe clover would entirely run out but for them. They carry the pollen from one flower to another. Why do not the winds or other bees carry this pollen as with other flowers? Clover pollen is thus carried but the part of the blossom that should receive it is so concealed as to remain unfertilized unless an insect with a proboscis the length of the bumble-bee's places some where it is needed while in search of honey in the deep cups. Boys, when you discover a bumble-bees' nest don't destroy it.

There seems to be a race between bees and flies on the Hercules club bloom, and it is astonishing to see how they all swarm to it. It must be secreting a great deal of nectar, and we should think that one acre would keep 100 colonies pretty busy. How long the bloom lasts we cannot say, as this is the first season it has bloomed with us, but from appearance we think that it will last from three to six weeks.

* * * Subscribers who fail to receive their copies of the JOURNAL promptly, will kindly advise us. Missing numbers are always supplied where possible.