

or if the brood-chamber is not filled with comb, then Shut-outs should be used.

S. T. PETTIT.

Belmont, Ont., March 11th, 1887.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE DISPOSAL OF OUR HONEY CROP.

ANOTHER ARGUMENT AGAINST COMMISSION HOUSES.

REFERRING to the disposal of Canadian honey in the British market, though as yet I have not been directly interested, I would like to take advantage of your invitation to say a few words on the subject.

I think those who have had much to do with consignments to commission houses for disposal at the highest price obtainable, will agree that when goods, such as food stuffs, flour, grain, and cheese, are the articles handled, it is, as a rule, very unsatisfactory in its results. If so, it is likely to be much more unsatisfactory when an article like honey, looked upon only as a luxury, is the commodity in question. In your comments on Dr. Thom's letter in your issue of 30th ult., you bear this out. In your own case you show that the bill of expense run up by the commission house more than swallowed the whole proceeds of the honey you had sent.

Whatever is done, Canadian bee-keepers should be all agreed and act as a unit. Canadian honey should not be found in the hands of more than one responsible party in one centre for distribution, as it is ruinous to the owner to have different competing parties handling the same goods, in their competitive struggle, over the same ground.

If retailers can only buy from one party, that party can exact a reasonable price, and I am almost inclined to think that the key to the situation lies here, and that one good party alone should handle at any of the natural distributing points.

Your suggestion that some one should go in advance of the honey and look after its disposal in Great Britain, is, I think, the right thing. Plenty competent men would go at a very moderate cost, I am sure, combining pleasure and business, while to save such expense and ship indiscriminately, every man for himself and to whom he likes, would be a "penny wise and pound foolish" proceeding indeed.

R. W. McDONNELL.

Galt, April 11th, 1887.

We are glad to have your views, and hope to hear from many others. It is by this means we are to arrive at what the majority are willing to do, and we thus get many opinions and suggestions

of value. We must take exception to that part of your article, however, where you say, "plenty competent men." Now, as a matter of fact, we haven't got in Ontario "plenty" of men who would be suitable to the work which is required to make the success of the enterprise *lasting*. There are many bee-keepers who are "competent" to dispose of the honey at a fair price, but that is only a small item to be considered. Our whole future success depends upon the way in which the present season's shipments are handled, and we say, without fear of successful contradiction, that there are *very few* who would make a success of it, who could be got to undertake it.

From Our British Correspondent.

MEL SAPIT OMNIA.

REPLY TO DR. MASON.

I OPENED my C. B. J. to-day as the fates would have it, at page 496 and at once commenced to laugh, and ejaculate alternately.

The lady that is the sharer of my joys and sorrows at once commenced to question, 'What was up'? Was it Mr. Jones' jokes? and growing impatient in proportion as my amusement increased, protested against my monopolizing all the fun. (The senior Editors' mind will go back to the old spot.) Well it was the Doctor. It was 'real jam' to me that he had never taken in the jokes that underlie the whole affair, and so goes on, from humour to seriousness and back to humour again, to deal with my light chaff. He is fortunate in naming his weight, as a Britisher never strikes a smaller man than himself, (take Magdala, Comassie, Zulu-land, Afghanistan and Egypt for examples,) and as to the unhappy 'Yank' he quotes about from the *Times*, my heart goes out in pity toward him. Perhaps he was dyspeptic, and the voyage and consequent prospects of realizing some of the ills that flesh is heir too, made him feel queer just then, or perhaps he got his money by running a butterine, glucose or artificial egg factory, or was he the owner of that mysterious mill where honey, comb and all complete is made without the aid of the bee? Or what is far more probable he was the inventor of wooden nutmegs, and consequently felt in duty bound to return every 'Johnnie Bull' at least one shilling of the many pounds of his money he was then enjoying. Well friend Dr. Mason so much for you and I when we both stir a pond with a muddy bottom. I will tell you a little tale. We had a meeting in Jermyn St. London, on Oct. 20th. last (see C. B. J. Nos. 34, 35.) There were present from