

sion imaginable. One of our tinner's remarked he never could divine how we managed to wear out so many stew-pan bottoms until then and there revealed. All this was very trying at the time, but as memory paints those days, I invariably laugh, at least to myself, when good aunt Mary's face presents itself, and I can almost hear her say as I did then: "You must do something to save your bees."

Women bee-keepers especially need patience to brook the gibes and jeers of their own sex, because they are bee-keepers.

Then our endurance is put to crucial test on the arrival of the nigh-flying, fashionable caller, with a multitude of fine airs, and dressed in the very latest of styles, while, we perchance, are bedaubed from head to foot, with wax, honey or all, but under these conditions do we not ourselves feel considerably "stuck up?"

Again, custom denies woman the privilege of giving vent to her pent-up feelings through profanity, which seems to be a source of great relief to many of the "lords of creation."

Dadant has said ours is a business of details, thus implying the necessity of patience. We need patience over a short crop or no crop at all, severe winter losses, foul brood, etc., but the patience that will endure many defeats and even hardships will secure success at last. Adversity, not prosperity, develops and brings to the front all there is in a man. Some may aver that many of our best bee-keepers are devoid of patience, but I should advise, unless you have a surplus stock of it, do not embark in the business of bee-keeping.

On the other hand patience must not develop inactivity. Laziness travels so slowly that poverty soon overtakes him. The young man who thinks of little but fast horses and stylish turn-outs or the young lady whose mind is mostly engrossed with dress and beaux, would most probably prove failures as bee-keepers.

Our watchword should be: "Eternal vigilance is the price of success. An apiary neglected or mismanaged is worse than a farm overgrown with weeds or exhausted by ignorant tillage. Yet many, both old and young, will read a book on bee culture, and then waltz right into the business, just as sure of a golden success as though the book was equal to the lamp of Aladdin, and all they had to do was to rub the leaves and take in the treasure.

Heddon says that if there is any business in this world that demands skill, and tact to insure success, it is this business of ours. He also says, "The earnest desire of succeeding is almost always a prognostic of success." But I do not exactly like to quote from him, for as you

are aware he is not in favor of the gentler sex as bee-keepers. Let me warn you that if any of you are disciples of his in this respect don't make things disagreeable by so expressing yourselves. If an earnest desire of succeeding is a prognostic of success allow me to ask, as a sex which of the two, women or men, are the most devoted to a cherished cause or the most ambitious to excel? But as he has done so much to make the business available to women through the divisible brood chamber principle, we can readily forgive him and look forward to the time when our sex, by their works, shall demonstrate to him and the world that he is laboring under a mistake.

The successful bee-keeper must possess an elastic temperament. There are always two sides to everything, and should we feel disposed to repine we should leave the discouraging page and give the leaf a turn and read the other side. If, after reading to the bottom of the page we feel no better, we might borrow from one of our more favored city friends their book of Life's Thoughts and Experiences, and read from that the discouragements and trials, the close financial grip oftentimes given them by the fickle God of Fortune, and the many discomforts of city life, hemmed in from the pure air of the country, away from the green fields and forests, compelled to breathe the hot, vitiated, smoke stained air of the crowded city. Think you not we might find solace in the comparison?

The successful bee-keeper must be quick and observant. Scientific knowledge is useful, but practical knowledge is indispensable. He must understand the flora of his locality, and have his colonies booming at the right time. He must be rigidly economical without being penurious; must be ingenious and adapt himself to circumstances.

Where is the bee-keeper who feels himself or herself overburdened with sagacity when in the disposition of his product he has to meet the stratagem of the commercial world with all of its distrusts, jealousies and rivalries, chief among which is adulterations.

Once more, to be successful we must be progressive. A man who knows all about bees and does not believe that any more can be gained by reading bee periodicals, new books, attending conventions, etc., will soon be far behind the age. Let us each one see to it that we belong not to this class. Deliver us from being fossilized. Missouri has within herself all the elements necessary to enable her to rank with any of her sister States. Shall she take a back seat? Fellow bee-keepers, it remains with ourselves. Let us look upon our calling as dealing with one of