

tomers, and forming the most useful connecting link between town and country. While the bee-keeper must stay at home and mind his business, yet he generally reads and learns and has the supreme satisfaction that all worthy citizens should have at knowing that his personal enjoyments at home are as pure and as healthful as nature can give, and much more so than the good people generally enjoy in town.

There are many people who cannot use bicycles, so there are many more perhaps who cannot keep bees, so we are glad to supply them with honey; but the riders on bicycles are not so apt to be so wise as bee-keepers. who are not so likely to forget that we are all living on the great wheel of the earth and if satisfied or compelled to sit in our chairs all day to time the earth's motion by our watches in this latitude of 41° north, will discover that we are really travelling round the axis of our planet at the rate of nearly 500 miles per hour. Centripetal force would cast us into a pit. Centrifugal casts us upwards and outwards and the law of progress seems ever onward and upward; and although perhaps we may not know much more about the bee, we may still do more and increase our facilities for producing honey in good marketable shape.

The intrinsic value of a commodity in the economy of society, it seems to me ought to be the principal factor in making the price. Has honey any peculiarly intrinsic worth? Now the Sacred Scriptures speak in conjunction with butter, as butter and honey shall he eat, (i. e. the Nazarite shall eat). That he may learn to hate the evil and choose the good." Of course, this may be interpreted either in a natural or poetic sense, but does it not seem only fair to candid mind, that honey is and always has been intrinsically worth just as much as butter, and is it not a great deal more troublesome to obtain?

I do not speak as actuated by the love of gain; but simply to assist the tendency of the true bearings of the question of value to come to the light. Mr. Pringle, who was so facile a writer gave this much of his attention as the healthfulness of honey in diet must enhance its value commercially.

But writing seldom makes coins chink pleasantly into your pocket and I find the productiveness of the bee-yard much more practical in results than any amount of letters, and it is evident that the price of honey is the most practically important to the O. B. K. A., not how to keep the price up, but to study its production with the least possible expense of time care and outlay.

I cannot help thinking that farming itself has been injured most by the farmers over producing crops which returned so small a profit that the same time and energy applied to improving the land, etc., would in the end have yielded a much better return. But you say, what am I to live on? I must raise and sell my crops and get the money and pay my debts. Well the first debt you owe is to yourself, that you should be as healthy in mind and body as possible, that you should keep so, and that you should raise food enough always for your self and family first, perhaps wool, perhaps flax, perhaps leather, etc., building yourself up in knowledge of all domestic economics so that the market for your varied products could never be really over-stocked and however scarce money might be you would never starve or be in actual want.

Wisdom is justified always of her children, but it is better to be a child of the light, and now my dear Mr. Editor and fellow-bee keepers, I respectfully remain,

ONE OF THE O. B. K. A.

Picton, 15th August, 1893.

## Bee-Keepers Conventions.

—DR. A. B. MASON.

*Mr. Editor:*

My thoughts often revert to the gathering of the N. A. B. K. A., at Toronto last Sept. and though not the largest, to me it was one of the most pleasant gatherings of the Association that I have attended.

It is a real treat to meet and compare notes with such bee-keepers as Messrs. Hall, McEvoy, Gemmell, Pringle, Pettit, Coza, Darling, Bean, Stewart, yourself and many other Canadians who were present, and if I had not had a cordial "shake" with my friends McKnight and Rev. W. F. Clark I should have been disappointed indeed. I was getting among our old friends to meet the ex editor, A. I Root, of Gleanings and Thos. G. Newman of the American Bee Journal; and it was amusing to see how some of you Canadians "put on airs" because Mr. J. T. Calvert, who was Canadian born, was present to help to make the convention pleasant and profitable. I'm afraid they wouldn't have had an opportunity to glory in him if he had not come to this S. to complete his education.

Occasionally some one "shakes his cash" at these gatherings of bee-keepers, calling