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to agricultural literature, Mr. J. H. Martin, better known as "Rambler." Mr. Martin went to Cuba about a year ago to write up a series of articles for "Gleanings." He secured a few bees and so rapidly increased them that at the beginning of the honey flow in Cuba he had, I believe about 300 colonies. In a short obituary notice in "Gleanings" it is stated that he had been working very hard securing a crop of honey, when he contracted a fever which in the end proved fatal. His bright, racy writings will be greatly missed by a host of friends. However it is only another reminder of how frail mortals we are.

A. I. ROOT IN CUBA.

Early in the winter the Root Co. sent 500 colonies of bees to Cuba. As reports came to Medina stating that the bees were "just rolling in honey," Mr. Root, sr. once more contracted "bee fever," and at once set off for the sunny isle. In Notes of Travel "Gleanings," Jan. 15, his description of the country and climate is so pleasant as to almost cause one to have a longing to be there. Just think of it, while we are having snow and ice, there they are enjoying balmy weather, with flowers in bloom and the bees busy gathering pollen and nectar. But I suppose if we cared to carry the comparison further, much in the line of what Mr. Hill has said in regard to Florida, would also be applicable to Cuba.

SCARCITY OF FUEL HARD ON THE BEE-KEEPER.

At least such is the case in our vicinity if basswood is counted to be of value to the apiarist. While we have only been gett-

ing a crop of basswood honey about once in five years, this fifth year crop nevertheless is quite acceptable. The prevailing scarcity of fuel has led many farmers to sell off their bush by the acre. This of course means the total destruction of all kinds of timber on these areas, and while it is unpleasant to think of, it is however quite true, to say that in the course of a few years basswood will be almost an unheard of thing in the thickly settled portions of Ontario. This condition of things is almost on a parallel with the bee-keepers' and Alfalfa in the western States. Experiments conducted at the agricultural colleges of Utah, Kansas and Colorado, have demonstrated beyond a doubt that alfalfa cut when it is just coming into bloom is of greater feeding value than if allowed to stand longer; while an extra cutting is secured by harvesting at the early stage of bloom. This verdict will be a hard pill for the Western apiarists to swallow, but if the rancher can get sufficient help at the right time, it is not likely that he will take into consideration the wishes and interests of his bee-keeping neighbors.

HONEY EXCHANGE.

While the spirit of organization is in the air and is still being fanned by the different bee journals, a word in connection with the subject may perhaps not be out of place. In conversation with some friends at the Barrie meeting, as well as with others since then, have noticed that some seem to be under the impression that in case they should join the Honey Exchange they would be in duty bound to send their honey to that organization to be disposed of,