

them profitless, a failure, etc., etc. Such persons evidently tell the truth, in so far as they are concerned, but they have not been deputed to speak for others.

That there are a large number of bee-keepers who enjoy these annual gatherings, is shown by their attendance whenever the meetings are held near enough to them so that they can spare the time, and afford the money outlay that such an attendance necessitates. I recently saw a letter from a well known bee-keeper in which he spoke of these gatherings as being of no benefit, and a waste of time and money. I am not aware that he ever attended any of these meetings, and so could judge of their character only by reports in the bee journals, which generally contain but little that is really new to old and experienced bee-keepers.

The same might be said of our bee journals, and yet our most experienced and reliable bee-keepers among those who are the most anxious to have their weekly or monthly visits.

It is probable that a goodly number will be present at the coming convention at Lincoln, who would not be there were it not for the fact that our honored president, Mr. A. I. Root will be there to greet them, and that his son Ernest will also be there to make their personal acquaintance, and then through Gleanings to be in the future really more of a personal friend, and it is much more than probable that scores of those in attendance will be very much gratified to be able to meet face to face the genial editor of the American Bee Journal, and grasp with cordial good will the hand of the editor of the Canadian Bee Journal, and help to make his visit to a foreign country end out in the "wild and woolly west," as pleasant as free from danger as possible. And to meet Dr. Miller, the man who "don't know,"—as much as he will if he lives a few years longer,—is no small treat; and I might go on, and name others who will be there to help make the meeting more enjoyable and profitable, such as C. P. Wandt, one of the revisers of Langstroth's standard book; and our "poet laureate," the Hon. Eugene Secor. But we shall miss the familiar faces, and cordial greetings of our honored friends, Prof. Cook, Thos. G. Sherman, G. M. Doolittle, Hon. R. L. Taylor other well-known bee-keepers who are too far away to make it convenient for them to be with us. The long continued severe illness of members of the family W. Z. Hutchinson, who has so many times been the honored Sec'y, of the N. American, will prevent his being at Lincoln, and we shall miss him.

I am not aware that any one who has attended these annual gatherings thinks it is a waste of time and money, and I don't see why any one need object to them. No one needs to attend them unless he chooses to do so.

I notice what you say in Aug. C. B. J. about the association fixing the place of meeting, and agree with you when you say, "We trust, however, that in future the association will not be pledged for two years in one convention," but I don't agree with you when in the next sentence but one, you say, "let it be understood if it is the wish of the association to decide two years ahead where a convention shall be held, we have no objection." You see the two statements don't just "tally." In one you object, and in the other you have no objection." I am decidedly in favor of letting the executive committee fix both time and place of meeting.

In speaking of Amalgamation you say, "It appears that but little progress has been made." Well, who is to blame? Aren't you one of the committee to whom the N. American gave full power to consummate the Union with the National Bee-Keepers Union, if it saw fit to amalgamate?

Now you needn't turn on me and say "ditto." If you do I'll just tell you I have been doing more about it than I know of you having done, and before the coming meeting at Lincoln you'll find out that the committee are not all dead.

You say again, "As so much depends upon conditions, we have never felt like saying much either for or against the scheme." Well the conditions have so changed "that when the editor of Gleanings and others suggest that the Bee-Keepers Union shall be changed from International to National, Canada and others will raise very strong objections, and you wake up a little to protest, but why don't you as a representative Canuck "pitch in" and "raise" the objections?

I am so short sighted, and have such a high regard for our friends "across the border" that I don't see any reason why amalgamation may not be accomplished so as to be in the interest of bee-keepers in both the U. S. and Canada, and I don't know but I am the only Yankee that is in favor of such an amalgamation. As it now stands the union has Canadians as members and is just as much under obligation to defend them, as it is to defend members living in the U. S.

I have no doubt some action will be taken in the matter at the meeting at Lincoln, and if you Canadians want to "have a hand in the pie," you'd better be on hand.