

honey on the market, damages the good opinion entertained of honey, in the estimation of consumers, and brings down the price as a natural consequence. There is no use for me to tell you how to meet adulteration, because every one of us is possessed of more or less of selfishness, and apt to pursue his own course under any circumstances.

There is, perhaps, a third cause for the low price of honey, which should also be mentioned. It is, that very many of our nearest neighbors are not yet aware of the fact that honey is a sugar, and can be substituted for cane-sugar in almost every instance. See that our friends are posted on the subject!

Having shown in the above that the production of and traffic in honey has its reverses, the same as any other branch of business, permit me now to give some points by which we may promote our interests.

Cleanliness around and about eatables makes a good impression upon consumers. We must exercise cleanliness, about our apiaries, about our honey, about extractors and extracting. Every quality of honey should be kept by itself, as nearly so as is possible, because most of our manufacturers make a certain grade of goods with a certain flavor with which the taste of their customers has been cultivated; to lose this flavor means the loss of the custom. I have lost several hard-earned customers because I was unable to supply the same flavor, although with hundreds of barrels of honey on hand. They would resort again to cane-sugar as the only means by which to manufacture a regular grade of goods. My latest experience in this direction was my loss of custom for the mangrove honey of Florida. When my supply was exhausted, it was cane-sugar that took its place in the majority of cases, and it will be hard to regain that custom.

Honey should stand in open vessels for evaporation when it comes from the extractors, and be thoroughly skimmed before it is barreled or canned. No lumps of comb, wax, or specks of other impurities should remain in the honey, as nothing is more annoying to manufacturers. They make no allowance for want of cleanliness, but refuse the honey. A sale is often spoiled when

the honey is put up in whiskey barrels. The inside of the staves were charcoal-ed, and it is almost an impossibility to separate the specks of charcoal from the honey. Clean barrels for honey every time—or shippers must bear the consequences.

When putting up honey, bee-keepers should at once select packages to suit their trade. If their honey is calculated for the wholesale trade, good, strong cypress, oak or poplar barrels are their best and cheapest packages. I prefer barrels to all smaller packages. Other dealers may require half-barrels or kegs for their trade; but as stated above, care should be taken by every bee-keeper to have his extracted honey graded, not only according to color, but also according to flavor. I prefer to put up my own small packages to suit my jobbing and retail trade; these are tin pails of 50, 25, 10, 5 and 3 pounds, and square glass-jars holding 2, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound and 5 ounces, respectfully. I have an excellent retail trade for square glass-jars, for which nothing but the best clover honey will answer the purpose.

In regard to comb honey, I should say that it must be white and well capped to find a ready sale; if the quality is clover, it is all the better. One-pound sections sell best, but half-pound sections, if well filled, find a ready sale, as do also two-pound sections. No sections should be glassed; but 20 to 30 pounds of honey in neat sections, placed in a neat case with glass on each side, meets with no objection whatever, while sections in the neatest paper-boxes or glassed, are unsaleable by the side of it.

Purity, cleanliness and neatness are attractions which should be synonymous with the marketing of honey, and a strict adherence to this principle cannot fail to secure consumers.

C. F. MUTH.

OXFORD BEE-KEEPERS.

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.

Mr Hall said he had not fed any sugar for years and never intended to. He did not think it would pay, besides the public were so ignorant and suspicious that if they were aware of sugar being fed, no matter for what purpose,