

views. We replied to him that we did not think it was necessary to go and examine them, but if he so desired he might get two bee-keepers to examine them and select the worst samples and the most suspicious pieces of comb so that we might inspect them and report. To-day a box arrived containing the samples of comb as requested. We will here state that there is no appearance of foul brood in any of the specimens sent. We are satisfied that the reports are quite false. We hope, however, that no injury has been done him, for it is bad enough to be accused of having the disease in one's apiary when it is true, without being accused innocently.

### OUR OWN APIARY.

GOOD FLOW SINCE LAST ISSUE.

**L**AST week we mentioned that the bees were just commencing to gather honey and we are pleased to be able to report that they have continued to increase their stores ever since. Some of them seem inclined to swarm, and are only prevented by giving them plenty of room, which appears to stop all further preparations in that direction. This day (July 28) the basswood has ceased to yield entirely and the bees appear to be working on the thistles with more energy than any day yet. It is certainly gratifying to think that there is, at least, some little good in Canadian thistles, and as we pass along fields of oats and peas, or any other late crop where they are thick, the odor from their nectar seems to fill the air: Who has not been delighted, when passing a field of clover, if it were yielding very plentifully, and the air was fragrant from the flowers. Perhaps there is no plant which will make the air more fragrant and produce more honey, when the season is suitable, than Canadian thistle. Some fields could be distinctly traced, for more than half a mile if there was a slight breeze, by the odor in the atmosphere. Passing on through one of these fields we are delighted to see a bee on almost every flower, filling themselves with honey and returning to the hives. There are a great many buds just starting and should the weather continue favorable, as it now is, we may have a flow of honey for about a month to come. This would

place our bees in very fine condition and give us surplus besides. The kind of weather that is most suitable for a good flow of thistle honey is plenty of warm rain. The ground cannot be saturated too much, and we do not want hot scorching suns. When the sun is too hot it seems to dry up the nectar and prevent the secretion, killing the flowers or causing them to blight, but with plenty of moisture and pleasant balmy air, or a cloudy sky preventing the sun from shining part of the day is preferable, and even when the sky is cloudy for days, so that the sun scarcely shines for an hour in the day, the nectar seems more plentiful. Cool nights are not unfavorable to its production, as the thistle seems to yield more honey with a cool temperature than almost any other flower. With some fall flowers, such as bone set, a slight frost does not seem to prevent the secretion of honey, as the bees will work on it all right. Those who have been very much discouraged and downcast should begin to cheer up as the prospects brighten. Bee-keepers should always remember the old saying "that it is the darkest just before the day," and if we have trials in our business, we should live in hopes that a kind Providence will smile upon those deserving, and that all things are for the best, if we can only see it in that way. No doubt, a great many of our bee keepers will remember the great scare there was as to what we should do with our honey; how we should find a market for it; what we should do to establish a foreign market. Now our markets are bared of honey. Instead of us having to hunt customers they have to hunt us. We have raised the price of honey and perhaps it will continue to rise, and the very fact of the scarcity of honey and the increased price that consumers will have to pay will be, we hope, a lasting proof that we do not manufacture it, but that we have to depend on natural sources for our supply. While it will show us that we need not fear the market, it will convince the consumer that the price he pays is made by the production. Some argue that the price can never be raised. We are charging \$1 per 60 lb. can more for it than we were last year. Customers are glad to get it. After all the loss of the fore part of the season, we will be able