

The Experimental Apilary.

Editor Canadian Bee Journal,

I was astonished on reading your valuable journal for the current month that you feel bound to find fault with me because I am furnishing the editor of the *Bee-Keepers' Review* an account of the apicultural experiments which I have been making for the experimental station. This is your language: "(He) acknowledges that he (I) is selling the results of this costly work to one man." If what you say were true you would have some reason for your strictures, but it is not true.

In the first place what you say implies that the editor of the *Review* obtains the results to the exclusion of all others; but be it known that no one has ever applied to me for them and been denied. What is the ground then for the assertion?

Again your charge that I am "selling the results" is equally untrue: these remain to be published by the Board of Agriculture, which will be done in due time. It is true that I have furnished an account of some of these for the *Review*, and to a less extent for *Gleanings*; but this does not interfere with the rights of the Board, indeed it is pleased to have it done, for it is only interested to get the information to the people that they may be profited. No one is given any exclusive rights—nothing is copyrighted. It is further true, however, that time does not hang so heavily on my hands that I can consistently undertake to furnish extra official accounts of the experiments without some compensation, which the editor of the *Review* and the editor of *Gleanings* appreciate, and so pay for the labor involved.

Now I am curious to know in what respect this course operates unjustly. The bee-keeping fraternity is not injured but rather greatly benefitted if there be any interest or value in the experiments; and even the C. B. J. and the A. B. J., the only sources of complaint, are apparently benefitted for they get the accounts for nothing by copying them from the journals that have had the enterprise to secure them. The uneasiness seems to grow out of the unexplainable unwillingness on the part of the A. B. J. to give credit for the borrowed articles.

Nevertheless you are pleased to politely intimate to the apicultural world that I am the member of an apicultural "ring" in Michigan!

May the day soon come when some journal devoted to bee-keeping will in imitation of the *Review* develop sufficient enterprise as to secure and publish for the profit of bee-keepers, accounts of the

experiments making at the Rhode Island, the Vermont and other apicultural experiment stations, for he who gives quickly gives twice.

I cannot close Mr. Editor without thanking you for the interests you are taking in my experiments and for the careful candid way in which you are criticizing them.

R. L. TAYLOR.

Lapeer, Mich. Jan. 10, 1894.

[We have come to our conclusions entirely owing to what has been published. The editor of the *Review* did certainly alone, largely obtain the result of the government experimental work. That you did not refuse any one else is certainly to your credit, but does not justify you. Is it right for you to supply articles to an individual, the essence, the kernel of which is the result of costly work paid for by the government? We claim not. The value of your article lies in the essence, the kernel, that must not be lost sight of, and we cannot draw a fine enough distinction to free you from the charge of "selling the results" of that work.]

The Board, we claim, has no moral right to allow you to give privately the result of government experimental work. Should it take upon itself to grant such liberties in this country at least, it would have to face the stern criticism of an ever watchful Opposition.—Ed.]

Wintering Bees On Summer Stands—Removing Snow From Entrances.

(For the Canadian Bee Journal.)

Whether it is or is not necessary to remove snow from the entrances of hives wintered outside is a question upon which there seems to be difference of opinion. I have often heard and seen it stated that to remove the snow was a mistake, but nevertheless I never had confidence in the statement and have always made it a business to keep the entrance cleared of every little while, and more especially when a soft spell came.

My winter entrance is $2\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ and I don't want it any larger for though fresh air is desirable, "too much of a good thing is bad." However when I used to have a $5 \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ entrance I alway kept the snow off in the same way.

My bees have for some seasons been wintered at a distance of about six miles from home, and I either go personally and attend to them or have some one look after them in the winter time for me.

Early in March of 1892 while there was a heavy fall of snow on the ground a soft spell