

Yellow Carniolans.

DO not know just what to think about the purity of Mr. Alley's yellow Carniolans. I know that none other had Italian bees in this district but myself when black queens, five miles distant, were rearing yellow-banded workers.

I notice that you are annoyed at would-be inventors taking out patents on useless ideas, and old at that, so you will want something fresh, and perhaps I can give you that.

Solomon was no doubt the wisest man that ever lived, and he said that "there is nothing new under the sun," so you need not expect anything new, but it strikes me forcibly that I can give you something different in the way of a super from any you have ever illustrated or described in the Bee Journal.

What are Mr. Heddon and Dr. Tinker quarreling about queen-excluding honey-boards for? I am not sure but that I could down them both on the first round. Most all who use the disputed board must admit that when it is clogged with wax and propolis, it requires a person with a good Heddon (head on) to be able to clean it off, and then there is a good deal of "Tinker"-ing about it.

I have introduced a new system this summer, of using the queen-excluding zinc, and at as early a date as possible I propose sending you a super and queen excluder, with explanations, but I am thinking seriously about patenting the ideas. It was my intention to show them at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, but time forbade.—D. CHALMERS, Poole, Ont., in *A.B.J.*

We are pleased to see our friend Chalmers coming to the front, and about to give us some of his new ideas. We shall willingly give him space in our journal to describe anything in connection with the improvements on honey-boards. We do not object to patents that are of any value to bee-keepers.

What Kind of Packages Shall we put Extracted Honey in to Ship.

FROM our experience we say, emphatically, 60-lb. square cans, not kegs or barrels. Several years ago, when the square cans were first brought prominently before the bee-keepers as a convenient package in which to ship extracted honey, we were continually having trouble by the barrels and kegs springing a leak; and before we knew it, the bees would find it out and set to robbing. We had so much of this that we well nigh made up our minds that we would not buy honey in kegs of

or barrels at all, or, if we did, we would transfer it into cans soon as it arrived. About a year ago, inquiries were sent to the commission men to find out what kind of packages they preferred for honey, both comb and extracted. Some few favored the cans; but the majority said that, while they preferred cans for California honey (because they could not get it in any other way) they would rather have extracted honey, so far as possible, in kegs and barrels. From the reports we concluded that, maybe, we were prejudiced, and have gone so far as to offer honey-kegs for sale. This year we have received five or six lots of honey in kegs and barrels, and in ever instance they were leaking on arrival, while we very seldom have a case of leaking with cans. Is this merely accidental, or are the cans really better? We certainly have good grounds for thinking so. And if we put aside this matter of leakage, are not the cans a much more convenient package for the retailer to draw from than a keg, or barrel, especially if he uses the screw-top honey-gate? For storage the cans take less room; and though they cannot be rolled around like kegs or barrels, yet on the whole they are convenient to handle. We are much inclined to think that the commission men or their customers prefer the barrels, for the same reason that some of us stick to old things and notions that we are used to, simply because we are used to them and dislike to try new things; and yet, if they have had the same experience we have with leakage, it would seem as if they would welcome something better. Leaky kegs and barrels can usually be remedied for the time being by driving on the hoops; while if a can springs a leak a tinner has to be called in, or the can emptied to stop the leak. Maybe this is the explanation of it. We greatly prefer to contend with an occasional leaking can than to be continually tinkering with leaky barrels and kegs.—*Gleanings*.

Leaky tin packages, unless the leakage is very bad, may be repaired without going to the tinsmith. Even though it is full of liquid honey it can be permanently stopped by pressing a piece of soft beeswax into the crack. We think Mr. C. P. Dadant is entitled to the credit of this system. We have found it very effectual whenever tried.

Pruning off the Corn Tassels From Every Other Row.

WE have been practicing this until we are satisfied there is no question but that it really will do all the experiment