THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL WEEKLY.

"THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER."

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EDITORIAL.

THE O. B. K. A. LIBRARY.

THE secretary of the O.B.K.A. sends us the following which will assist in forming a nuclei to the future O.B. K.A. library: "I received a day or two ago two books for the O. B. K. A. forwarded by "Amateur Expert," one of which is presented by Rev. E. Bartram, D. D., the author, on the Stewarton hive, the other is Thorley's "Female Monarchy," quite a rare book. This latter is presented by Mr. John Walton. We are thankful to these gentlemen in presenting and forwarding these works and they are thoroughly appreciated by the officers of the Association."

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THOSE FEEDER FLOATS.

On page 795 of *Gleanings*, friend Root illustrates our feeder floats and after describing them he makes the following remarks: "When I first put it together I thought it was a capital thing, and would answer its purpose as a feeder float splendidly; but upon actual trial I found it did not work as well in practice as in theory. It is designed to sit in a square tin pan (for instance, a bread pan,) and should stand perpendicularly instead of horizontally, as our engravings have represented it. Instead of sinking down into the syrup it will float directly on the surface. The same thing could be used very nicely in a plain feeding box but would require to be fastened at the bottom."

Now, they were never intended to float round on top of syrup. In our feeders, both entrance and Canadian, they are held in position by a small piece of wood passing over them into saw cuts in sides of feeder and thus kept from floating when the food is poured in. If they are used in an open feeder there should be a wire clamp, rubber band, string or some other device, to hold them down to the bottom of dish. We are not now using open feeders. We always want partitions, or "floats," as they are called, to go to the bottom of the dish, as we have found when a large number of bees crowd on to the feeder floats that do not go to the bottom they sink down and some bees are drowned or daubed with the food. It does not injure them to be daubed with the food, perhaps, if it is thin, but if it is thick, as it should be late in the season, the bees are sometimes so daubed with it that they do not get over it. There is no difficulty in preventing these feeder partitions from floating, by using some such device as spoken of above.

COMMENTS ON MR. RAITT'S LETTER.

IN the last issue of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, pages 614 and 615 will be found a very interesting article from our esteemed friend, Mr. Wm. Raitt, Scotland, comments on which were