

250 sections, to suit.....	1 38
1 Smoker, .....	75
2 Bee-guards, @ 7c .....	14
1 Dozen queen registers.....	6
2 Combined introducing cages and robber guards, @ 15c.....	30
Total.....	\$9 23

It will be seen by the above estimates that it costs considerably more in proportion to commence working for "extracted" honey than for "comb," but the cost does not increase proportionately. Once you have the extractor, it answers just as well for one hundred colonies as for two.

#### WHAT TO WORK FOR — EXTRACTED OR COMB HONEY.

I think if I tell you which I prefer I shall say extracted. True, the cost is a little more, at the outset, but I am of the opinion that you will the sooner get into the way of raising extracted, and, as a consequence, you will be all the better pleased with the business and more inclined to pursue it. All things considered it does not require as much knowledge of the business to work successfully for the first-mentioned. To know just when to put the sections on and how to manipulate them for the best results will take some time, and a year's experience at raising extracted honey will help wonderfully. The objection may be raised that it takes more of the time of the apiarist. But I think this can be overruled easily by simply giving the bees lots of room, as will be explained later on.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

#### Eastern Township Bee-Keepers.

ACCORDING to public notice, the members of the Eastern Township Bee-keepers Association met on the 16th of October last, and notwithstanding the bad condition of the roads there was a fair attendance, and a very pleasant and profitable time was had. The reports, as was expected, were very poor without exception, but all appeared to be as interested as ever. Time prevents a longer report, so will conclude by saying that the old officers were re-appointed:—E. E. Spencer, M.P., President; J. Watt, Vice-President; R.

P. Small; Executive Committee, C. H. Jones, W. S. Allan and Stephen Bresee.

Members and others who were not present can send me the membership fee of \$1, which will entitle them to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL for the ensuing year, dating from the first day of January, 1889.

R. P. SMALL,

Dunham, P. Q.

Read by Mr. Grimshaw before the B.B.K.A.

#### THE STING AND ITS POISON.

SOME three years ago I had the pleasure of reading you a paper on the "Identity of the Bee's Sting with the Ovipositor of other Insects," and at this time, without desiring to refer at too great length to the opinions I then expressed, I may recall to your minds that I considered the sting of the worker-bee a modified or aborted ovipositor, utilised by the insect as an offensive weapon (the only one at its command), exactly in the same way that other insects have been known to use *their* ovipositors, depositing in the wound a quantity of corrosive poisonous fluid, similar in its toxic properties to that pumped under the skin by the bee.

When we expect the perfect use of the different parts of any animal, we presuppose that we have a perfect one to deal with; and as we know the worker-bee to be an imperfect example (inasmuch as its reproductive organs are aborted and undeveloped), it is an unfair assumption that the anatomical structure of the sting, being so identical, mechanically, with the ovipositing organs of other insects, its use of this organ as a sting is, on the face of it, faulty and imperfect, especially when we observe the astounding fact that such a base use of it ends in death, tearing from its fixing and base, in a rude repulsive way, part of the abdomen and its contents? This always seems to us a cruel and somewhat unnatural arrangement. Depend upon it that when we find an untimely death resulting from the exercise of such a natural impulse as self-defense, there is outrage on, or interference with, Nature's laws; and an inquiry into such an abnormal state of things may assist us in finding the true uses of the parts under consideration. If the ostrich by using its two claws, the deer its antlers, the bull its horns, lost their lives as a necessary sequel of a defensive effort by a coarse rending away of these very weapons, we might, I think, very properly come to the conclusion that they were intended originally for some other use; in the case of the reindeer, for instance, the horns are modified in form to plow up the