

features were well known and necessary parts to some long used combination, and yet he pleads for his moral rights. I have no reply, for Heddon's billingsgate, I cannot even discount my honesty and good breeding by denying his honesty in this persistent posing as injured innocences although, I must confess, it is difficult to understand how a man can write such articles and at the same time have in his possession, as I know to be the case, written protest and proofs of claim against almost every feature and function of his new hive except the thumb-screws; that unto date his claims and patents by from one to twenty years, as he expressed it himself in his 1887 catalogue, "to attempt to patent a well known and thoroughly published device bears evidence of great blundering or fraud." As to the worth of my combination I am willing to leave that question to be decided by those who buy and use hives, and that seems to be just what Mr. H. is not willing to do, and more than that, I wish to say to the bee-keeping fraternity in answer to Mr. Heddon's cowardly and libelous attack upon my business methods, honor and respectability through his private pricelist and otherwise, that I am an honest, honorable, square dealing business man, and am fully responsible for all my obligations. I have been in the supply business at this place for seventeen years and I propose in the future, as I have invariably done in the past, to stand by and protect my name and those who buy it, whether on a bee-hive or paper, proof of which I refer you to any pastor, bank officer, business man or citizen of Jerseyville, Ill., or to any one any where who has ever had dealings with me. Mr. Heddon has never seen my hive, he does not know what he is writing about. If it infringes upon him or any one else I am responsible and will cheerfully abide by the verdict of the people or the courts. All I ask is fair play and no bull-doing or personal abuse. I have no personal fight with Mr. H. and hold him no personal malice. I just propose to stand by the bee-keepers and my own business. He began this controversy and with his consent and that of the editors this will close it.

ELVIN S. ARMSTRONG.

Jerseyville, Ill.

The latest sensation with regard to comb honey comes from Chicago, where somebody saw it being done. An investigation proved that the work was done in a Chinese laundry, where a Chinaman was standing near the window ironing cuffs and collars, and near him he had a cake of beeswax on which he polished his iron. Thus the story started.

THE CANADIAN COMMISSIONERS.

AT THE HERTFORD BEE-KEEPERS' CONVENTION.

WE copy the following report from the *British Bee Journal* in which (the report) will be found some interesting statements, as made by two of the representatives of Ontario :—

A quarterly Conference of the Hertford branch of the above Association was held on the 29th ult., at 7.30 p.m., in St. Andrew's school-room, Hertford, which was filled by an appreciative audience, who assembled in large numbers for the purpose of hearing addresses by the Canadian Honey Commissioners, who kindly attended on the invitation of the committee of the local Association. Among the ladies and gentlemen present were the Mayor of Hertford (Mr. R. Cocks), who presided; Mr. and Mrs. Jones (Ontario), Mr. S. Corneil (Ontario), Mr. J. P. Sambels, the Rev. J. Lingen Seager (Secretary of the Herts Bee-keepers' Association), Mr. S. Allen, Mr. Buller. Mr. Jackson, Mr. R. T. Andrews, Mr. T. B. Blow, and Miss Gayton.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said he had great pleasure in presiding at that meeting. The executive of the local Association had paid a great compliment to the Mayoralty by asking him to do so. He felt sure they would all unite in giving the Canadian gentlemen a hearty welcome to the ancient town of Hertford. Unfortunately his knowledge of bee-culture was extremely limited, but he was glad to see that the subject was becoming more and more popular. Periodical conferences, like the present one, were calculated to promote that end. He would listen with the greatest pleasure to the practical remarks of the gentlemen who would address them during the evening.

Mr. Andrews (Secretary of the branch) said it was with feelings of unmixed satisfaction that he rose to say a few words to them respecting bee-keeping in the Hertford district, especially as that meeting was one of exceptional importance, owing to the presence of their distinguished visitors. He hardly expected the Hertford bee-keepers would be fortunate enough to secure the attendance of those gentlemen, but their efforts to do so had happily succeeded through the kind offices of some local friends, amongst whom special thanks were due to Mr. Sambels. On behalf of the Association he tendered the heartiest welcome to Mr. Jones and Mr. Corneil. It was exceedingly kind of them to come there that evening in support of the proceedings, and for the purpose of giving the benefit of their experi-