

apiary mainly in small hives, which numbered in the spring 4 colonies, I have had 9 swarms, and not a single pound of surplus honey to date. I now have 10 swarms all told. The large hives gave the largest swarms, but the small hives gave the largest number of swarms." All the above bespeaks oceans for the Dadant hive and their management, and I believe they are right in holding both up to a high plane, all the host of small hive advocates to the contrary, notwithstanding. The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

Foot notes will be in order, Mr. E. I. to this batch of "Notes and Pickings," they were very conspicuous by their absence in the last issue.

Assuming that the Merengo Pee Man does not read C. B. J., I would just like to say, "BEHOLD THE MAN." Those bee-keepers who have been reading his writings for years, and have not had the good fortune of meeting him face to face or felt the grasp of his warm hand, which is but the expression of a true heart, or heard the melody of his speech and song, cannot realize or comprehend in all its fulness the noble character in the person of Dr. C. C. Miller. To see and hear him is but to create within one a desire to be like him, and to rejoice in the fact that you saw him as he is. "Oh, I vas so clat I vas at Buffalo and saw Dr. Miller."

I had thought very seriously of discontinuing "Notes and Pickings," for the simple reason, that I had doubts as to whether they interested any of the readers of C. B. J. and also as to whether they were appreciated by any. But after getting the assurance of the Editor, and several others at the Buffalo Convention, that they were at least passable reading matter, and a few actually went so far as to shock me by offering their congratulations. Therefore I have been persuaded to continue them, at least, a few months longer—for with all their imperfections I sincerely trust they will not kill anyone.

During the Toronto Exhibition Mr. R. H. Smith was called to the death bed of his wife, she passed away about 26 hours after Mr. Smith's arrival. Mrs. Smith had been ailing for a long time. The husband and son Henry have our sincere sympathy.

Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich., has also lost a daughter under peculiarly sad circumstances. May he and his be comforted by a higher power than ours. The family have our sympathy.

Bee-Keeping in British Columbia.

In compliance with your wish that I should write and tell you anything I could learn in regard to bee-keeping in British Columbia, I take up my pen this afternoon, though so far I have only made acquaintance with one bee-keeper, a Mr. Hancox, who is a carpenter by trade and has employment in the C. P. R. workshops, so that bee-keeping is not his business, only a recreation. He tells me that being away from home all day he loses a number of swarms, and he is making a swarm catcher or hiver from a plan illustrated and described in the Bee-Keepers' Record, for June '96, called Taylor's Swarm Catcher.

Being a carpenter Mr. Hancox is able to make all his own hives, cases, etc., and has even made an extractor for himself, which I have not seen yet. He tells me bees do as well here as in England, his native land.

There is no trouble in wintering as they require no protection, only to keep them dry by having good tight covers. They gather an abundance of honey from white clover which grows everywhere in the greatest luxuriance, and there is also a kind of wild Phlos that grows about two feet high and is very plentiful, on which they work a great deal. Mr. Hancox says he finds it a good plan to do a little feeding in the spring, as soon as the crocus comes into bloom, which, even in a backward spring like this as been so far, is about the middle of March. Bees have been carrying in pollen from pussy willows for nearly a month. The comb honey that I have seen out here is very white and delicate in flavor. It sells for 20c a pound.

Mr. Hancox makes close ended top bars to his frames; so he always has them evenly spaced; even his wide frames for sections he makes in the same way, and his frames he also makes, making them a quarter of an inch shorter at the bottom bar than at the top, as he says it is easier to remove them without crushing or irritating the bees, than where the frame is as wide at the bottom as at the top.

I am told there are a number of bee-keepers in a small way, in Mount Pleasant, a suburb of Vancouver, and I mean to hunt some of them up shortly, when I may send you another communication if I have anything likely to be of interest to your subscribers. HENRIETTA F. BULLER,
Vancouver, B. C.