

This I will not stand from you or any other man. I have made no statement at any time that I did not sincerely believe to be true. I demand that you retract these aspersions on my character and apologise for them, or I shall treat you accordingly. The statement that I asked to be made an honorary member of the N. A. B. K. A. is utterly false, and if you have a spark of honor about you, you will publish my indignant denial of it.

WM. F. CLARKE.

Guelph, Aug. 7th, 1895.

[We cheerfully publish the above and in reply would say when a man makes statements for which there is no foundation he surely is doing what we said Mr. Clarke was doing, and we regret to say we cannot be truthful and withdraw our statements. As to the honorary membership and the very unkind statements Mr. Clarke has made about ourselves, although he has been very unkind and judged motives in a groundless and uncharitable way, requiring a good deal of Christian grace to take them in silence, it would undoubtedly have been better to have taken those personal attacks in silence and not manifested the spirit we, for the moment, did when telling that Mr. Clarke asked for honorary membership of the N. A. B. K. A. But this statement we cannot now withdraw, much as we may wish that it had not been published. We were told on the best of authority that Mr. Clarke said in effect that he thought his long services to bee keeping entitled him to honorary membership and he could not well be refused.

[We see in to day's (Aug. 13th) Mail and Empire another letter of Mr. Clarke's in which he states that for which he has no grounds and which is untrue, he say:— Mr. Pettit and his son-in-law Mr. R. F. Holtermann are the chief promoters of the pure Honey Bill, as they call it. Mr. Holtermann retired from the columns of the Mail and Empire after my reply to him, but got his worthy father-in-law and one or two others to take up the cudgels against me.—Is a man to be allowed to make statements without one ground of truth and not to be accused of falsehood. I never asked Mr. Pettit to write anything on the

question in the Mail and Empire. Again Mr. Clarke writes in the same letter. "However, he returned to the fray in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL which is published in the interests of the agricultural supply business of the Coold, Shapley & Muir Co. of Brantford." If he means by that, that the above firm publish the Bee Journal to boom their supply business by undue means (an inference which people would draw), we leave it to the judgment of readers of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. The Journal has been singularly free from such. In a Mail and Empire article, in reply to my letter, Mr. Clarke says he is insulted because I do not give him the title Rev. and my motive in withholding it has been to take weight from his letter; another unwarranted judgment of motives, yet what has Mr. Clarke said about this matter in past numbers of THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. On page 8, March 1888, he wrote in reply to Doctor Miller: The Dr. says: "Mr. Clarke should remember that additional weight is given, and if right, ought to be given, to what he may say by the title attached to his name." "I entirely dissent from this. I expect and ask no consideration because a stupid custom prefixes "Rev." to my name. I write on agricultural subjects as a bee-keeper—'only that and nothing more.' I wish my views and arguments to be taken for what they are intrinsically worth—no more, no less. Nothing of weight is added to them because of the title conventionally given to members. I give and accept the title under protest. I am no more "reverend" than any other man of my age, intelligent calibre and moral character. It is time we quit calling ministers 'Rev.' especially when we find a man like Dr. Miller calling for reverence for opinions because of that absurd prefix. The whole thing is unmitigated humbug and when it comes to 'Right Reverend,' 'Very Reverend,' and 'Most Reverend in God,' it is enough to make two or three dogs sick."

Readers will see how hard pressed Mr. Clarke is in this matter, and the pity of it is he is injuring through it all the bee keeping industry. ED.]