

I am only a new beginner with your full system. I will close by telling you what I am doing and where I am now in bee-keeping. In the fall of 1883 I put in 16 swarms in the old box hive, and all came out in good condition. In spring of 1884 I ordered 36 of your hives through a neighbor of mine, Mr. Copland, also of Minto. I am well pleased with the change to your hive so far. I had 45 colonies last fall, sold 10 at \$62.50, took up two of the old box hives and put in 28 swarms for winter. Should they winter all right I intend devoting more of my time to bee-keeping when you may perhaps hear from me again. I wish you full success as the editor of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL which all lovers of bees so much need.

A NEW ORLEANS ESSAY

THE following paper was read at the International Convention, at New Orleans, written by S. T. Pettitt, of Belmont, one of Canada's foremost bee-keepers, and as it relates to honey-production in Canada, we are pleased to copy it in the JOURNAL.

God has clothed and beautified nearly all parts of His footstool with flowers that fill the air with rich fragrance and delight the eye of all. The humble poor as well as the opulent may enjoy them. But these are not the only uses for which they are designed. They each secrete a particle of nectar, some more and some less. The Dominion of Canada is no exception to the general rule; but on the contrary, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific, and from the Great Lakes and the 49th parallel, to the frozen regions of the North, flowers everywhere abound in great luxuriance and profusion.

In Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces, the greatest honey-producing tree in the world perhaps the linden or bass-wood, grows abundantly. The soft-maple and sugar-maple yield no inconsiderable quantity. From the latter, average colonies will, in favorable seasons, store 20 lbs. or more.

Then we have the fruit trees, grapevines and willows, both small and great, in endless variety. Of weeds, at present development, the Canadian thistle stands first on the list as honey producer, but—"beware! beware! O. beware!" Then come the golden rod ox-eyed asters, etc., besides many others which go to make up the list.

But the plants to which bee-keepers in the Province named, are most indebted and to which they look for their greatest and surest supply, are the different varieties of clover. Where the forests are cleared away, these Provinces are emphatically a land of grass; that is the grasses here attain to great perfection and where the land remains neglected, it is soon covered with vegetation, white clover doing its full share.

The power of the linden or basswood to produce honey when all the conditions are favorable, is a matter of wonder and astonishment. About July 15, the tree is profusely decorated, ye, nearly covered with cream-colored blossoms so filled with honey that the limbs literally bend under their loads of coveted sweets. At this time, if a limb be struck a sharp blow from beneath, the honey will fall to the ground in a sweet shower. But unfortunately, the linden does not, on an average, at least in my section of country, produce much honey two years out of five. Every other year is the rule; and besides that caterpillars devour the foliage about three years out of ten.

Linden honey is aromatic, of high, pleasant flavor, clear, and of sparkling brightness. When well ripened it granulates solid. Clover honey is clear and bright; though slightly tinged with amber, is very sweet, although a clearly perceptible acidity is always present. It also candies solid. Thistle honey is clear and bright, of fine quality, and peculiarly pleasant. It candies slowly. These immaculate honeys have each an exquisitely delightful flavor peculiarly its own.

In Keewatin, Manitoba, and the "Great Lone Land," or Canadian North West, the sources of honey, at present, are confined principally to prairie flowers, which are very plentiful from early spring until frost. Willow abounds and will add considerably to the wealth of the bee-keeper, but, if I am correctly informed, the honey is of an inferior quality, therefore we must patiently await the developments which the near future will surely bring about in that great country. Both the soil and the climate seem to be peculiarly favorable to the production of white clover, and it is rapidly taking possession of the soil where cultivation has destroyed the