

Secretary, Mr. Couse, of Streetsville. We hope that all the past membership has been renewed, and we should be glad to learn that many new ones have been added. The membership of this Association should be at least 1,000, and we hope to see it that before many years.

MR. MCINALLY'S BEE CELLAR.

Mr W. J. Foot, in writing on other matters, says: "Mr. McNally's description of his bee-cellar is most valuable and interesting. There was only one slight omission. Does Mr. McNally leave the covers on or off; if the latter what is put on in place of them? Allow me to say that there is scarcely a number of the JOURNAL that has not an article in it worth more than the year's subscription." If our memory serves us rightly, Mr. McNally said that he wintered with the covers off, and with the ordinary cotton quilt over the frames, but placed on sufficiently long to give the bees a chance to fasten the edges to the top of the hive. If we are wrong Mr. McNally will please correct us. Let us thank you, Mr. Foot, for the most excellent recommendation you give the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. Coming from a "charter member" on our subscription list makes it all the more valuable.

Salt as a Lubricant for Making Foundation.

IN a late number of *Gleanings* M. M. Baldridge related a circumstance regarding the value of salt when used in solution for the removal of wax from the dipping-board; and as a lubricant for the rollers, when the dipped sheets are being run through the foundation mill. The publishers of *Gleanings* at once set to work to test the matter, and as the results of their experiments are so valuable, we give them in full.

"Our first experiment with the salt was to add a little of it in the vats of water referred to, in about the proportion of a quart of salt to five gallons of water. The rolls were then thoroughly drenched in briny water—no starch or other lubricant being used. Upon trial the sheets went through the rolls with little if any sticking. It soon became evident that the brine alone was not sufficient. As prescribed in friend Bald-

ridge's letter, we then mixed a little of the brine in the starch paste, in the proportion of 1 of the former to 20 of the latter. In connection therewith the brine water was used in the shallow vats as before. Foundation was then rolled out with little if any trouble from the sticking, and the results were highly satisfactory indeed. There is not only much less trouble in picking the first end of the sheet off the rolls, but a much larger quantity of foundation can be turned out in the same time. Said our Mr. Kimball, on the first day's trial, as I watched the nice sheets peel off the rolls with so little trouble, "See here; we have run off as much foundation so far this forenoon as we did all day yesterday. How is that for salt?" It was then, I think, 11 a.m., and on the day previous no brine had been used. It seemed to me hardly possible that it could do this right along; but the foreman assures me that since that time, with the salt he has averaged about as well.

Mr. Baldridge also mentioned the lease with which sheets could be removed from the dipping-boards when the latter were soaked with brine water. We have carefully tested the matter and find it just as friend B. states. We now keep the "sheeters" or dipping-boards, when not in use, soaked continually in brine water. Without the addition of the salt in the water, the boards would roughen and become totally unfit for use.

Mr. Baldridge, in the card referred to in this article, does not claim to have originated the idea, but says he got it from a friend. In a card received since, this friend writes, telling how he accidentally made the discovery. It reads as follows:

Mr. A. I. Root:—On page 944, Dec. 15, I see Mr. M. M. Baldridge gives the use of salt brine to prevent sticking to the dipping-boards. In the spring of 1883 my brother and I purchased of you a fdn. machine. Your directions were to use starch, which we tried, also soap; but stick it would, till we gave it up in disgust. Later on some sheets of wax fell into a pork-barrel, and we found to our delight that they ran through the mill like a charm. We then used salt thereafter, and we never again had foundation stick. Finding that friend Baldridge had trouble with the sheets sticking, I gave him the secret. Let the people have it. It is worth money to anyone having foundation to make. E. A. MORGAN, Columbus, Wis., Dec. 28, 1887.

Friend Baldridge, thinking the "secret" was too good to keep from the brethren at large, "let the cat out of the bag."

Oh, yes! The little evaporated particles of salt which will adhere to the foundation will in no way make it less acceptable to the bees, but if the theory is true that the bees require salt, then the value of the foundation so made is enhanced."