

RHODE ISLAND STATE FAIR.

OF the apiarian exhibit at the Rhode Island State Fair, the *Providence Journal* says:

The exhibition of bees and honey is a large and interesting one. There are but six entries, the largest of which is by Samuel Cushman, Pawtucket. He has six hives of bees, showing strong colonies of the best working strains of Italian, Syrian, Carniolans and natives. He has also an exhibit of hives, winter hives, working comb honey hives, and hives for extracting the honey. He has also a large cage showing swarm of bees in their natural state. In this exhibit there are 1200 pounds of the best Vermont comb honey and 200 pounds of extracted honey, extracted by centrifugal force, with an extractor on view. A. C. Miller, of Drownville, ex-Secretary of the Rhode Island Beekeepers' Association, has an exhibition of comb honey, extracted liquid honey honey vinegar, and observatory hive of bees, light comb foundations, a machine for placing the foundation in the supers and specimen hives for the production of comb hives. Mrs. S. M. Lackey, of Providence, shows observatory hives, samples of wax, comb honey, extracted honey and a honey extractor. Sam. Warren Lewis, shows 200 pounds of extracted honey in glass, ten pounds of comb honey and the largest display of beeswax, one cake of which was made 31 years ago. S. A. Dexter shows an observatory hive showing the production of comb honey.

In the *Telegraph*, the judge, Mr. L. C. Root, speaks very highly of Mr. Cushman's display, for "a most marked degree of neatness, attractiveness and mechanical skill, which is the very foundation of success in our business."

From *Gleanings*.

QUEENS INJURED IN SHIPPING.

IS HER FERTILITY PERMANENTLY OR TEMPORARILY IMPAIRED BY SHIPPING.

ON page 685 of *Gleanings* I find these words: "No, the confinement of a queen during a shipment of six or eight days rarely if ever affects her fertility. * * * We can speak positively when we say that shipment either by mail or express does not deteriorate the laying qualities of a queen." Now, I suppose, as a breeder of queens, if I would consult my own interests I should let this pass unchallenged; but I feel that duty and truth require

me to protest a little from such a decision, when the facts along the line of injury to queens in shipment are so plainly to be seen, as I and others have often seen them. Probably no man in the U. S. has any more flattering testimonials according to the number of queens shipped than I have; yet this does not prove that none of the queens I have sent out have never been injured by shipment. By shipment I include all the necessary evils attending the removal of a queen from her hive and home, and sending her to another hive and home where she is obliged to suddenly stop a profuse egg-laying, and continue in this condition for from three days to three weeks. If I am not mistaken, it was Mr. James Heddon who first called attention to this injury, attributing it at that time to the rough usage the queens received in the mails, saying that under no consideration would he have a valuable queen sent in any way but by express. When I read this, which was several years ago, I said this accounts for the unsatisfactory results I have obtained from queens which I have purchased that were sent me by mail, so for some time after that I ordered all of the choice queens which I purchased sent me by express. However, as I saw little difference in favor of those which came by express over those which came by mail, I concluded that I must look elsewhere for the trouble. In looking over the past to see where the difficulty lay, I saw that such a queen sent me by a noted breeder had not laid eggs enough during two years to amount to as much as one of my ordinary queens would lay in two months, so I wrote to him asking if he remembered whether the queen was prolific with him or not. His reply was that she was unusually so, and that at the time he took her out of the hive she was keeping ten L. frames full of brood. Later on I received another queen of another noted breeder, for which I paid \$12, thinking to get the best there was in the country; but while she lived she was about the poorest layer I ever had, yet I was assured that she was "just perfection before she was shipped." Soon after this I commenced to send out queens myself; and during my experience as a breeder and shipper of queens, some five or six instances have come under my notice of queens which proved of no special value as to prolificness after they were received by the purchasing party, while I know they were among the best, if not the best, queens as to prolificness I ever had in my yard. While studying on these things, and looking for a cause, my eye chanced to rest on a few sentences regarding the shipping of queens, written by Bro. Hutchinson or Hayhurst, if I mistake not, in which he said that the removing of