

wa. of hives, implements, buildings, and the like. To become a successful professional bee-keeper a man must first find a proper locality, as I have just explained, then he must secure the best stock procurable put up suitable buildings, wintering cellars, if necessary; have the best of hives and implements, and "keep a large number of colonies." I think many fail in this point. They keep only bees enough to bring in an income during a good year, or, possibly in an average year, and when one poor year follows another, two or three times in succession, want stares them in the face. Keep bees enough so that when there is a good year or two, enough money may be made to tide over the poor seasons that are sure to come. The very fact that the bees are scattered about in out-apiaries, several miles apart, adds to the certainty of a crop; as one locality often yields a fair crop while another a few miles away yields nothing.

With a man adapted to the business, a suitable locality, and the adoption of sound business methods, bee-keeping will compare favorably with other rural pursuits.

Believing that the mission of a paper is best fulfilled when it introduces the subject, rather than exhausts it, I bring mine to a close.

Mr. Doolittle—I don't like to see time run to waste, neither do I want to oppose anything that so intelligent a brain as Mr. Hutchinson's has brought forth. He told us how agriculture, in many branches, has ceased, and the masses are not happier. Mr. Hutchinson, I want to say this, and enforce it by telling a story. One of these long-faced brethren was riding one day, and came across a young man walking, and asked him to ride. Presently they entered a deep wood; he thought he was called upon to speak to the young man about his soul, so he asked him the question, "Are you prepared to die?" and the young man jumped out and ran away. Now I want to say to you, that anything that kills our happiness is wrong.

Mr. Hutchinson—What is your point, Mr. Doolittle?

Mr. Doolittle—The point is, that no people are happier than when working on a home. And this speculation that our people have gone into has spoiled our homes. A hungry dog cannot fight. You may run up a flag, but you cannot force people to respect it.

Mr. Hutchinson—When I first went to my present home, we kept a cow, had a

garden, etc., but the work in the garden came at the same time as the work in the apiary, so I laid by the cow and the garden.

Dr. Mason—Mr. Doolittle says a poor, hungry dog can't fight, so he must mean that the dog that is well fed and sleek can fight the best. Now, that is all right, and I agree with him. (Several—"If not too fat.") But what makes that dog poor? Is it not his own fault? In our locality (and you know localities differ), there are too many who have not the backbone, or the principle, to make use of the means at their command, to make home happy, and blame the more fortunate for their success.

W. E. Flower—This reminds me of a story of an Irishman. He and his wife quarrelled. She said to him, "Look at the dog and cat. Did you ever see anything more peaceable than that?" The husband paused and looked at the creatures, then said, "Jist tie them together tight, and, faith, I think then they'll fight." Taxes are so high I do not want a home. If I am going to spend all my income for taxes, I am better off without a home.

Dr. Miller—The question is a serious one. If a young man should ask me today if bee-keeping is a profession that pays, I would not dare to say it is as safe as a profession as it was 20 or 40 years ago. I think Mr. Hutchinson was very wise in putting it that way, that it is not a matter of dollars and cents. Perhaps I may rest and strengthen up while following this profession, I am a bee-keeper, and I find time to go fishing. We get our pleasure as we go along in our occupation. I am enjoying my bee-keeping. That is my vocation, and I believe I can enjoy it as a profession.

Rev. E. T. Abbott—You have gotten on my hobby. This talk about bee-keeping as a specialty all sounds very well, but I don't think there is a man in the room that makes his living out of bee-keeping. There is something else combined with it.

Mr. Doolittle—I do.

Rev. Abbott—Where is your farm?

Mr. Doolittle—Bees bought it.

Mr. Abbott—Do you have no income from the farm? Bee-keeping has only one mission in the United States, and that is to make the home happier and better. Mr. Hutchinson and I have to sell papers, and it is a fact that bee-keeping will not succeed as a profession in half a dozen States. But for broken down doctors, and preachers that never could preach, if