

crop failed us pretty much all over the land, neither clover or basswood produced honey here that year, but during the fall flow they gathered about one hundred pounds per colony. My first extracting last season was done on June 15th; the last on September 22nd. Some of the colonies that I ran for section honey gave me one hundred sections full for my trouble. In looking over the fallow and waste land in the fall of the year it very much reminds one of a large body of water, so smooth and even do the white flowers appear to be for a great distance.

Marketing honey is a subject about which considerable has been written, yet, like many other subjects in connection with bee-keeping, will stand much more ventilation. Each individual bee-keeper has his own way of disposing of his crop, but it is necessary for those having any very large amounts to move around in order to secure a good price. Until this year I have had no difficulty in disposing of my season's crop. In '88 I sold my section honey for 18c. per pound; in '90, sold same for 15c. per pound. During the past year I have experienced far more difficulty in selling honey than ever before, and have had to sell at a low price, 13c. being the highest I have got for section, and 10c. for extracted up to the present time. The market here, which by the way is a good one, has been crowded more than ever before. On this account I have had to resort to peddling. Of course I might have sold honey in bulk by taking a lower price, but not being very busy, and wishing to realize as much as possible for my crop, I went from house to house and by so doing I have gained a greater knowledge of the ignorance and superstition of the people in regard to our pursuit. I find that very many people do not know that there are different grades of honey and they were rather surprised when I told them that it sold at two different prices. At this many began to suspect adulteration. Anyone going from house to house selling honey will frequently hear the remark "sugar is cheap and it is easy to feed bees". Just here let me say, that for his best interests, every producer when shipping or in any way marketing honey should supply every customer with a small pamphlet, printed similar to the following:—

Many are not aware of the fact, that in modern bee-keeping the practical apiarist can secure almost as many different kinds of honey as there is honey producing plants, each kind or grade having its own peculiar flavor, that which is gathered in the spring or fall is a darker color and a different flavor to that which is gathered during the summer. The darker colors although just as pure are generally sold at from one to

two cents less per pound than the lighter colors. Almost all pure honey will granulate, to liquify it set it on the oven or in a dish of hot water.

I think the above would be beneficial to bee-keepers generally.

J. R. KITCHEN

Weidman Ont.

May 12th 1892.

[ED.] We are very much pleased to hear from you Mr. Kitchen and trust you will favor us in future. There are many valuable points in your letter.

#### A Mountain Apiary.

Y business up in the mountain is to obtain information of the climate and if there are sufficient flowers to justify bee raising, so far I think not, unless we could get land and sow Alfalfa. The spring has sufficient blossoms to start in places, but when the honey harvest comes the drought is such that nothing but bunch grapes can stand, unless Alfalfa is sown, the same as in Colorado. At Port Moody we became successful by sowing the property cleared for the terminus of the C. P. R. Vancouver afterwards being decided upon as the terminus. I purchased alsack and white clover and sowed it everywhere and planted willows, fruit-trees, etc. Last year I had a grand harvest as the result of my labor. I could tell you a tale of British Columbia but perhaps it is best to leave well enough alone. I expect to find a location up here which will be suitable for bees, then it is my intention to sell out at Port Moody. It is well perhaps for me to say, the trees in this part of the country are not of the kind to give honey, pine, fir, and cedar can be found everywhere. They say there is a tree called the "bull fir" that exudes a sweet substance that the wild bees gather but I have not seen a bee as yet, in any of my rambles. The weather is very fine and we have warm nights a little frost occasionally. Seeding is finished and the farmers are looking for May rains, which they say is sure to come, then everything will be splendid. In the valley the coldest weather we had during the winter was 6 degrees below zero. Bees wintered well out of doors, did not lose any, and as they began to gather in February, I shall expect to hear of an increase shortly.

WM. ELSON.

Enderby, B C.

From the many reports we have had from various sections of British Columbia, we think bee-keeping can be made to pay handsome returns in that country. There are many places, that we have heard from in your country which led