

who have completely changed their nature.

An article from T. H. Burns, published in the *Farmers Advocate* of February 3rd, inst., in part says: "I wish to say that there is no problem confronting the bee-keeper in Ontario to-day as difficult to understand as that of wintering, and none in which the losses are as great or as difficult to prevent. When we realize that over fifty per cent. of the bees in Ontario died in one winter through faulty methods, * * * 'we cannot understand how the equipment of a modern bee cellar would more than justify the expenditure for the same.' The writer of this article above noted, does not appear to understand the natural habits of our honey-bee, forgetting that they are the natural product of a mild and warm climate, and not confined three or four months in an unnatural state. Their instinct and necessities demand periodical flights in the air, in all seasons of the year, which cannot be provided in this northern climate to which we have imported them, by confining them in a bee-house or cellar. During our long and rigorous winters, no matter how perfect the cellar may be constructed, the bees must be removed from cellar in March or first of April at least for a flight in the air, in order to cleanse their bodies of the load that they have been carrying, and if placed on their summer stands unprotected, then comes the news of spring dwindling, chilled brood, and all the other evils that bees are heir to, and I believe has a great deal to do with the origin and spread of foul brood.

I took notice lately of an article on bees in the *Los Angeles Daily Times*, by Allie Shultz, viz.: "The Calabasas mountains are the working ground of more than ten thousand colonies of bees that are found to be clean and free from the dread disease of apiaries, foul brood. Many hives can be secured when they swarm from the wild bees that abound in the

rocks and caves in Encine Canyon in the Calabasas County."

"Homeopathic physicians will buy bee stings in large quantities to be used as a medicine, called *Apis Mellifica*. The stings which are taken from live bees are placed in small phials of sugar or milk, and used for the cure of Rheumatism; it smells like sting poison and is given internally."

"One peculiar thing in the bee world of to-day is the lengthening of the bee tongue. A bee's tongue is about the twenty-fifth of an inch long, and by keeping only those bees with naturally long tongues, the bee-keepers have succeeded in lengthening a number of colonies to the extent of another hundredth of an inch; it does not sound much, but it enables a bee to do a fourth more work in the same time."

Now, if we take the above notes seriously, we must come to the conclusion that the Americans are much cleverer than Canadians, as friend Jones, of Beeton, after travelling over a great part of the world and spending a fortune, failed in producing a bee with a longer tongue, or very much superior to our native black bee.

I hope the O.A.C. in commencing the teaching and study of the honey bee, will avoid any further expense in experimenting with costly bee houses or cellars and try to provide for and follow the natural habits and instincts of the honey bee.

I attended a convention of bee-keepers in Toronto many years ago, where I had the pleasure of meeting the Rev. L. L. Langstroth and several other American gentlemen and had the pleasure of listening to a most common sense address on the natural history of the honey bee and utility of the movable frame. My idea now is, and has been for many years, that the world, and more especially the bee-keepers of Canada and America owe a debt of gratitude to the names of Langstroth and Quinby that they can

never pay in kind, therefore devise a scheme to be put to the convention held in Canada in correspondence with the bee in the United States of America and of the world, with the object of raising a sufficient amount to erect a monument to perpetuate their names. I suppose the proper place would be in New York City or St. Louis, where both Americans.

We have nothing in history to show that the old-world before the discovery of the natural honey bee than did the new world in the middle of the eighteenth century when the researches of the bees were given to the waiting world.

The Israelites, in their wanderings through the wilderness, were given the promise that they should eventually inherit a land flowing with milk and honey, which in their case was a land of plenty; while Samson, the honey found in the anaconda, the lion he had slain as "meat." The riddle was solved by the bees after plowing with Samson's oxen, and the whole world was enlightened. The bees have reaped immense profit from the solving of the bee riddle by Langstroth and Quinby.

FROM GERMAN JOURNAL

Jacob Haberer.

Thick or Thin Syrup

J. R. Crane reports in the *Nouvel* of an interesting experiment. He weighed three groups of bee colonies. To group No. 1, 100 kilogr. of sugar dissolved in 100 kilogr. of water. To group No. 2, 34 kilogr. of sugar dissolved in 34 kilogr. of water, given warm. Group No. 3, same feed as No. 2, but it was cold. After two weeks the colonies were weighed. The increase of