

no doubt that, after the exhibition is over and our Canadian honey has become thoroughly known, we will receive orders direct for all we can produce. In the year 1879-80 our Mr. Jones while on his way to Palestine and Cyprus, for bees, took forty barrels of honey to England. The color was so bright and clean that many doubted its purity. After considerable difficulty he found a customer who consented to take it at his figures, with the guarantee that if it contained anything other than what was gathered by the bees from the flowers, the whole lot was to be forfeited. The parties who purchased it, guaranteed it to their customers, who were so well pleased with it that the following season they sent an order for 50,000 pounds, but owing to the honey crop being short and local trade requiring the total production, he was obliged to write to that effect. Before the would-be purchasers had received the answer they sent a second order for another 50,000 pounds. We can assure our friends that one hundred tons of honey would be "as a small drop in the bucket" in London, England, if we can only popularize its use. The more we send and the larger and finer our exhibit just in the same degree will we popularize its use. See what our Toronto exhibitions have done for the bee-keepers of Canada. They have increased the consumption of honey more than ten fold, and it is now fast becoming an ordinary article of diet.

#### ANOTHER LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PETTIT.

I would just say to all Ontario bee-keepers, that the amount of section honey offered for exhibition at Kensington, is not as much as the Association desires to exhibit. I would be glad to hear from anyone who would kindly send some nice comb honey. Send me at once the amount, and every necessary instruction will be cheerfully given. For directions about packing &c. see C. B. J. page 88.

I do not just yet know but we might take some more nice extracted honey, would be glad to hear from any that would like to send some, and have not previously applied. I would just say that owing to the short crop of comb in England, that that article will probably command a nice figure over there. I shall send all mine.

This is an important matter—a rare chance of opening a market in Europe for our surplus honey in future. How nice it would be to just load up our honey, take it to the railway station

and get our money just the same as dairymen do for their cheese. Now this is what we are aiming at, and we believe it can be done if we succeed in making a good exhibit.

Probably we will ship about the 15th August or a little sooner; for particulars about packages, packing &c. see C. B. J. page 88.

S. T. PETTIT.

Belmont, Ont., July 22nd, 1886.

From Rural Californian.

#### THE FLORA OF CALIFORNIA.

THE bloom that furnishes a good quality of honey may be found any day in the year. All sorts of citrus fruits produce bloom that furnishes nectar that bees gather, and the quality of honey produced from such bloom is very good, though it would be difficult to get a very great amount of honey from the bloom of citrus trees alone. Dealers in honey often get up illuminated labels lettered in blue and gold, and describing honey as strictly pure orange bloom honey. They place these labels on cans containing honey made, by bees that never saw nor smelled a bud or bloom of an orange tree, or in fact the blossom of any citrus tree. We remember being at a railway station, not a thousand miles from the edge of the Mojave Desert, and in a mountainous region where there were no citrus trees, never was, and, in all probability, never will be. Yet there were two full car-loads of honey being put on cars, and every case had on the end of it in large letters this legend or device: *Guaranteed Strictly Pure Orange Blossom Honey from Los Angeles, California.* The honey was shipped to Europe, and the chemical tests applied to it to find traces of nectar from orange blossoms. Not the slightest trace was found, and some of that honey was branded as a fraud. Traces of glucose were found, and it was pronounced a Yankee swindle, when in fact it was a very good article of sage honey and strictly pure: but it went under a false name and received a condemnation that it did not deserve, except for the falsehood pasted on the end of the honey case. Orange trees bloom from January to May, lemons and limes bloom all the year. During December, January, February and March acacia and blue gum trees furnish a good quality and a large quantity of honey, but most of it is consumed in the hive by the bees, so that little if any of it ever reaches market. In February and March the native grass called alfilarilla furnishes an abundance of honey of good quality, though not so light and bright as that gathered a little later from the black sage. This shrub may be found in the lowest valleys and on the sides and highest peaks of the mountain, and the bees that on