

ed, but invariably returned to the old colony and continued to fade away until all were gone. D. A.'s father had a great liking for bees and struggled hard with the "bee-moth" for the mastery, but at last came out second best. I might tell you a great many notions of his great grandfather, how he frequently sent word to the bees of the state of his health and his promises when better, but they would not be interesting to any readers outside of the family circle.

At twenty-one years of age he set out for himself and was engaged in various ways and places for the next five years with a stock-raiser in Illinois where he contracted a severe fever. Afterwards for a while in a book agency and then longer selling fruit trees, and employing several such agents and making double or triple profit through the depreciation of the American currency. Having thus gained enough capital he set up a general store in Beeton, his wife assisting in millinery etc. Seeing several good openings he put most of his capital into real estate, sold out his first store which had been considered larger than the place needed and set to work to build up a village on part of his purchase. He built as a starter an agricultural hall and skating rink 150x60 feet, and next year a store three times the size of the former with good residence attached. Having bought a couple of swarms of bees in Langstroth hives from a neighbor who was moving away and being comparatively at leisure while waiting to realize on his real estate before starting store again, he studied out a patent* hive which he thought would effectually checkmate the bee moth being in fact a double walled hive, the internal one being all tin and glass.

While preparing to introduce these hives through the country he fell in with Mr. Lucius Thomas—bee editor of the *Canada Farmer*, who showed him "the *American Bee Journal*" for which he at once subscribed and soon after saw mentioned in it the "*Hrusetka*" or "honey slinger" then an entire novelty. He immediately ordered one and the honey coming in briskly soon after he was able to see the bees fill their combs full within three days after slinging out fifteen or twenty pounds. The reports of such marvellous quantities of honey excited just suspicion and equal doubt of their truth among those who had been practising the old ways and believing that they knew how as well as anybody. His father contrived, though very loth always to leave home, to make a visit and see the novelty. In his ambition to make the most of his bees, the old man had built in his new stone house a large hive about six by eight and ten

feet high intending to step in there and take a slice of comb when he chose, but somehow the bees did not take to the place as he wished, but he lived to see a far superior method of gathering large stores. From the time the *extractor* showed him how the bees could be got to produce as much honey in three days as they could put into supers in thirty days, he became solidly enthusiastic over the bee business and foretold the extent of its development at once, and although he joined with his brother in keeping his large new store for a few years, he stayed in it as little as possible and pored over bee-books and bee-papers and his bees with steady devotion.

About 1874 he sold out his mercantile business and set himself to extend his apiaries as far and as fast as possible and in pursuance of this in the winter of 1879-80 went to Cyprus and the Holy Land to obtain what were believed to be the best races of bees. From this time his career has been widely known to the bee-keeping fraternity and he probably will always feel pleased that the necessity of a change in the name of the post office enabled him to suggest and see accepted by the authorities the name Beeton for the promising village he had been the principal in raising so much above its surrounding competitors. All this time he was and still is the moving spirit in almost every enterprise affecting the material advancement of this neighborhood, especially in bringing the H. & N. W. R. R., on its present line.

In the year 1878 he began the manufacture of bee-keepers' supplies, in a small way, and that business since its inception has increased to its present capacity, employing a large number of hands. The business is now controlled by a joint stock company of which Mr. Jones is president.

To Mr. Jones is given the credit of inaugurating the grand exhibit of honey and supplies which is yearly made at the Toronto fair, and he is yet one of the principal movers in that enterprise, which has done, perhaps more than anything else to create a market and a taste for honey amongst the masses.

In April 1885, in company with the writer, the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL issued its initial number, with D. A. Jones as senior editor, and since that time every reader of the paper, is thoroughly familiar with his life and writings.

He has always been amongst the foremost in pushing forward any scheme which had for its object the benefit of

*The patent is dated July 15th, 1870, and is on what is called "The Jones Perfection Bee Hive."