

even sneak thieves will find it easier to earn their honey than to steal it.

Did you ever, on visiting the bee-yard in the morning, find the hives uncovered by the dozen, the sections scattered all over the yard, the brood thrown at random and all the honey cut out and carried away? Now if I knew that Job had this experience when his patience was being tried, and stood the test, I should have a much higher opinion of him than heretofore. I must acknowledge that I would like to put about a pint of lively hybrids next to the hide of the thief. Seriously, this is a great obstacle to success with bees, and will tax our ingenuity to overcome it, and if any one has had any experience or ideas that are likely to profit us in this respect, just let us have it. Horse-stealing has become so dangerous to the stealer that it has been nearly abandoned, and cannot we make it "too warm" for the thieves of our bee-yards?

Perhaps it may in a measure contribute to our financial success to take more honey than usual from the brood chamber of the hives, as honey is to sell at a good, round price, compared to what we have been getting for several years; and if we leave enough honey to supply the colonies until we take them out of winter quarters, we can then supply the deficiency with less costly food than honey. I propose to do this to as great an extent as safety will allow. We have this to encourage us that notwithstanding there was such a large surplus last season and the price declined to so low a point honey was introduced in many homes where it had been a stranger and a demand has been created that will take tons and tons of honey to supply in the future.

The tendency of the times is to mass the production of honey in the hands of specialists, which I think is best for all parties concerned. But some one may say, had we better rely upon bees and honey for the main chance? The most I can say is according to your ability and enthusiasm be it unto you; and although you may not become an Astor, a Gould or a Vanderbilt, you will not likely become a Boss Tweed, a Mackin, or a McGarigle.

The officers elected for the ensuing year were J. F. Spaulding, President; Mrs. O. F. Jackson, of Sigourney, Vice President and Corresponding Secretary; and J. W. Moore, of Des Moines, Recording Secretary. The attendance was not as large as in former years. No honey, no money; no money, no enthusiasm; no enthusiasm, no attendance. The exhibit of honey at the fair was very good, notwithstanding the failure of the honey crop.

Mt. Auburn, Iowa.

DR. JESSE OREN.

BEE LORE.

A GRIZZLY BEAR AND THE BEES—SCENE IN A CALIFORNIAN APIARY.

The Hutchinson brothers have a large apiary up at Victor Tejunga, says the Los Angeles (Calif.) Express. It is an isolated place, far from real estate booms and the haunts of men. But it is a good place for bees, and there, as a rule, they toil unmolested except by their owners, the Hutchinson boys. The country is romantic. The quiet life of the little rural retreat was turned into the greatest excitement last Thursday night. While the Hutchinsons were asleep, and dreaming of the great sums of money they would make this season, a stranger entered the camp. He was not slow in making his presence felt and heard. The sleepers were suddenly awakened by sounds that suggested a small cyclone raging among the bees. One of the men got up, looked out of the window, and what was his consternation and terror to see the faint outlines of a huge, brown colored monster upsetting the bee-hives, and working destruction with property that required the toil and economy of a number of years to accumulate. The surprised spectator hastened to his brother's bedside and told what was going on in the apiary. The two rushed out, one taking his rifle. The bear was evidently hungry, for he made rapid lunges at the boxes filled with delicious honey. He would take a few mouthfuls out of one frame and then go for another. The Hutchinson boys concluded that if they did not act on the instant the bear would soon leave them without an occupation. The ball gun was levelled and discharged. The ball found its way through the thick hide of bruin, back of the left shoulder. It was evidently a most a "centre shot," for the animal fell. But he remained on the ground but a second. He arose, enraged with pain, and made frantic plunges at the nearest hives. Meanwhile the men advanced a little. The bear caught sight of them and made a rush at them. When within twenty feet of where they stood, his progress was arrested by another leaden messenger. It struck a vital part, and once more the huge bear fell. This time he did not get up. A third ball was put into his side, which caused his death. Upon examination it was found to be a grizzly cub about two-thirds grown. Next day he was dressed and weighed. The scales tipped at 700 pounds. This is the second or third bear ever killed or seen in that section.

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

HONEY AS FOOD.

DR. G. G. GROFF.—Honey belongs to the carbo-naceous foods, that is, to the same group as sugars, starches, gums and fats, which contain only the elements of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. There may be a trifling amount of coloring matter, flavoring substance and water, but the bulk of all honey is sugar. Though the coloring and flavoring substances are small in amount, they exert a beneficial influence on the body when taken internally. We do not change from cane sugar to maple syrup simply to please the palate, or merely for the sake of the change;