

labored in the Elysian fields of apiculture would feel that their cup of happiness was full. It was a common thing for people to say that Britain was played out, but he thought that the capabilities of the old country for honey raising were as good as those of any country in the world. He often saw honey said to be imported from Switzerland, which was sold in England and abroad, and often put on the tables of hotels at home and abroad, and miserable trash it was, very different from the Swiss honey produced by M. Bertrand, which was of the most exquisite quality. Nevertheless, he thought England had a distinct advantage over Switzerland in honey-producing, because of the superior crop of clover and limes in the former country. The results of skilfully directed efforts had shown distinctly that England could produce enormous honey harvests; their Chairman had produced 200 and even 300 pounds from a single hive, not in one instance only, but in many cases. The increase of honey produce of late years had been remarkable. For one pound produced ten years ago one hundredweight was now obtained. He knew these to be facts from the experiences of his own neighbourhood. That wonderful progress in apiculture they owed chiefly to the B.B.K.A., and to several earnest men who had devoted a considerable portion of their lives to the furtherance of the aims of the Association. Amongst these they must not forget the name of their late lamented friend the Rev. Herbert Peel, whose energy, public spirit, singleness of purpose, and devotion to duty, were well known. Then there was Mr. Abbott; and as their Canadian friends looked back to the time of their pilgrim fathers, so did bee-keepers look back to those who had laid the foundations upon which later workers were able to build. They could not forget what Mr. Abbott had done in the dark days. Then there was their friend Mr. Cheshire, and he was sure that the B.B.K.A. were proud and delighted to welcome him once more amongst them. They all recognised his great ability, which had been devoted to their cause for many years. Then he must recall the memory of Mr. Hunter, and also not forget their friend Mr. Hooker. He dared say there were other names that ought to be thought of, but he must not overlook the gentleman who occupied the chair. In their friend Mr. Cowan they had a rare combination of qualities devoted to bee-culture, and to the work of the B.B.K.A. Both in his capacity of Chairman and private individual, and as the author of valuable works which are being translated into different languages, and as the editor of their paper, he was engaged in a noble undertaking. He had much pleasure in

wishing health, long life, and happiness to Mr. Cowan. (Loud cheers.)

The Chairman said he did not expect or deserve the compliment so kindly passed on him by Dr. Burdum, but he heartily thanked that gentleman and his audience generally for the kind way in which they had received those remarks. With regard to what Mr. Jones had said and done he begged to say that they were very pleased to receive their Canadian brethren, and to extend to them all the neighbourly and brotherly feeling they could. He desired to express his best thanks to Mr. Jones and the other gentlemen for the handsome samples of honey they had given to him, and it would be his business to see that the specimens also kindly submitted to their President should be placed in that lady's hands. He hoped that many others besides himself would have an opportunity of passing an opinion on the imports of Canadian honey. He was especially grateful to the Canadian bee-keepers for the way they had spoken of the B. B. K. A. He remembered with pleasure that it was only twelve years ago since the Association numbered 150 members, whereas now, with its affiliated Associations, amounting to something like forty-two, upwards of 10,000 persons were enlisted in its ranks. That showed remarkable progress. It was not surprising, taking into account the enormous increase in the produce, that some bee-keepers had a difficulty in disposing of their honey. Their Canadian friends had taught them a lesson in that respect. They had shown them the value of offering small quantities for sale at cheap prices which found ready purchasers, and thus begat a demand for the article. He was surprised but glad to notice that they even sold tins of honey at as low a price as 2s. He had no doubt that the action taken by the Canadian bee-keepers would give an additional fillip to the industry in England, and on that account they were very much indebted to those gentlemen. They argued that the public, who came and tasted the honey for nothing, would buy a twopenny tin perhaps, and the next time they visited the place probably they would purchase a sixpenny, or even a larger tin. These cheap rates were a capital means of getting at the poorer classes. He was sorry that these gentlemen had not come to their show in August, and although the British bee-keepers had not the same large quantity of honey to show there was a much larger variety of flavour. He hoped the Canadians would carry away some new ideas with them. He had travelled a great deal, but had never been anywhere but what he could learn something. He again heartily thanked them.