

a good fly if I find a suitable day, but even without it I think they will not suffer as much from the extra two weeks or so confinement as they would by being left out in the cold until late, however we will see how they will pan out in the spring if all is well. I will let you know from time to time how they are getting on.

JNO. McKIMMIE.

Lisle, Ont., Nov. 11th, '87.

Thanks for your report. You are on the right track, no doubt. Perhaps we will soon learn to put them in winter quarters, in mid-summer, if the honey flow should cease, and that without bad results. We think it is much better to have them inside resting quietly and consuming very little stores than to have them out flying about, many going one or two miles away from home and never returning.

AMERICA AS SEEN BY MR. COWAN.

CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.

In reply to questions by Mr. Meggy, the Rev. Mr. Clay, Mr. Garratt, and Mr. Lyon, the Chairman said that Captain Hetherington's bees were Italians, or crosses between them and black bees. Large honey producers like the Captain raised their own queens and did not deal with queen-raisers, because where an extensive business was done queens were wanted by the dozen. It was found by experience that Italian bees or a cross between them and black bees were best suited to the American climate, at any rate in that district. Carniolan bees were being introduced in some places, but not largely. It was the practice always to select queens from the best stocks. All the sales at the show were retail. A large quantity of honey was sold by producers to the stores in the neighborhood. The only place where he had examined foul brood was at Mr. Root's.

Mr. Lyon asked what was the average price per lb. of honey paid to producers, because he thought, considering the market price of Canadian honey in this country, a bee-keeper over there who only had 400 hives could not make a very good living.

The Chairman replied that the usual price was from fourpence to eightpence per lb. Mr. Hall had a very bad season last year, but as a rule he made a good living by bee-keeping.

In reply to the Rev. Mr. Raynor the Chairman said that Captain Hetherington always introduced his queens by means of a cage very similar to the pipe cover cage. The Captain said it

would not pay him to practice direct introduction. He must make sure of introducing every queen successfully. He had tried the direct method, but had lost so many queens thereby that he could not afford to waste any more time by experiments. The question was governed entirely by cents and dollars, and every day was of consequence. One gentleman he (the Chairman) met who frequently tried direct introduction, and by taking the precaution to smoke the bees and the queen and thus give them all the same scent, had been successful.

In answer to Mr. Grimshaw and Mr. Garratt the chairman said that Captain Hetherington used a different smoker to those employed here. A fire was lit in the American smoker, which sent out an immense quantity of smoke. He (the Chairman) had been present during the manipulation by Captain Hetherington. That gentleman would not allow any of his friends to be present on such occasions unless veiled. A tremendous puff of smoke was blown into the sections, which caused the bees to rush down and crate after crate was removed in that way—a work occupying only a few moments. Very few bees were killed or taken away, perhaps not more than two or three. The wood used in the smoker was maple cut out into pieces about four inches long and half an inch square. Some people, like Mr. Hepdon, used moistened plane-shavings mixed with dry shavings, which combination smouldered very much and gave off a considerable amount of smoke and steam. In every apiary there was always a smoker ready at hand. He (the speaker) took the opportunity of testing Mr. Grimshaw's apifuge at Messrs. Knickerbocker & Lock's. Mr. Lock put some on his face and hands when examining a hive of savage Cyprians. One bee flew direct at his face, but did not sting, at which Mr. Lock was agreeably surprised. He (the Chairman) left some of the apifuge with several persons.

In reply to Mr. Sambels, the Chairman said that sections in America were propolised late in the season just as much as here, but early in the season the honey flow there was very rapid, and they were consequently not propolised so much. Captain Hetherington considered seventy pounds per colony a very fair yield. With regard to carrying bees away on the sections he had omitted to say that every establishment had its honey house, and the windows in these were so arranged that bees taken in could get out again. In America, however, they were not so particular about destroying a few bees as were, so long as time was saved. They do not trouble to remove the sections as carefully as we do, and with them it is of no consequence to crush a few bees. Win-