

keep bees on the place. I want to know how to begin, what books to read, etc.

East Weymouth, Mass.

You should try if possible to get the best works on bees and study them thoroughly this winter. Cook's Manual of the Apiary and A.B.C. of Bee Culture are two very popular and valuable books. There is also Quinby's New Bee-keeping written by L. C. Root, which is very valuable. After thoroughly studying these it might be better for you to spend one season in an apiary where some practical apiarist is conducting business on a large scale that you might learn the manipulation thoroughly before commencing it for yourself. If you could retain the position you now hold and yet keep a few colonies of bees, you might buy, say five or ten colonies and commence in the spring working for your master when your time was not occupied with your bees. In this way you could be earning something for yourself and should your bees be not so remunerative the first season you would be able to struggle on without difficulty. You might be very successful from the very commencement but we think it is not wise to offer too great inducements to new beginners, preferring that they should be happily disappointed than otherwise. If the locality for bee-keeping where you are now located is a desirable one no doubt you would succeed by simply commencing on a small scale and working up. We are sorry that the bee-keepers you called on should try so hard to discourage you. Perhaps it will do you good. It should stimulate you to greater exertions. You should lose no opportunity of posting yourself most thoroughly on the business and if, without their assistance, you should be able in a few years, to be numbered among our best bee-keepers, you will then have your own energies and untiring efforts to thank for the results, and if some other young man similarly situated calls upon you for information you will not order him home in the abrupt way you say you were treated.

GEORGE E. HILTON.—I was much interested in "America as seen by Mr. Cowan," but there is one correction, however, which I should like to make. In speaking of the poor crop Mr. Cowan says:—"One gentleman (the President of the Michigan Association) jokingly said that none would believe I had been to the States if I returned to England without boasting about some-

thing, and he further said if I came to him I could boast I had seen the apiary where nearly one pound of honey per hive had been obtained this year." I was so fortunate as to get 31½ lbs. per colony. I think however it is Dr. C. C. Miller who deserves all the applause in this matter even if it did cost him \$4.47 per pound.

Fremont, Michigan, Nov. 22nd, 1887.

SEASON'S REPORT.

W. J. ROBINSON.—I took my bees out of cellar on April 10th, all in good condition. They got a good start on maple and fruit bloom, and on June 11th I got my first swarm. Had thirteen natural swarms from seven colonies in spring and got about 250 pounds of extracted and 50 pounds comb honey in one pound sections as my surplus. I went in for increase more than for honey. My last swarm came out on July 12th about 2 o'clock and clustered on an apple tree, where they stopped till the next morning, I being away that afternoon. I hived them early on the morning of the 13th. I have not taken any honey from the bees since July 15th, they having then plenty for winter stores, but they gathered very little after that and I have had to feed about 200 pounds of syrup for winter. I put my bees in cellar on the 5th of November, being about two weeks earlier than I did last year, the cellar temperature has kept about 42° this last ten days. It kept about 40° all last winter, never varying more than one degree.

Orangeville, Ont.

CONVENTION NOTICES.

The Ontario Bee-Keepers' Convention will meet at Woodstock, Ont., on Tuesday and Wednesday 10th and 11th January 1888. This will afford an opportunity of continuing the meeting another day if those present desire to do so. S. T. Pettit, President. N.B.—Program will be published later.

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