

ments looking to an authoritative settlement of the question of the effect of acid on the quality of the wax.

Some say "Don't have dirty wax that needs the use of acid." May as well say "Don't have dark honey." I suppose some bee-keepers would gladly employ some harmless re-agent to make dark horey light in color, if it would enhance the price sufficiently to make it pay; and if there are others who would lose money by such a process because their customers did not want it so treated they would exercise poor business judgment if they meddled with the clarifying process.

These remarks are not to encourage the use of acid, but rather to show how profitably and harmlessly to use it when needed, so far as my experience has enlightened me.

Kenmore, N.Y.

JACOB GOES BACK TO HIS OLD LOVE

J. Alpaugh.

Bees must be all muzzled! I see by the Toronto News how to muzzle cows so that they cannot drink, and in that way adulterate the milk; also to muzzle ladies hat pins so that they cannot jagg a fellow in the face. I suggest that we muzzle the bees also, so that they cannot bite your neighbor's horse or children—some call it biting; I never thought it felt like a bite.

If I ever chance to get any more bees like some I once got from Boomer of Linwood, I think I will get a special kind of muzzle for them. One constructed more to prevent them from sitting down than biting.

I have now been out of bees for three years, but I expect to try them again this spring, if I can find any to buy, just to see if I have forgotten how to manage them. See my ad. in the want and exchange column.

This is the time of year to give your bees attention and protection. See that

there is some kind of a wind break all around the bee yard. See that they are not getting short of stores. As soon as they can fly nicely give them some kind of substitute for pollen in shallow trays or boxes in some sheltered place near the hives. Also some luke-warm water to sip, which will not chill them when loaded. Where bees have been wintered out of doors, see that there is no damp or wet packing. Clean all the dead bees off the bottom board, so that a good healthy bee will not get lost on a cool day, trying to carry them out and away. If there is snow about the boxes shovel it all away from the entrance, and when the bees want to fly see that there is something about the box for them to light on besides cold snow. Straw or chaff scattered around the hives on the snow, enables a good many bees to get back that would otherwise be lost.

Galt, Ont.

[This last suggestion is a capital one, friend Alpaugh, we will do it at once. It may mitigate to some extent the sad scene we witnessed on Sunday last, to which we refer in another column. Your letter has one serious fault, and we won't forgive you for it either; it is too short. Try and make it a little longer next time.—Ed.]

THE PATENT LAW.

Referring again to the patent law, Mr. Holtermann has obtained legal advice as to the point in dispute, and it would appear that his contention is the correct one. We are very glad to have this point cleared up, as we were among a very large number of business men who held that a patented article could be privately made and used without violating the law. Some of our most prominent business men hold this view. We were talking with an engineer only a few days ago, and he stated that this was his opinion also. Such an opinion could not be so generally held

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if it were not for the more honored in the observance. The following plain the matter fully accepted as final:

Brantford
Messrs. Ridout and
Solicitors of Patents
103 Bay Street

Dear Sirs,—It has been patented in Canada by bee-keepers or others, as long as it is used, as long as it is used, there would be no law. Your firm being of patents and as having attention to Patent litigation considered an indisputable matter. If you can so make a reply it will be the Canadian Bee Journal.

You
R. F.
Re

"We are advised that it is mooted in your journal that you have liberty to make and use without the patent, he does not sell it. erroneous idea. In the 30 of the Canadian reads in part as follows: who, without the patentee, makes practice any invention has been obtained. liable to the patent representatives in an action so doing."

It is quite clear that the making of a patent infringing act whether it uses it or not. Great Britain and the United States hold the view that the use is as wrongful as Bloomer vs. Gilpin, also Frost on patents.