

comb on top of it, with three-fourth or inch strips run so that when it sags it will not touch the other comb. This does not disturb the bees, and in this way we have wintered some colonies scarce of stores, and brought them through in very fine condition.

The honey flow in future may be very much increased by the united efforts of the bee-keepers and farmers to bring about plenty of rain in dry seasons.

The Bee-Keepers' *Review* is fast gaining confidence, and making a permanent place for itself in the bee-keeping world; but if it is not careful, Brothor Alley may light on it with a swarm of those Golden Carniolans.

We notice that the excellent article by Rev. Mr. Carswell in a late issue of the C.B.J. has been very favorably received, and copied in other journals. We trust that he will soon give us more of the good things he has stored up.

The North American Bee-Keepers' Convention will be held at Albany, N.Y., Dec. 8 to 11. Reduced rates on all the trunk line railroads are secured. It is to be hoped there will be a large attendance at this Convention, and we bespeak for it many new and valuable suggestions.

Rain by contract is the latest. The telegraphic reports in the daily papers of last Monday are to the effect that the citizens of Goodland, Kan., have made a contract with Melbourne, the Ohio rain maker, to produce rain in June, July and August 1892, at 10c. per acre.

A new bee paper called the *Journal of Winona* is started in Minnesota. I wonder if the editor knows what kind of a contract he has on hand? Unless he possesses almost superhuman advantages financially and intellectually, as well as a vast amount of experience, it is almost an impossibility that he will reap much return for his labor. There is room for a certain number of Bee Journals, but the old stand-byes that have been for years before the public are not making a fortune. No doubt all the journals should receive more patronage

than they do, because the more bee journals a bee-keeper takes, if he reads them, the better he is prepared to manage his bee business successfully. While we wish our new-comer every success, and extend to him the right hand of fellowship, he must not be disappointed if he finds he is just launched into a mere pasture where he has to pick and pull for a living as well as other mortals.

We have just received a long letter from A. Hallamshire, Bee-keeper, in reference to Punic bees. Among other things the writer claims that Punic bees have the power of reproducing themselves without queens; that any Punic bee can lay eggs which will hatch worker bees, drones, and queens, and produce a colony without a queen. This is a marvellous statement, and we wonder that it has not been brought out before. He offers to send any person some bees on trial, and if not satisfactory, can have them free of charge. As there have been a number sent to America, and also to different parts throughout Europe, we presume their good qualities, if they possess any over other bees, will soon be made known. We are fully convinced that Mr. Benton should be reliable authority on the Punics, as he was the first to send them from Tunis.

Lighting a Smoker.

WE have just learned a new way to light the Clark smoker. We cram it with cedar sawdust, then close the door tight. We next strike a match on the sandpaper, work the bellows, then hold the blaze directly against the perforations *under* the smoker, just back of the front legs. The flame will shoot in, ignite the fuel, and the smoker so lighted is almost sure to stay so.—B. B. J.

We sent out quite a number of the Clark smokers to parties who had been using our own make, which, with some slight improvements, is similar to the Bingham. We have had a number returned, and perhaps it was owing to the inability to light them satisfactorily. However, if this meets the requirements to make it work all right, we shall be pleased to sell the balance of our stock of Clark's at half price. We find our own much preferred.