

How to Commence Bee-Keeping.

HERE is the advice of a person who says he started with too many colonies, and he says:

The reason for starting slowly is just this; before you can make bee-keeping a success you must learn to properly manage the bees, and you can learn as well from one colony as from many, and with much less time and expense. Do not think that you can learn all that is necessary from books and periodicals on the subject. You should learn all you can in this way, but you will not know all you have to learn before you begin keeping bees for yourself. Something will turn up that you never thought about, and if you start out with many colonies it may cause you to make some costly experiments and mistakes. Besides, the best bee-keepers differ widely as to methods, and you must decide many things by your own experience.

The cheapest and most satisfactory way to start, I think, is to get one or two three-frame nuclei, with untested queens. These can be had at a reasonable price. Order necessary hives and fixtures from a supply man, or, if you are neat and accurate, you can make most of these yourself. But it is necessary, that everything should be accurate as you will soon find out. When the bees are received lift them into hives, and build them gradually into strong colonies. Beginning in this way you will have many less discouragements than those who start more liberally. From 3-frame nuclei, purchased early in the season, we have taken in a favorable season over fifty pounds of honey.

There is good sound sense in the above, only we should change the "three-frame nuclei" to good colonies, already in full swing. There will be much less danger of discouragement than if the nucleus did not do well—and there are seasons when good strong colonies will do wonders, where those less strong do nothing. And it is hard, especially here in Canada to work up a three-frame nucleus to its proper strength in time to catch the honey flow; but start with but few colonies until you have gained by experience the most important points to be learned—then go ahead.

The leaflet "Honey, some reasons why it should be eaten" may be advantageously distributed at the fairs. The result will be increased sales and the creation of a home market.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

G. B. Jones at Lorne Park.

2 ON Saturday August 15, at Lorne Park Mr. G. B. Jones gave his lecture on "The Anatomy and Physiology of the Honey Bee," and on the following Thursday at the same place his lecture on "The Life and Work of the Honey Bee." He had the same audience on both occasions and delighted each member. The next day (Friday) he gave a public exhibition of bee handling at an adjoining farm where he transferred two colonies from box to M. F. hives in the presence of a large number of persons who had heard both lectures. Many of the spectators were ladies and became so interested that they crowded around the hives and examined minutely every feature as Mr. Jones described or explained it—egg, larva, hatching brood, &c.—and several of them had courage to take the bees up in handfuls when shown how. No veils or gloves are used and although the bees were hybrids and about 50 spectators present the only persons stung were three or four boys and only one man who struck at bees flying near them. The spectators were all influential Toronto people and have been talking bees to their friends ever since.

Toronto, Aug. 27, 1889.

BEE FEVER.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

A Visit to Mr. Emigh

I HAVE at length succeeded in the fulfillment of a long cherished wish and purpose, that of paying a visit to the farm and apiary of Mr. Martin Emigh. Considering Mr. Emigh's success as a bee-keeper, and his prominence among Ontario apiculturists, I owe him an apology for not having performed this pleasant duty long ago, but his place is not so readily accessible as are some others, and hindrances are always thrusting themselves in the way when it is not convenient to do a thing. Mr. Emigh is located near the village of Holbrook. The nearest railway stations to it are Burgessville on the Port Dover line, two and a half miles distant, and Woodstock on the G. T. R., eight miles distant.

Mr. Emigh, like Messrs. Petrie, Pringle, and others who might be named, carries on bee-keeping as an adjunct to farming. This I believe to be the best way of doing it. The farm is the proper place for the apiary. No danger of vexatious lawsuits, or giving annoyance to neighbors. Bad seasons are not so crippling when there are other crops beside the honey crop to depend on. I hear that even our friend J. B.