

with numerous powerful agents in restoring to health disordered vital functions. I hold that the mixed honey, for these very reasons, is the healthiest and best for general use; that which bears distinct and pronounced flavor, at once betraying its origin, only so betrays it because it holds an undue proportion of the active principle of the plant wherever gathered, be this beneficial or otherwise; and when honey is found to disagree with any one, it will probably be found to be honey of a distinct flavor.

We also lose sight of the fact when eating comb honey that we swallow the waxen cell-wall which we are told is varnished over with a preparation (a sort of furniture polish) of the acid saliva of the bee and propolis—propolis consisting of powerfully medicinal exudations varying with the sources from which it is gathered. Much that I have said is ideal and theoretical, but I think my conclusions are rational and practical, viz., that in dealing with honey we are dealing with a medium—nectar—flavored with powerful medical compounds whose harmlessness is ensured by the wonderful antidotal mixing of the bee, but the properties are still present, ready to be seized upon by diseased or disordered organs, or if there be anything in the science of homœopathic medicine, the curing of disease by minute infinitesimal doses of such powerful drugs as produce symptoms of the disease in larger doses, then a new line of thought is opened up and considerable support given to my hypothesis.

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QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

The Cost of Comb and Extracted Honey.

QUERY No. 198.—Which costs the most to put on the market in the most saleable shape, extracted or comb honey?

DR. C. C. MILLER—Comb.

G. M. DOOLITTLE—Comb honey in my opinion.

PROF. COOK—Comb about one-half more. Yes, double, with the average bee-keeper.

DR. DUNCAN—There is not much difference if the extracted is put up in small parcels.

H. D. CUTTING—It will depend on conditions. In some markets extracted will cost as much as comb.

O. G. RUSSELL.—This depends on where it is marketed. Our honey is nearly all marketed in country towns and villages and it costs us about the same to market comb that it does extracted.

J. F. DUNN—Comb honey costs me most to put on the market. It all depends on how you sell your honey. If extracted honey is put up in small packages there would be little difference.

ALLEN PRINGLE—As the question is a little ambiguous I may answer both constructions to make sure. It is much more expensive to produce comb honey than extracted, and a little less expensive to put it on the market in saleable shape—that is the local market.

A Puzzling Question.

QUERY No. 199.—What is the difference in the weight of honey by the gallon, all ripened to the same thickness?

DR. DUNCAN—I don't know.

J. F. DUNN—Too much for me.

H. D. CUTTING—About half to the gallon.

G. M. DOOLITTLE—According as the question is put, I should say not any.

DR. C. C. MILLER—If it is all ripened to the same density there is no difference.

ALLEN PRINGLE—All ripened to the same thickness there would be but little difference.

PROF. COOK—I can not tell. It is an uninteresting question. I do not think there would be much variation.

Keeping Qualities of Various Honeys.

QUERY No. 200.—Is there any difference in the keeping qualities of the various kinds of honey, extracted and comb?

DR. C. C. MILLER—Yes.

H. D. CUTTING—Yes.

J. F. DUNN—Not according to my experience.

DR. DUNCAN—I think clover honey will keep better than basswood.

G. M. DOOLITTLE—Only so far as granulation is concerned, in this locality. Linden honey will granulate much quicker than clover.

ALLEN PRINGLE—So far as my experience goes different kinds of honey (either extracted or comb) equally well ripened keep equally well.