

tired them, hence will conclude by stating that Mr. Holtermann deserves great credit for the manner in which he has of late so prominently brought before the public through the medium of our daily papers, the importance of honey as a healthy and cheap food for the human family.

The illustrations, and well-written article which appeared in the Saturday Globe of the 25th inst., is a credit to our fast growing industry. May we have more luck.

I will now merely add, that the figures in the fore-ground are all that appears to have been omitted in order to fulfill my task, and are as follows: First to the right is Belle, who assists in the household, and also in the apiary when necessary; second, my son Raeside (16); third, his mother; fourth, my sister; fifth, my mother; sixth, my daughter Mildred (13); seventh, remaining figures (lady) in front is Mrs. Gemmell's mother; eight, the cowboy sitting in the chair is your humble servant—

F. A. GEMMELL.

Stratford, Ont., Aug. 25th, 1894.

Items from British Columbia.

I am working my bees in "Simplicity" hives—half and full upper story, and from six swarms have taken about 250 one-pound sections of fine white clover honey. This is a fine country for bees and the forest has plenty of wild ones. One man found forty-five bee trees, and from one of them he took out 200 pounds of surplus honey. But don't forget that there is considerable bodily exercise in cutting down one of these trees which run from three to fifteen feet in diameter.

These wild bees are mostly hybrids and have probably gradually worked their way north from California.

Bees commence working on the willows in February and in succession comes the wild red flowering currant, huckleberry—red and blue,—salmon berry, dewberry, raspberry, white and alsike clover, and golden rod for fall feed, also the cultivated flowers.

Let me tell you how a Chinaman keeps bees. I sold to "Simplicity" hives to one of them and went to transfer swarms into them. He had his bees in tea chests set on shelves in under the portico of his palatial shack or hut, up next to the roof, with the entrance for the bees in the top of the hives. I transferred them for him and showed him (as well as I could make him understand) how to put on the upper story or super. He came along one day, asked me to "see him bees." I went and found the

supers put on the *under* side of the swarm, to catch um honey," and every brood frame taken out of the hive and the bees building comb in large cards attached to the corner. I give it up trying to educate a Chinaman how to handle bees "allee samee white man." Respectfully yours,

M. J. HENRY.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 6th, 1894.

Hiving Swarms on Starters for Producing Comb Honey.

READ AT THE PERTH BEE-KEEPERS ASSOCIATION.

[By William Warden.]

Mr. President and fellow Bee-Keepers:—In preparing this paper on this subject, I am afraid that I may say so much that it will be likely to lead you astray, and I would like to say, if any of you think it worth while to try this system, to make haste slowly. Try a few hives at first and watch closely for mistakes. I make them often, and you might occasionally make one also, so I would say to you, watch!

I will now try to tell you as briefly as I know how to do it, the way that I handle a colony. Place the bottom board level on the ground in the location you intend them to occupy, and place the box and board so as to leave plenty of entrance room. Now space dummies. I seldom use more than six frames in a hive for comb honey. Placing one or more dummies on each side of the brood chamber with frames in the centre. I use both eight and ten frame hives but all Langsforth frames. I space a little less than 1½ inches from centre to centre and look carefully to see that all frames hang plumb. Then put on your queen excluding honey board and a case of sections, sometimes if the swarm is large put on two cases. If one is partly filled, all the better. I prefer to have full sheets of foundation in the sections. Place on the cover and add a shade board. To hive swarms I like to shake them on the ground in front of the hive and I like to see the queen run in. The rest will soon follow. Watch that the hive does not get a jar so as to displace frames, and examine every few days to give needed attention. Take the sections off when finished and I get frames filled in the other hives to give them winter store. I have had to feed but prefer filled frames.

St Pauls. Ont.